

# HERITAGE

Publication No. 3

1983



# We wake Zimbabwe up to the world each day.

The Herald  
The Chronicle  
The Sunday Mail  
The Sunday News  
The Umtali Post



## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY for the collector

**EARLY** and rare books on this country are destined to become invaluable collectors' items; the shrewd investor is buying now. As specialists in this field, we have published 145 Rhodesiana/Zimbabweana titles including the most elusive works from the 1870s. Most are presented in the unique RHODESIANA REPRINT LIBRARY — GOLD AND SILVER SERIES. A few titles are already out of print; some will be reprinted as paper becomes available so as to complete sets.

All these books are fully described in catalogues which are available free from our retail bookshop in Genesis Galleries, 24 Gordon Ave. (1st/2nd Sts.), (Phone 706430), Harare, and from our publishing offices in Bulawayo.

The following are our most recent productions; all are best quality, hardback editions:

**THOMAS BAINES OF KING'S LYNN  
Explorer and Artist: 1820-1875**

The biography by J.P.R. Wallis. Illustrated with some 50 of his own paintings, many in full colour, notably his renowned sketches of the Victoria Falls (1862). No Rhodesiana collection is complete without this handsome tribute to this great southern African artist.

**ELLERTON FRY ALBUM (1890)  
The Occupation of Mashonaland.**

A facsimile reproduction, with additional new text, of one of the rarest books on this country. Over 150 large sepia pictures and full nominal rolls of the Pioneer Corps and BSAP Escort. Of special interest to Pioneer families and collectors/ investors. Only 500 copies printed. Half-leather binding, large format.

**SENIOR SCHOOLS HISTORIES  
Edited by I.P. McLaren.**

If you want to school in this country you will want to own a copy of this splendid two-volume work (SOME

RENOWNED RHODESIAN SENIOR SCHOOLS and MORE RHODESIAN SENIOR SCHOOLS) which features the histories of 42 Senior Schools (1892-1982).

It carries nearly 1 000 pictures and the names of over 15 500 scholars and teachers. An outstanding family memento.

**AFRICAN HUNTING REPRINT  
SERIES**

Facsimile reprints, with new Introductions, of the writings of the most famous Victorian hunters in southern and East Africa: Cumming, Finaughty, Baldwin, Selous, Neumann, etc. Series will make up to 1re032 titles of which six have already been published. In standard editions and in handsome, elephant-hide and brass-embellished, deluxe volumes limited to 100 copies.

**RHODESIANA REPRINT LIBRARY—  
SILVER SERIES**

Complete set of 24 volumes richly bound in blue leather, silver blocked, in slip cases. Limited edition.



# BOOKS OF ZIMBABWE

PUBLISHING CO. (PVT.) LTD.

137A RHODES STREET, (14th/15th AVENUES)  
P.O. BOX 1994, BULAWAYO, TELEPHONE 61135

# HERITAGE

Publication No. 3 — 1983

THE HISTORY SOCIETY OF ZIMBABWE

Harare  
Zimbabwe

*Edited by*  
**W. E. ARNOLD**

*Copyright is reserved by the Society*

*Authors are responsible for their own opinions and  
for the accuracy of statements they make.*

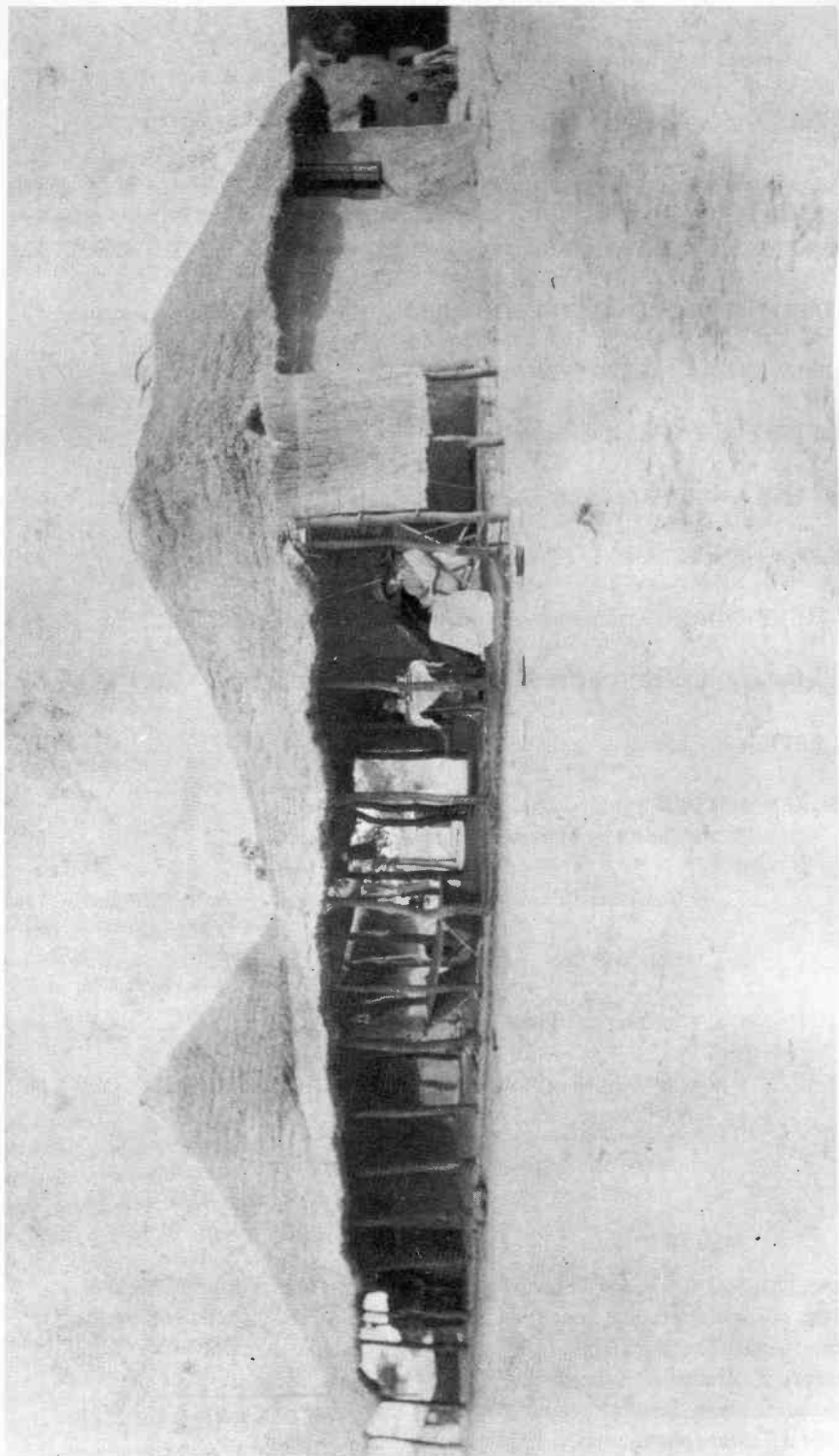
ISSN 0556—9605

Photoset by Bookset (Pvt.) Ltd., Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.  
Printed by Bookprint (Pvt.) Ltd., Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

## CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>
THE EARLY YEARS OF PLUMTREE SCHOOL, by J.B. Clarke .....	1
BULAWAYO STOCK EXCHANGE BUILDING, by A.M. Spencer-Cook .....	15
JUDGEMENT ON PRESERVATION ORDER APPEAL ... ..	27
BANTU ETHNIC STRUCTURE: THE SOUTHERN FRONTIER, by A.S. Chigwedere	33
KAGUBI: WHY IS HE FORGOTTEN? by R.H. Wood .....	41
CEDRIC COLLEGE, by A.M. Ewing .....	47
ERNEST EDWARD HOMAN, by R. Cherer Smith .....	55
CORRESPONDENCE .....	57
ANNUAL MEETING .....	59
MASHONALAND BRANCH ACTIVITIES, 1982 ... ..	63
BOOK REVIEWS .....	67
<b>SPONSORED HISTORIES:</b>	
The Dairy Marketing Board .....	69
Commercial Farmers' Union .....	75
Duly and Co. ....	77
Johnson and Fletcher .....	80
T.A. Group of Companies .....	83

COVER DESIGN — *Front*: Zimbabwe Bird, from a cast in the National Archives of the soapstone original which was removed from Great Zimbabwe by the archaeologist Theodore Bent in 1891; masonry from a passage wall in the Great Enclosure, Zimbabwe (photograph c. 1904). *Back*: Masonry with chevron decoration, from the outer wall of the Great Enclosure (photograph c. 1894); Conical Tower (photograph c. 1930) National Archives.



Plumtree School huts c. 1903.

Photo — National Archives

# The Early Years of Plumtree School

by J.B. Clarke

**Paddy Vickery's article on the beginnings of the Railway Mission in this country referred briefly to the founding of what was to become Plumtree School. This suggested to Mr. R.A. Hammond, a son of the great headmaster who took over the school in 1906, that extracts from Mr. J.B. Clarke's history of the school would be suitable for reproduction in *Heritage*. The article which follows consists of extracts from the first chapter of the book. *Heritage* is glad to offer thanks to Mr. Clarke for permission to quote from the book.**

In 1897 a siding on the railway line between Mafeking and Bulawayo was named Plumtree. It lies on the watershed of the Highveld, some 100 kilometres south west of Bulawayo, and is an area of dry savannah bush interspersed with belts of mopani trees. Why it was named Plumtree has never been satisfactorily explained. It has been suggested that the railway workers had plum pudding when they reached this point, or that the name derived from the wild plum (the umtunduluga of the Matabele) which grows profusely in this area. However, the umtunduluga is an insignificant tree which is only markedly noticeable when it fruits in December. As the railway reached Plumtree on 20 August 1897 it would seem that this suggestion is suspect. Hans Lee, a resident of long standing, always insisted that the name was based on the presence of a very large, very old, marula tree which for many years towered over the siding. Should this be correct one wonders why a nearby siding was then named Marula.

The earliest known occupants were the Bushmen, who left a heritage of rock paintings amongst the granite kopjes. Then came the Bantu, and in approximately 1837 a portion of Mzilikazi's people passed this way, en route to settle and develop what was to become known as Matabeleland. The first Europeans were missionaries, hunters and traders. Livingstone traversed the region on his journey to the Victoria Falls in 1856. Other intrepid "pioneers" were the so-called "Dutch" hunters from the Transvaal. Jan Viljoen claimed to have hunted in Matabeleland in 1849 and though this has been disputed, he had been in the country for many years and was over 60 when Selous met him in 1872 — that prince of hunters pursued elephant along the Ramaquabane river in 1876. John Lee, who grew up on a farm near the Fish River in the Cape Colony, first came to Matabeleland in 1858 and reputedly brought his wife and children to visit Mzilikazi in 1863. The Matabele king subsequently granted him a farm in the Mangwe area which became a "port of entry" for visitors to Matabeleland. (His son Hans spent most of his life in Matabeleland hunting and trading. In the 1890s he moved onto the farm Sterkfontein some 20 kilometres from Plumtree.) Other hunters, such as van Rooyen and Greef, also brought their families with them in their cumbersome but functional ox wagons. Eventually many of these early visitors became settlers. Favoured "staanpleks" (central camping areas where the women and children remained while the men ranged further afield on hunting trips) gradually became more permanent settlements as rough buildings were added to supplement the wagon encampment. One such example is the farm "Van Rooyens Rest" which borders on Plumtree



School. Here the old hunter Cornelius van Rooyen settled, and some of his descendants, the Wilde family, still occupy the farm. They and the descendants of other pre-pioneers were later to attend Plumtree School.

However, our story proper does not begin until after the occupation of the country by the Pioneer Column. The infant Colony, in dire need of imported commodities, was dependent on the trek ox and wagon of the itinerant "transport rider". The rinderpest epidemic which swept through the country in 1896, coupled with the Matabele Rebellion brought the spectre of isolation and privation. The solution was the railway line which now needed to be rushed through the desolate bush of what was then known as "Khamas's Country". The line from Kimberley via Vryburg had reached Mafeking in October 1894, and though work had started on the section leading to Bulawayo, much remained to be done. It was at this time that Pauling (the railway contractor) made his famous promise to Rhodes that he would lay 400 miles of line in 400 days. Pauling kept his word, and under the direction of his cousin, the railway reached Bulawayo on 19 October 1897. This new line of communication was the salvation of the country and it was also the flint which sparked Plumtree School.

Those who worked for the old Cape Government Railways on the section of line between Mafeking and Bulawayo had no schooling facilities for their children. This sad state of affairs was noted with concern by Mr. Nelson Fogarty, the chaplain of the South African Railway Mission in this area. Initially he conducted classes on a coach which was "dropped off" at various points along the line. Appalled by the sight of children literally running wild, he urged Bishop Gaul to establish permanent schools. He wrote in May 1899, "I am now very anxious to start schools at Plum Tree, Francistown and Palapye Road. I could get about twelve children at each place. . . It is very terrible to think that there are about one hundred and twenty children on the line growing up without any education whatsoever".

At that time a Mr. Edgar Lloyd was a lay reader of the Railway Mission and on his shoulders fell the burden of starting the first schools. Recalling those early days, he wrote that in July 1899 he met Mr. Nelson Fogarty at Plumtree Siding: the latter was undecided whether to site the first school at Plumtree or at Francistown. The Bishop favoured Francistown, so Edgar Lloyd spent the following two years in establishing and conducting a school at that place. When a qualified schoolmistress arrived to take over he was directed to open a school at Plumtree.

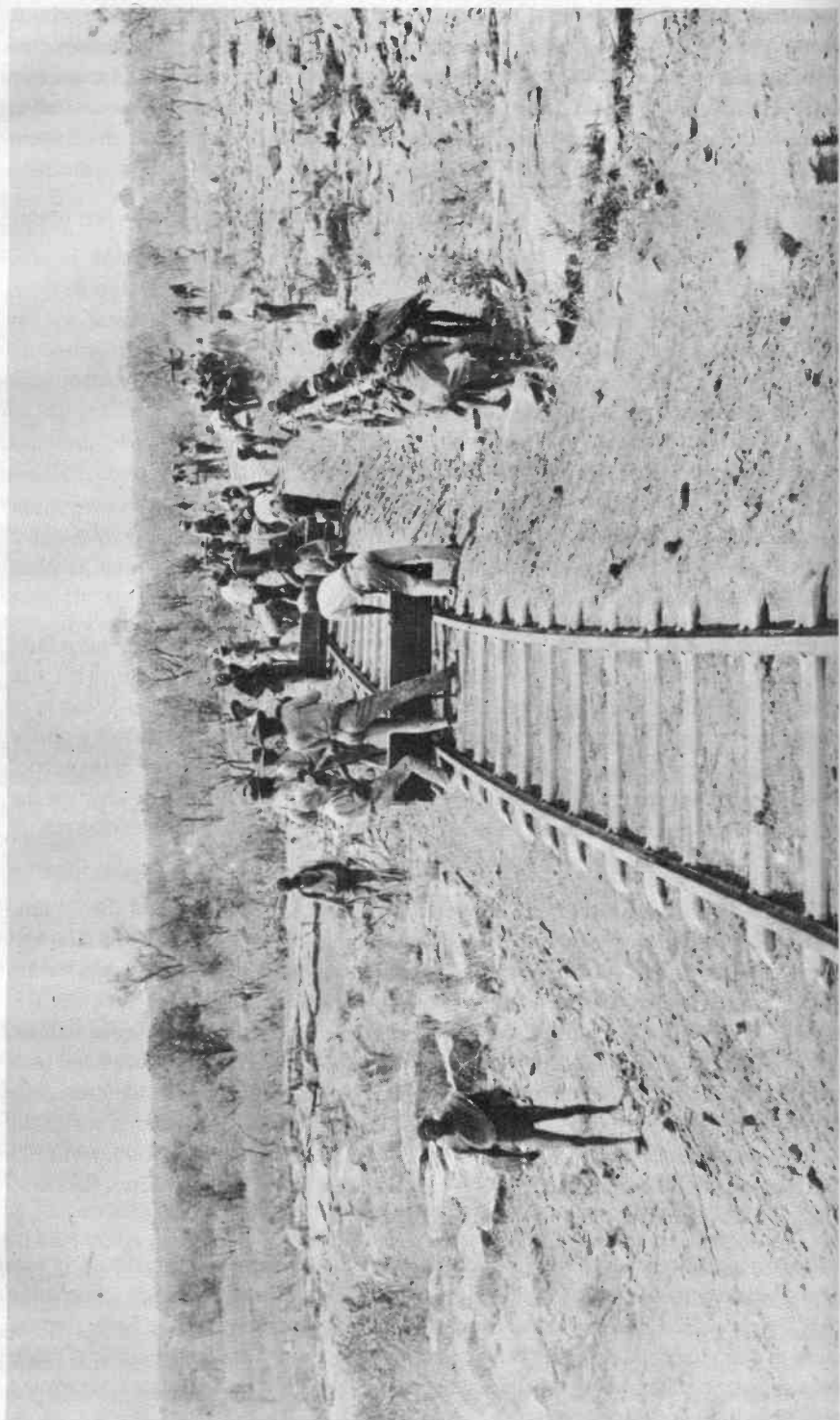
This factual train of circumstances is at variance with a long cherished myth concerning the beginnings of Plumtree School. It has often been stated that the first Church-sponsored school was situated in Plumtree, rather than in Francistown, because of the presence of a large railway family at Plumtree Siding. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel James Smith (he was the permanent way inspector) had nine children and had long been agitating for a school. Indeed Lloyd stated that it was mainly in response to their appeals that the school was opened. However, a letter filed in the National Archives introduces another intriguing angle.

His Honour  
The Administrator  
Salisbury

14th June, 1901

Right Honourable Sir,

I hereby beg to apply for assistance from Government in connection with a School which we have started on 1st April last in the Mangwe district. We have our own teacher at



Laying the rails to Bulawayo, 1897.

Photo — National Archives

£80 per annum with free board and lodging. We have at present 9 children in the school, but we expect a good many more as soon as we can manage to have the desired accommodation for more children which is impossible for us to provide without assistance from Government. We would be very much obliged to have an inspector come around to this part. All of us who have children in the school are ground-owners and residents in Southern Rhodesia since 1895.

Hoping Right Honourable Sir, that my application will meet with favourable consideration.

I remain

Your obedient Servant

Jas Oosthuizen.

P.O. Plumtree.”

The Administrator referred this letter to the Education Department but it has not been possible to ascertain whether they took any action, nor has it been possible to discover where the school was situated. According to school records of 1903 one Jacobus Oosthuizen was a farmer “at Tegwani near Plumtree”.

His claim that all the parents were “ground-owners” suggests that this was a farm school. Mrs. D.L. Black (Annie Prescott) attended such a school in 1899. This was situated on Stilfontein Farm some 15 kilometres south east of Plumtree. What is of particular interest is the figure of nine pupils as this number is closely linked with the historical beginnings of Plumtree School. The nine plums on the “plumtree” of the school arms represented the nine Smith children who were the first pupils to attend when the school opened on its present site on 1 December 1902. The presence of an earlier school with nine pupils is a neat coincidence.

The first school was conducted in a rondavel situated in the garden of the Smiths' home. Subsequently the classes were moved to the dining-room of the Plumtree Hotel, at that time managed by Mr. Barclay. Some accounts refer to classes being held in the station refreshment room, which was in effect the dining room of the hotel. A little later Mr. T.J. Wadson, the customs officer, made available a large room in the Customs House and also helped Mr. Lloyd with the teaching. The initial school numbered about a dozen and were from families named Clark, Lee, Roods, Smith, van Rooyen and Webster. Unfortunately there is no trace of a school register for this period. The earliest written records are details of expenditure contained in an old account book. This shows that between 1 October 1901 and 30 November 1902 a sum of £389.5.10 was spent on: (a) school requisites, (b) salary of teacher, (c) erection of huts, (d) sundry expenses.

Item (c) marked the start of Plumtree School on its present site. Originally a five acre block was granted to Bishop Gaul by the BSA Co for the purpose of building a school and a church. This was later exchanged for Stands 8 and 9 of Plumtree Trading Lots, situated adjacent to the railway line some 200 metres from the buildings at Plumtree siding. Edgar Lloyd was instructed to occupy the site and make a start on building operations. He wrote a graphic description of this exercise.

"We determined to begin by building huts, and some five large huts were planned to be built in a half circle to serve as a nucleus for a school and a chapel for boarders. At first these were to have been quite humble huts. Somehow they grew bigger and finer and proved a more onerous and costly business than we had anticipated. The BSA Co in the person of Mr. Marshall Hole gave permission for us to cut great numbers of poles. These were transported by the wagon of Mr. "Bulala" Taylor, who gave us a great deal of help in those days. We were cast pretty much on our own resources though I got many hints about building from wellwishers and especially from members of the B.S.A.P. stationed at Tegwani. John Hallward the Railway chaplain (he had succeeded Mr. Fogarty) would appear from time to time in the course of his peregrinations up and down the line . . . I can see him in my mind's eye at this distance of time with his big bulk on a skeleton roof, hammering in nails, which as often as not refused to enter the hard mopani wood. Then someone told us of the advantage of a bit and brace. We finished off speedily all our bits the first day. I can still recall our exasperation and consternation when this calamity happened. I was eager, impatient and impetuous . . . (but) big John would say 'This is just part of our day's work, don't let us have the lust of finishing it upon us'. He was a big man in more ways than one. He took long views and had the strength that comes from repose and a disciplined spirit . . . his wisdom often stood me in good stead.

"We learned by experience the right kind of cross-pieces wherewith to thread our roofs. The first roof got riddled with borers, the result of the lack of knowledge . . . Very early in the work the thatcher took himself off, and I had to thatch for myself as well as train certain raw Barotse . . . I can still see myself at the very apex of one hut . . . sewing and beating up the grass . . . One learned how to clean grass, tie it in bundles and lay it rightly . . . We saw ourselves laying the rude foundations of a great school.

"What a time we had with the hanging of doors and windows. We did learn as we went along, aided by the sage advice of the B.S.A.P. Ichabod. Those were the halcyon days of the force. Days when policemen had leisure for works of mercy and graceful acts of courtesy.

"We cleared out the antheaps in a way which must have been disconcerting to the occupants . . . We carefully instructed 'boys' as to the right method of plastering huts. We admired the deep black polish we got — in a hut floor. Incidentally we nearly exhausted the water in Mr. Smith's railway well.

"They cost a good deal those huts. Some £40 (each) — and we made no charge for our labour — yet somehow we felt we had got our money's worth. The actual time of building was about three or four months. From time to time John Hallward would come with his cheery laugh and the uplift of his life. He would tell of his negotiations with the Bishop, the Director of Education and the railway officials. I remember about that time (7/4/02) when all that was mortal — of Cecil John Rhodes passed through on that last journey to the Matopos.

"I remember John Hallward taking me with him to meet Sir Charles Metcalfe who said kind things of our efforts, and promised to help. The half circle of huts looked rather finely at the time from the compartment of his railway carriage. I remember, too, a visit from the Director of Education Mr. Duthie, keen and optimistic as to the future of education in these northern territories — one of the huts was made into an oratory and Sunday services held there . . . The school during this period of building, must, I suspect, have been enjoying a prolonged vacation for I have no recollection of scholastic duties interfering with architectural.

“Plumtree School owes a great deal to the early helpers. Mr. T.J. Wadson who had given the school a temporary home . . . that trio of the B.S.A.P., Barclay, Lethbridge and Corporal Rix . . . Mr. Smith the permanent way inspector who worked at the Railway chaplain until the School was opened . . . Mr. W.E. Thomas at that time N.C. at Tegwani . . . Mr. Hans Lee . . . and that great hunter and simple good hearted man, van Rooyen . . . I have recollections of red and green paint . . . of a low doorway in one of the huts, entailing the necessity of bending the head and back before entering . . . of certain Greek letters on the lintel of this door. ‘Condescend to men of low estate’ (Romans 12:10).

“There is one last recollection . . . It is of a farewell meal in the Plumtree dining hall. Our work was done. Miss Musson, an experienced schoolmistress, had arrived to carry on the work. There was a good deal of shaking hands . . . There were some matter of fact biddings of farewell to hide deep feelings. I was glad to get into the compartment which was to carry me to Bulawayo and northwards. Some sixteen years have passed . . . and for me they have been years of building. I learned my lesson at Plumtree, the first boy of them all”.

(Written June 29th, signed Edgar Lloyd.)

He does not give any date for the completion of the huts, but a letter written on 16/10/02 stated that they were ready and that a kitchen, a storeroom and servants’ quarters were in the process of erection. It also details plans for a schoolroom and toilet facilities at a cost of £500, this sum to be provided by the railway company and by a Government loan in terms of the Education Ordinance. Hope was expressed that Mr. Rhodes’ executors would also provide financial help. The Rev. John Hallward claimed that when Mr. Rhodes was in Bulawayo in 1901 he had informed him of the plans for Plumtree School, “of which Mr. Rhodes cordially approved and offered to assist”. Unfortunately the executors declined to accept this verbal offer as having any legal standing. Their reply read, “I am directed by the executors in the above estate to inform you that it is incumbent on them to make no grant out of the funds at their disposal”.

Edgar Lloyd was ordained in November 1902 and this led to the diocese re-organising the administration of the School. A short, plump, red haired lady principal, Miss Ann Musson, was appointed to succeed Lloyd at a salary of £15 per month. She visited Plumtree in October and wrote to John Hallward suggesting that the school dispense with sheets “for want of water to wash them” and also reduce on the number of blankets by making the children bring their own. Hallward, forwarding this information to Mr. Baxter the diocesan accountant also wrote “As for a name Lloyd suggests St. David’s, his national saint, and it will do, I should think, as well as any other”. However nothing came of this for Miss Musson headed her early letters “The Railway School”.

On 1 December 1902 a committee, “The Railway School Council” assumed control of the administration of the School. The officers were:

Chairman:	The Railway Chaplain: The Rev. E.J. Parker (successor to Hallward)
Diocesan Representative:	Dr. Townsend R.M.O.
Secretary/Treasurer:	Mr. E.C. Baxter (Diocesan Accountant)
Railway Representatives:	S.F. Townsend (Agent), J.J. de Bene (Traffic Manager), H. Wallis (District Engineer).

The Bishop was subsequently elected to the council.

Also on 1 December 1902, Miss Musson moved her small flock into the new huts and

began the first classes on the present school site. The easternmost hut was used as a schoolroom and the westernmost for meals. There is no further mention of Lloyd's oratory, but this doubtless gave rise to the legend of the "chapel hut". (One of the surviving huts is reputed to have had a cross on the door and this was subsequently overpainted. Later it was claimed that this cross became visible through the flaking paint and was then restored). Since then this hut has been known as the chapel hut.

It proved difficult to establish the actual enrolment in December of 1902. Bishop Gaul wrote on the 24th of that month: "At Plumtree the furniture of our boarding house for children had arrived, bought in Cape Town by Mrs. Gaul, from a kind gift of £100 from the Rhodes Trustees. Six children had arrived too. The splendid huts built by Mr. Lloyd under Mr. Hallward, looked the picture of neatness. Miss Musson's handiwork was everywhere, and with an helpmeet for her in the shape of a lady fellow worker, I prophesy great things for this school".

His figure of six pupils has subsequently appeared many times in writings about the early school. However, Miss Musson had written to Mr. Baxter on 16 December stating that there were nine children attending the school. Then, in what was apparently a reply to his query of this figure, she wrote: "There were no boarders in December, your notes with regard to the other eight are correct". The old account book mentioned previously, has this entry for December 1902.

School Fees (Railways)	£1-10-0
3 children — Inspector Smith at 10/-	
2 children — Ganger Roods at 10/-	£1- 0-0
School Fees (Private)	£1-10-0
3 children — J. Clark at 10/-	

From details given in the first school register for 1903 it would seem (judging by age) that these pupils were:

William, Agnes and Hilda Smith	aged 11, 9 and 6
Henry and William Roods	aged 13 and 11
Charles, Gertrude and Johanna Clark	aged 14, 12 and 9

However, Hammond also wrote (circa 1920) that the school had started with nine pupils and this is substantiated by a letter written by Baxter to the Railway Agent in January 1903. In this he states "During December there were six children of Railway employees in the school as day scholars".

The confusion in the numbers given by the Bishop could have arisen from the fact that the two Roods boys went off to "the colony" at the end of term, and did not return until mid-February 1903: or that the good Bishop mistakenly viewed the six "Railway children" as being the total enrolment.

The school closed for the Christmas holiday on 18 December 1902. During this interval Miss S.F. Hill was appointed matron at a salary of £12-10-0 per month. She and Miss Musson had previously worked together and evidently got on well. It was noted that Miss Musson would do all the teaching and Miss Hill all the domestic arrangements. At this time the Railway chaplain suggested to Council that a piano should be bought: "as this will give the school much prestige. A good instrument could be obtained for 60 guineas and Miss Musson would be able to take elementary pupils, as already seven had expressed interest".

The council took advantage of the holiday period to advertise the school by sending out the first 'Prospectus of Plumtree School'. This lists the council and the two members of staff and continues:

"The Bishop and the Railway authorities are deeply sensible of the necessity of education for the children of railway employees. These children without continuous and definite instruction must certainly in later life be worsted by those who have used their opportunities. Accordingly this boarding school has been established as a Voluntary Public School under Ordinance No. 18 of 1899, for the purpose of supplying a good primary education (secular and religious) at as low a cost as possible.

"Considerable sacrifices of time and money have been made to make the School a success. The responsibility of their children henceforth lies entirely with the parents, and it is hoped they will use this opportunity now for the first time presented.

Ordinary fees	
For education only	£ 1 - 10s per school quarter
For board and education	£10 - 10s per school quarter
These fees are payable in advance."	

This advertisement appears to have had the desired effect for each month the numbers increased. In January the School opened with 12 pupils, this grew to 18 in February, and 24 in March of whom 15 were boarders. Miss Musson wrote that she was pleased to have received fifteen desks as it was impossible to fit all the children around the schoolroom table: the desks were supplied by J.C. Juta & Co. of Cape Town. By the end of April the numbers were outstripping the facilities and Miss Musson requested more beds and added "We are in a greater muddle than ever with regard to rooms. We have been like this for five months now. It is really too bad. Our storeroom is not finished and we cannot use the school huts as the windows have not been mended yet. To whom do I apply for sanitary pails? They are badly needed". However, she must have been somewhat cheered to learn that the Port Elizabeth firm of Pickering & Co. had despatched the piano.

A new schoolroom of brick under iron measuring 40 feet by 20 feet was completed and put into use in July. (This stood close to the site now occupied by the administration block.)

An iron lean-to chancel was added by the Plumtree congregation so that the building could double as a church. All work was carried out under the supervision of the Railway District Engineer Mr. H. Wallis. Costs were met by the Railways and the Government as stated previously, with the additional proviso that Government would pay half the salaries and cost of equipment and one third of the fees of railway children. The diocese paid the remainder of the salaries and equipment costs. The Railways also agreed to pay one third of the fees of the children of their employees. Boarding and school fees were fixed at £3 per month.

There were now 44 pupils, approximately half being boarders, and the council realised that a larger diningroom was urgently required. They sought estimates on a 30 foot × 20 foot building, consisting of a galvanised iron roof resting on timber and railway line supports, with the walls to be filled in with "pole and daga". Mr. Alfred "Bulala" Taylor undertook the work at a cost of £100. This sum was provided jointly by a Railway grant and a Government loan.

In August Bishop Gaul visited the School and dedicated the chancel. He held a volunteer confirmation class and conducted evensong. Sports were held to celebrate the



**Bishop W.T. Gaul**

*Photo — National Archives*

Bishop's visit. In September Miss Musson informed Council that Mr. Taylor had built the oven "and it was quite a success". However, all was not well. "We have not had a drop of water since last Wednesday. Two leaky tanks have been sent down but by the time it arrives here nearly all has leaked out". (Water for domestic use was sent by rail from Marula in rail "tank" trucks at this time.) She also complained about the meat supply and requested deliveries from Bulawayo "as we get nothing but skin and bone down here". This was not surprising when one sees that the successful tender was for "fresh meat three times per week to include twice per month beef at 8d per lb.". Generations of Plumtree pupils have echoed these first recorded complaints about the food, but the modern youth is well advised to study the then school menu as recommended by council, and count his blessings.

Breakfast	Porridge/oatmeal, mealie-meal or boermeal with milk, sugar or treacle. Bread and dripping or bread and jam. Tea or coffee.
Lunch	Soup (three times per week). Meat with rice, potatoes or onions and green vegetables when available. Pudding.



Supper

Bread with treacle or dripping or jam.

Tea.

Sunday breakfasts were augmented by bacon and egg when available. As a treat fresh butter (at 2/- per lb.) or Australian tinned butter was occasionally provided.

E.J. Parker now suggested that a lean-to should be added to the new diningroom. This would incorporate three small rooms in order that the mistresses might each have their own room, and a storeroom. He also pleaded for two rain water tanks to be installed on this building as water was in short supply. In one three-week period it had not been possible to do any washing. He followed this up with a request that the Railways sink a well at the school, as throughout October the school railway "tank" was never refilled. Water had to be obtained from the well at the other end of the siding and this exercise took the labour force half the day. He ended the letter with this cry. "Please urge the well. The scarcity of water has been awful. We're roasting alive here. I am writing in a state of nature". This conjures up a delightful picture of the reverend gentleman's efforts to keep cool.

Also in November "Bulala" Taylor wrote requesting the use of the schoolroom for a dance "in commemoration of His Majesty King Edward the VII's birthday". Mr. Barclay had offered the hotel diningroom, but "Bulala" felt it better "to have it as far away from the bar as possible considering there will be many of the school children present". So the first ever dance to be held at Plumtree School took place on 9 November 1903.

On 28 November "Bulala" wrote to Mr. Baxter. "The diningroom is finished, but we have been having splendid rains (for the crops) although it has done a lot of damage to the walls of the dining room and washed down the walls of other rooms three times, but this owing to me having to wait so long for the material from Bulawayo . . . I am painting the place now". He enclosed in his letter a plan showing all the school buildings but regrettably this was not filed with the letter.

During this period Miss Musson had been agitating for additional help, and had suggested that various senior girls might undertake the supervision of the younger children and in return receive free education. This suggestion was not well received by the parents concerned, despite the offer being made to those who were finding it difficult to pay the fees. Hans Lee wrote, "I am sorry but if the child has to work for her school fee it will be no reduction". However, his daughter Maria did undertake this office as it is shown in the school accounts. Muriel Baraf wrote in *Recollections of Plumtree School* that Annie Prescott joined the school as an assistant matron and was given free tuition in return for her services.

There is no official record of this but it is probable that E.J. Parker had her in mind when he wrote "it is time Miss Musson's dodges came to an end". He proposed that Miss Way "a strong churchwoman" be taken on as the third member of staff. This was accepted by council and Miss Way arrived at the start of the following quarter.

The first mention of the cadets occurs in connection with the Bishop's visit to the School on 12 December 1903. "Bulala" Taylor wrote "I will have a church parade and cadet drill when the Bishop comes just to show him how we are getting on". The Bishop duly arrived and conducted the first confirmation service. Those confirmed were: Charles and Gertrude Clark, Henry and Maud Crament, Jack Rennie and Maria Lee. The new diningroom was used for the first time. On the Monday sports were held and the Bishop presented the school prizes. That evening yet another dance was held in the schoolroom.

At the end of the school year Mr. Baxter noted that the insurance company requested

that "lightning rods" be placed on the huts as soon as possible. He listed the assets of the school for insurance purposes.

School hall (brick on stone under iron):	£550
School equipment (including piano):	£200
5 huts thatched:	£200
Furniture for huts:	£100
1 diningroom 30ft × 20ft:	
2 bedrooms 11ft × 10ft:	£200
Pole and daga under iron:	
Furniture:	£100
	<hr/>
	£1,350

The premium amounted to £10-17-0.

In January of 1904 Miss Musson submitted her resignation to take effect from 31 March. This was accepted and the Council obviously praised her work for her reply to their letter reads:

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 8th inst. Will you kindly convey to the Council my gratitude for their appreciation of my work here, and their kind wishes for my future welfare. I have only done my duty.

I am,

dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A. Musson.

The Council approached Miss Clara J. Slinn to take over as lady principal at Plumtree. She was at that time teaching at St Margaret's. A tall, angular, grey haired woman of somewhat past middle age she had previously been the principal of schools in England and in Madagascar before moving to Rhodesia.

Initially it seemed that she would not be able to accept as Archdeacon Beaven was not prepared to release her from St Margaret's. However, a replacement was found and she moved to Plumtree in April of 1904. On arrival she immediately informed the council that a new kitchen, boys' and girls' bathrooms, and an outdoor shelter were urgently needed.

As the council lacked the finance necessary for brick buildings, they settled for a wood and iron three-roomed "ganger's cottage". This was purchased from the Railways for £40 and erected on the north side of the diningroom. The rooms served as kitchen, storeroom and staff bedroom. The provision of the new kitchen did not solve all problems, for the Railway chaplain wrote sadly to the Council "I am afraid you will have to face the cook problem again. Upon my word people up in this country want large salaries for little work".

At the start of 1905 numbers had dropped to 35, but the Director of Education, Mr. George Duthie, made a very favourable report on the school. "It was evident that the work for the term was carefully mapped out and a good start had been made. The discipline was excellent and the singing hearty and obviously enjoyed by the pupils . . . (who) were equally well cared for out of school . . . occupied by attending their little gardens . . . or in rambles on the veld where again pleasure was combined with instruction . . . a valuable addition . . . in the shape of a cadet corps numbering about 20 (who) went through their drill with precision and appreciation".

Though not mentioned by Mr. Duthie, a start had been made on games for the boys. Mr. Edwin Taylor of the Customs Department was the drill instructor and he had been approached by Mr. Baxter and asked to help in this direction. In June of 1905 Edwin Taylor wrote, "I have made myself acquainted with all the scholars, and I have induced them to take more interest in sports . . . the football is too small for the elder boys, who are moreover too ruff to play with the juniors". He goes on to request a larger football, and he states that with the help of the boys he undertakes to clear the dead grass and shrubs from the school ground "as neither sports nor drill can be carried out successfully". In another letter "I have secured ground for a rifle range for the use of the cadets from Mr. Quedsted, and Col. Ramsay has very kindly promised everything required to encourage the cadets in their shooting".

Edwin Taylor, and his successor Mr. Woolbright, did a great deal for the boys' extra-curricular activities. In November 1905, Miss Slinn wrote to thank the council for the cricket bats and balls, adding "the boys are delighted and with their Drill Instructor and one of the Siding Foremen had a good game this afternoon". Soon after this twelve of the cadets travelled to Bulawayo to take part in the trooping of the colours. The boys also went swimming and sports were held in conjunction with the prize-giving ceremony. (The 26 books presented as prizes cost a total of £3 - 19 - 6.)

However, Miss Slinn was not amused to discover other unofficial activities were under way. She had initially allowed the boarders to sleep with hut windows open, but now "found the freedom was abused especially upon moonlight nights". Thereafter doors and windows in the dormitory huts were kept firmly closed. She also had very definite ideas on discipline and apparently was well able to enforce her views: "there is every prospect of an orderly and peaceful term, as the children from the biggest boys, realise that I will not accept anything short of good discipline and a healthy tone". Parental complaints make it clear that she did not "spare the rod" but wielded both cane and sjambok with a practised hand. She was well able to inform the council "The insubordination of last term is stamped out". This fracas had been brought about by one of the nine plums.

The lad whose name was first on the school register, had achieved another "first" by running away from school during Miss Musson's term of office, and now accomplished an historic treble by becoming the first pupil to be suspended. He had been kicking over the traces for Miss Slinn informed the council, "He has been reported to me by the drill instructor for insubordination . . . the foreman at the siding has complained of his bad language and swearing . . . and yesterday he brought about a crisis by refusing to take his share with the other boys in the gardening. He also refuses to drill and in other ways too, habitually breaks rules". She further decreed "that if he returns he should do the work set him and apologise to the school and at least one member of the council, or receive a thrashing!" This caused considerable upset, and the parents launched counter accusations against the school, but the council stood firmly behind Miss Slinn. The story ended happily as a year later the boy was re-admitted to the school having apparently learned his lesson.

However, other problems arose, not the least of which was an alarming drop in numbers. This was in part due to Miss Slinn's drastic punishments, in part to the movement of railway staff and in large measure to the difficulty many parents experienced in raising the cash needed for school fees. The railway parents had a set amount deducted from their monthly pay packet to cover the fees for each quarter; non-railway parents were expected to pay in advance. This led to endless trouble as the majority could not fathom the logic of

paying the same fee in January as in February, when there was only one week of school in January but four weeks in February. In 1904 the school year commenced in February and there was such an uproar when fees were deducted from January paysheets that council made certain that thereafter term always started in January. However, many parents kept children out of school at the beginning and end of term in an attempt to avoid the monthly payment. Often when in financial difficulties they withdrew children until such time as funds were again available. Often children were readmitted after absences of a year or more. Two letters indicate how the poor people struggled in those days.

“Just a few lines to ask you could you take my child in for £2 per month for we left the Cape Government (Railways) we are near Gwelo and I dont know what to do with the child for Mr..... says it was not his child and he wont put him in skool and I am a poor womens what can I do please write for me to the Council tell them that his step father wont have nothing to do with him and I hope they will help me please”.

“..... Farm  
13/6/05

“My Dear Children

I have sent you some more close I thought you had enough to last you this quarter. When you come home you must please tell Miss Slinn that I ham goin to keep you home nex quarter has it is very inconvnent for me to send you in from the farm. You will let me know when I must send to Marula Tenk after you has you will have to walk out. I will send some boys to fetch your things . . .

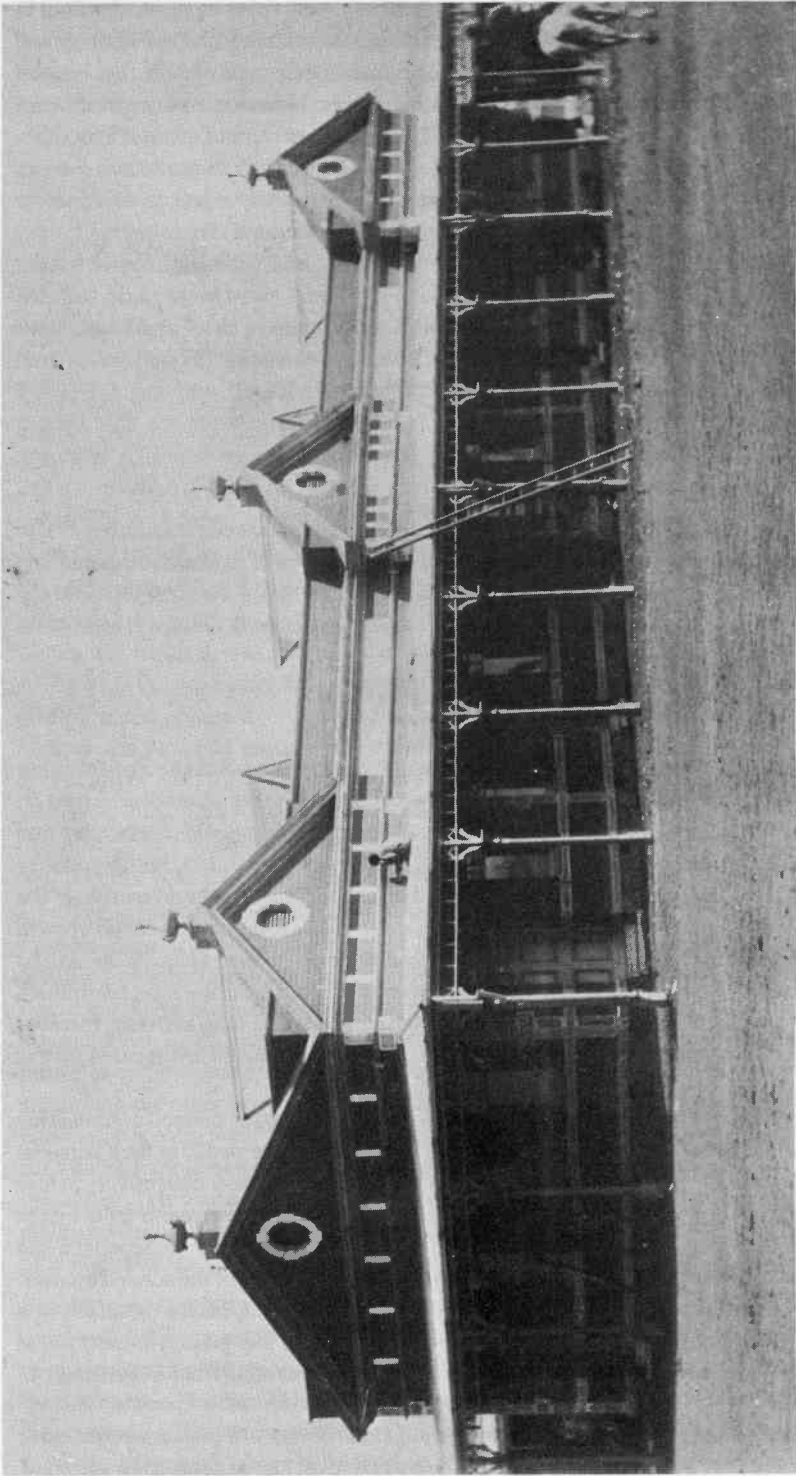
Your Mother with kindes love.

.....”

To complete the tale of woe, Miss Slinn’s health deteriorated and she and the other lady members of staff were at daggers drawn. The pettiness of these squabbles verged on the ridiculous. When one of the assistants was given notice she intimated that her hen and chickens would also be leaving Plumtree. Miss Slinn however declared that the poultry should be forfeit to the school as they had been fed on school provisions and moreover the school rooster had a paternity claim. The unfortunate council secretary was called upon to deliver judgement, and with the wisdom of Solomon decreed that Miss X should be permitted to remove her hen and chickens upon payment of 10/- for the food consumed. The rooster’s part in the affair was not recorded in the judgement. A long-suffering member of the B.S.A.P. was detailed to accompany Miss X to the school and ensure that justice was done.

This feuding continued unabated. Members of staff wrote to the council complaining of the faults and behaviour of their colleagues and they involved the pupils in their personal vendettas. Despite all the staff being summoned to Bulawayo to appear collectively before the council and settle their differences, and despite the kindly advice given to them by the Director of Education, there was no peace! In March of 1906 the council reached the end of its patience and dismissed the entire staff with effect from the end of the second quarter. Miss Helm was subsequently re-appointed to the staff and Mrs. Oldacre remained in a caretaker capacity to hand over to the new principal. Miss Slinn moved to Kimberley, and later to Cape Town, from where she wrote that she was recuperating from a bad attack of malaria.

The council, acting on the advice of Mr. Duthie, the Director of Education, decided to seek “a Headmaster, preferably a married man to take over the school”.



The first stage of the Exchange Building nearing completion about October 1895 showing the Main Street facade looking north. The Post Office was to be on the corner with the bar next to it. The corners of the building were of rusticated stonework which ran in horizontal lines with brick infill. This facade was incorporated into the commemorative stamp of Zimbabwe issued to mark the 75th anniversary of the Post Office Savings Bank in 1980.

*Photo — National Archives*

# Bulawayo Stock Exchange Building

by A.M. Spencer-Cook

On Thursday 21 March, 1895, a meeting was held in Bulawayo "to consider the advisability of forming a stock exchange and transfer agency in Bulawayo". Present were Captains Heany and Spreckley and Messrs. Wrey, Egerton and Clark.

As a result it was agreed to form such a company with a capital of about £10 000, first to participate in the capital being the members at the meeting who guaranteed the purchase of £4 800 of shares, and then an offer would be made to the local brokers to participate. There were by that date already some 30 brokers in town, even though Dr. Jameson had only declared Bulawayo as a town nine months earlier.

The next day, 22 March, the entrepreneurs met again, and on the advice of Mr. J.E. Scott, a solicitor, the name of the company was agreed, the capital was fixed at £7 500 and it was resolved that the capital should be called up in four instalments, 5s. on application, 5s. on allotment and two further calls of 5s. at three-monthly intervals.

Three days later a meeting was held with interested brokers and the company was under way.

On 30 March the prospectus was issued, and by 2 April the secretary was able to report a massive oversubscription and the directors agreed "to allot in the proportion of one in every ten applied for". In fact shares were at a premium before allotment, and within six months the remaining 350 shares were sold at a premium of 40s.3d. for each £1 share. Shortly thereafter the company suggested to the Administrator, Dr. Jameson, that it build a post and telegraph office for the Chartered Company, undertaking to commence operations within ten days and to complete buildings within four and a half months of signing the contract. The rent was to be fixed at £400 per annum payable quarterly for a term of five years. As a result the company was granted Stand 81, Bulawayo, on the corner of Selborne and Main Street, free of charge.

An architect, Mr. F.J. Marquand, was appointed and tenders ranging from £8 179 to £6 380 were received. Eventually, after some hard bargaining, Messrs. Butters and Gibson were awarded the contract for £4 703! It is apparent that the company wanted and usually got its full pound of flesh.

As an example of this the architect desperately wanted to appoint a clerk of works, and after much delay the directors agreed "that the architect be authorised to employ the man mentioned temporarily BUT to dispense with his services as soon as he conveniently can: and that it be an instruction to the secretary to bring the matter forward in a month's time".

Work had commenced on the building by 16 May, 1895, with the post office to be completed within four months and the whole building completed inside six months. The rest of the building was to include an exchange hall with a deal floor, and offices to be let out to the public. Shortly after the idea developed of obtaining a bar liquor licence.

The licence for the bar was granted by Captain Heyman, the Civil Commissioner, on 4 June, 1895 and has remained in existence since then, so that today it is the oldest surviving bar licence in Zimbabwe.

The building was not completed on time because of a strike of carpenters, but it was

completed by 3 November, with Mr. H. L. Lloyd taking over the bar on the 15th at £60 per month. The company immediately entered into a further contract with the builders to extend the building to provide more office space at an additional cost of £4 600.

The rentals charged are instructive — £6 per month for each office for a six month lease, but by January, 1896; this had risen to “£18 per month for the pair”. The Freemasons were charged £6.12.0 per month for the use of the hall for two nights a month. Others were not so lucky in the rent of the hall, which was set at £5.5.0 for ordinary meetings or £10.10.0 for dances and concerts, but at least money was now beginning to flow into the company accounts.

The hall is still there today in the same form as it was built, except that the deal floor has been replaced with quarry tile. The fine steel ceiling is still in situ and the windows, which can be seen in the earliest photographs, remain untouched.

Dr. Jameson was clearly interested in the project, because he asked the directors to send him a photograph as soon as the post office was completed. The board of directors had by now settled down to Captain M. Heany (chairman), Messrs. I. Hirschler, D. Powell, H. Reddall, R.R. Needham and Norton, but many other prominent Bulawayo men had joined and resigned their directorships in the meantime, including Dr. H. Sauer, Captain J.A. Spreckley and C.J. Clark.

What an interesting group of men. Charles Jefferson Clark, M.E., represented not only Goldfields of South Africa, but also Willoughbys Consolidated and the Mashonaland Agency, and in July, 1895 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace of Bulawayo.

Captain John Anthony Spreckley had been in the country for several years and in 1892 had been in Lomagundi, 1893 in Umtali and in 1894 had been Acting Magistrate Victoria. By 1895 he had become manager of Willoughbys Consolidated in Bulawayo, and in August, 1895 he married Miss Borrow, sister of Captain Borrow, who was killed with Major Allan Wilson's party in the Shangani incident.

Dr. Hans Sauer was president of the Chamber of Mines and had his own building in Abercorn Street East at 237.

R.R. Needham was an auctioneer in Market Square. T.G. Norton was an accountant in Lloyds Building in Abercorn Street (chambers shared with Mr. J.C. Coghlan). Herbert Reddall was in 221 Abercorn Street. Isodore Henry Hirschler was in Glass' Chambers, 134 Main Street. In 1897 he was appointed a J.P. and 1897/1898 was Mayor of Bulawayo.

Captain David Maurice Heany acted for Mashonaland Agencies at 84 Main Street, only two doors away from where the Exchange Building was to be built. Later in 1895 he also was appointed a J.P. In 1896 he became a member of the Compensation Board, and just after his appointment as chairman he was promoted to Major in charge of A Troop of the Matabeleland Regiment, Rhodesian Horse Volunteers.

With such a board of directors it is small wonder that the issue was oversubscribed!

The first annual general meeting attracted 48 shareholders, who had good cause to be pleased with their investment, because the directors had already been able to pay an interim dividend of 12½% — not a bad achievement after only four and a half months of trading.

Unfortunately the use of the hall as an exchange was stopped from mid-April, 1896, until the beginning of July that year, because the BSA Company needed the hall first as a barracks and then as a hospital, as a result of the Matabele rising against the settlers. In the

event the directors wrote to Lord Grey informing him that no compensation or rent would be asked for the BSA Company's use of the hall. A magnanimous gesture, no doubt, but the Stock Exchange had in fact managed to continue functioning from the secretary's office in the Exchange Building. But the proprietor of the bar was not so lucky — he wanted to be exempted from paying rent for the months the bar had been closed by the Government. True to form, the directors maintained that he would have to pay the rent, but they would support a claim for compensation from the BSA Company if he decided to make one.

By the end of 1896 matters had become difficult for the company and for Bulawayo in general. Office rents came down to £6 and the interim dividend was cut to 5%, although the directors must have felt the bar trade was holding up, because they put up Mr. Lloyd's rent to £90 per month.

In January, 1897 the Company lent the hall to the BSA Company for five days for an indaba, and were handsomely thanked afterwards by Captain Lawley as Administrator of Matabeleland.

By the middle of 1897 things began to look up again. The buildings were all completed and the directors felt confident enough not only to donate £15 to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Fund, £100 to the secretary of the railways festivities for the opening of the railways, and to invite the chairman of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange to the railways festivities as their guest, but also to buy themselves a new boardroom table, and at the same time to increase the interim dividend to 7½%; after all, the BSA Company had agreed to renew the post office lease at £600 per year. They even became so enthusiastic that they allowed the Freemasons the use of the hall during the day on Sundays for only one guinea, while at the same time regretting that they could not allow its use at no charge for the opening meeting of the YMCA, proposing a charge instead of £4.4.0.

By the beginning of 1898 the directors had arranged to install "the electric light" and were actively giving consideration to putting up a second storey to the Exchange Building. Things were clearly going well, even though the tenants had to pay 10/- per month for each lamp they used for the electric light.

By 1900 there were surplus funds, and the board were pleased to place £400 with the African Banking Corporation Ltd. for 12 months at 4%, and in 1901 C.T. Holland, who had been elected a director in 1897 was elected chairman. He was already a J.P. and had been Mayor of Bulawayo 1898-1899.

But of course all could not always be easy for a board of directors. In the early years a secretary of the company had allegedly misappropriated some of the call monies up to £148.19.8, and now in 1901 a director had criticised the action of his colleagues.

Mr. K. B. Gloag of T. Gloag & Sons, general merchants of 235 Abercorn Street, had been appointed a director in October 1896, had been re-elected in 1900 and had been appointed a trustee of the company, as well as acting as its chairman on occasions; he also acted (outside the company) as agent for the Guardian Fire offices. But on 4 March, 1901, Major Heany as chairman demanded an apology from Gloag for criticising the directors for granting a bonus of twenty-five guineas to the secretary, Mr. D.W. Sanderson. If there was no apology the rest of the board would offer their resignation and call a meeting of shareholders and offer themselves for re-election.

Gloag said it was the best thing they could do, so the secretary was told to convene a shareholders' meeting.

At Gloag's request the secretary admitted that he had left his door between his office and the hall open, and Gloag had gone into the secretary's office and taken two inside keys





**The fourth stage of the Exchange Building as it was in 1981 showing the third-floor design by MacGillivray in 1934. The two facades will be retained in the current development.**

from the open safe. Gloag explained he had only done this to show how careless the secretary was, but the chairman ruled him out of order.

Gloag was re-elected a trustee on 12 March 1901, but persisted in asking about the bonuses to be paid for the current year; the board asked him to leave this until after the shareholders' meeting on 28 March.

Sadly, after the shareholders' meeting Gloag tendered his resignation, and it was accepted, so I doubt that we shall ever know what it was that clearly got him so upset. He later claimed an extra guinea for attending a meeting at which there was no quorum, but all's well that ends well, because by 1902 Gloag was offered Mr. Norton's office in the Exchange Building and he remained a shareholder and trustee until he sold his shares in 1903, and was replaced by Captain Bucknall, another director.

Later that year Mr. W. Douslin, the designer of Willoughby's Building, opposite the Exchange Building, was appointed the company architect. He organised a redecoration plan and arranged to re-plaster the building for £53.

Mr. Liebolt had become the proprietor of the Exchange Bar, still at £90 per month, but the directors wished to put this up. Liebolt offered £95, but Mr. H. Lloyd, the original proprietor, offered £110, which was accepted, but he had to pay extra for his electric light! Luckily the charge for this had dropped to 7s.6d. per month. A couple of months later Lloyd entered into partnership with Mr. Long and they ran the bar for two years. They even persuaded the directors to put an electric light in the yard near the bar and plate glass at the back of the bottle rack.

By July, 1902 the board was ready to put up the second storey on the building for the post office, but would the existing building take the extra load? Mr. F. Scott was consulted and produced plans that allowed the extra floor — would the Government pay the extra

rent? Despite the chairman's plea — no, they planned to build their own new building across Selborne Avenue opposite Exchange Building (actually, they remained in the building for over 10 more years).

It was Mr. Holland's last act as Chairman; he decided to return "home" and Captain Bucknall, already a director, was appointed in his place.

The bar saga continued with the directors calling for tenders in 1903. Liebolt offered £90, Lloyd and Long £100, and a new entrant, V. W. O'Brien, \$106. Of course O'Brien got it — subject to suitable sureties! The Liquor Licensing Board even offered midnight privileges if O'Brien wanted them, but he declined the offer. However, he did agree to take a three-year lease, provided the post office remained in the building.

By mid-1903 things had deteriorated again, and were so bad that the caretaker was given a month's notice and the secretary was required "to look after the boy and see that things were kept in order", and in June the secretary was directed to have the telephone disconnected "as the service was so bad". With the telegraph office in the building one wonders what hope there was for other subscribers.

Times got worse and so did the secretary's health. Dr. Head certified Mr. Sanderson needed a break, the directors agreed and granted two months' break at the coast on full pay (£450 per annum), but on resuming to be offered £200 per annum, the use of his office and to be allowed to enter any other business, provided that it did not interfere with his work on the stock exchange. Many tenants fell into arrears with their rents, the estimated annual profit fell to £199.5.1 and the dividend was passed. Even the bar proprietor, O'Brien, failed to pay his rent and steps were taken to proceed against his sureties. A shareholders' offer of 7s.6d. in the £ for a debt of £100.10.0 due to the company was accepted (a former director, C. C. Adcock, was declared bankrupt in Johannesburg).

Poor Sanderson, the secretary, after years of service, died. The action of certain directors in agreeing to pay for Sanderson's funeral was confirmed, no charge was made for the month's rent due on his bedroom, a full month's salary was paid to the estate and a letter of condolence was written to the widow. As if all that was not enough, the roof began to leak.

At the beginning of 1904 Messrs. W.H. Haddon and C.P.J. Coghlan joined the board, and Mr. Liebolt successfully re-tendered for the bar, although he nearly got handed to the lawyers for allowing a bookmaker to conduct his business from the bar and hang his betting boards outside, obviously to the detriment of other tenants. That year the electric light account "was nearly always unsatisfactory", and the new secretary was instructed to have the meter moved from the bar to his office.

In May Captain Bucknall decided to return to England and Mr. Geo Young was appointed in his place; Bucknall returned in due course and remained a director for many years. In August a vaccination clinic was established by the Municipality of Bulawayo "for the purpose of the Health Officer vaccinating natives". Throughout the company's history the Government and Municipality have nearly always been tenants of a part of the building.

The next year Liebolt secured the bar for a mere £55 per month, and Mr. C.P.J. Coghlan was elected chairman and Major Heany retired as a director, just ten years after he chaired the meeting at which the company was proposed.

Rents dropped in 1905 so much that at the beginning of 1906 the secretary's fee was reduced to £120 per year, and Liebolt secured the bar at a rent of £40 per month. Mr. Rembridge, who had lived on the premises for years and switched off the yard light at night,

had his bedroom rent reduced to £1 per month; tenants even negotiated monthly rents subject to giving only one week's notice. Things were certainly not good, even the auditors reduced their fee to £10 per year from a high of £30, and a mysterious dynamite explosion cost the company £2.5.0 to replace the broken windows. That year the company solicitor, J.E. Scott, died and was replaced by his partner, Donald Welsh. The Buluwayo Board of Executors were appointed sole auditors of the company in January 1907, and have remained associated with the company or the building ever since. The Buluwayo Board are the oldest surviving registered company in the country, having been registered with the number 12 in the Companies Office, the Salisbury Board of Executors, now called Sagit Trust, were registered on the same day, 9 April 1895 with number 13, and the Stock Exchange Company at Number 17 was registered shortly afterward. All three still exist, their nearest survivor is in the 500s.

In February, 1907 the bar was leased to J. Pieters & Coy. for £55 per month. Things were clearly looking up, because they promptly sublet to J. Zillinger whose performance was guaranteed by Messrs. Meikle and Thomas.

The value for the use of the hall had dropped, and during the years Mrs. McKenzie was allowed the use of it "once or twice a week" for £1.0.0 per night for dancing classes, but this was reduced to "Friday nights for one hour only at a charge of 10s.6d". Unfortunately the time was exceeded and the secretary was instructed to notify Mrs. McKenzie that "if one hour was exceeded she must pay an additional 10s. 6d. for any hour or portion of an hour". One wonders what other persons ay have been inconvenienced by the dancing class?

It was a year for complaints, because the post office complained of "the proximity of the bar entrance to the post office". The directors agreed that as the lease ran to 15 February, 1908, nothing could be done! But at least the "boy Charlie" benefited — he received a bonus of 10s. for attending meetings in the hall and a promise of 1s. per night to 11.00 p.m. and 2s. for meetings past that hour.

The rate of interest improved and £300 was placed at 4¼% for twelve months and the BSA Company renewed the post office lease for two years. Then the roof began to leak again and the dividend dropped to 5%!

By 1908 the bar lease had risen to \$67.10.0 per month, but for three years still sublet to Zillinger. Sadly, that year the tenants in the Selborne Avenue side of the building petitioned for the removal of the pepper trees outside the building; the Municipality, however, declined. C.P.J. Coghlan was appointed to the Legislative Council.

In 1909 the Post Office made a bid for the use of the hall and the whole board met the P.M.G., Mr. Eyre (who had been Assistant Commissioner of Public Works). Excitingly, "the meeting was attended by Miss Asher, who took a shorthand report of the discussion with Mr. Eyre". The directors as usual were exercising the necessary caution.

During 1910 an incident occurred which, while undoubtedly correctly interpreting the law, seems almost inconceivable in this day and age. Charlie received £1.10s.6d. per month, but as a "native" was not permitted to use the pavement, even outside the Stock Exchange Building. In October Charlie had been instructed to stand outside the company office to receive messages during the temporary absence of the secretary. Charlie was arrested, tried and fined £1, an incredible percentage of his monthly wage for doing what he had been told to do. Fortunately the directors had the good grace and sense of justice to pay the fine on his behalf, but Charlie was warned that in future he must pay any similar fine himself.

The directors even agreed to spend £10 on decorations for the building on the occasion of the visit of the Duke of Connaught; "the same to be done in conjunction with the Government decoration of the post office". They spent the same amount next year in honour of the Coronation.

By January, 1911 C.P.J. Coghlan was knighted and as an unrelated event the 12-month interest rate had fallen to 3½%, but the company still managed to afford a 10s. Christmas box for Charlie, presumably because J. Pieters & Co. had successfully tendered £80 for the bar for the next three years.

So things went on in a fairly even pattern, with the post office authorities at last deciding to build their own post office opposite the Exchange, and agreeing to vacate by the end of January 1914, but, alas, on Friday, 8 August, 1913 at about 3 a.m. a disaster of major proportions occurred. On 6 October, 1895, "the old post office" had been burnt to the ground; on 8 August, 1913, it happened again, with damage to the building and bar fittings assessed at £3 687.10s. The full board under the chairmanship of Sir Charles Coghlan met, and the post office agreed to "certain temporary accommodation". Mr. Beaven, the fire assessor from Johannesburg, agreed that the insurance company pay for the temporary accommodation, and of course the directors, as cautionary men, had insured both the buildings and the rent receivable.

Mr. MacGillivray as architect was asked to design the permanent reinstatement of the building. The worst blow was probably the destruction of the bar and MacGillivray was authorised to allow the lessee to use Office 22 until the bar was reinstated, and so it came about that after a long afternoon's discussion the architect was at last instructed to design a double storey building from "the archway to the bar", and all the tenants were billed for occupation from 1 August to the date of the fire! Of course when J. Pieters & Coy asked to have a reduction of rent for the temporary bar from £25 to £15, it was refused, but Sir Charles was authorised to permit a small refund if Pieters & Coy became tenants of the bar in the new building.

By 1 September, 1913 Mr. MacGillivray with his partner Grant had produced the necessary plans, with the bar moved to the corner of Selborne and Main Street. Throughout the previous years since 1902 A.H. Anstee, a general merchant with a shop at 229 Abercorn Street, had been a director. He had always "kindly agreed" to look after the property, and in the rebuilding his services were again secured.

The new building, inclusive of architect's fees, was not to cost more than £9 000 and the company decided to raise a loan of £3 500, either from the South African Mutual Life Assurance Society or "der Disconto", a German bank, repayable over 25 years at 4½%. The SA Mutual declined the suggestion and no reply was received from Germany, so they secured an overdraft from the local bank. Not too bad, considering that the company had just placed £2 500 with the bank at an interest rate of 2%! Tenders for the new building were received by 3 November 1913, and ranged from £8 740 down to £7 650 by Messrs. William Cubitt & Co. (South African) Ltd., who secured the contract subject to the directors approving samples of the bricks to be used, and Mr. Anstee kindly undertook to generally supervise the work. Cubitt & Co. agreed to use "Fisher's bricks up to the first floor and per sample above". The secretary was instructed to obtain an estimate of the cost of an automatic electric lift — the architect considered a cost of about £700, but the building committee decided it was not necessary.

By the end of February, 1914, the new building was completed and the Chamber of Mines moved into one of the upstairs offices at the beginning of March, and the bar was

leased to Mr. E. Weller for £45 per month and 10% on any surplus over £325 gross turnover per month.

In that same year Captain Bucknall, who had in fact remained on the board, having only taken a long holiday "at home", was also elected to the Legislative Council and in September Dr. Acland, who had been a tenant in the building since long before the fire, "left for England to go to the war", and by December, 1914 the board had been strengthened by the addition of Col. H.M. Heyman, M.L.C. Heyman, it will be remembered, had granted the original bar licence when he had been Civil Commissioner in 1895, although he only ever seems to have attended one meeting of directors.

The barometer of the company finances fell again in 1915, with the bar rent falling to £32.10.0 per month. Mr. Weller had in fact been the lessee of Pieters & Co. and they then installed J.H. Cottrell as licensee, who it seems allowed, for the first time, ladies in the bar, because in December, 1915 he asked the Board and they agreed to build a ladies lavatory at a cost of £33, and at that time, also a first, the December bar receipts exceeded the magic figure of £325 by £33, so the Company profited by extra rent of three guineas. However, March, 1916 the lease passed to the South African Breweries Ltd. for £45 with no turnover clause, and surprisingly Cottrell remained as licensee.

The First World War was having its effect and rents again began to drop, but patriotism was high and a new "Union-Jack flag" was purchased for £2.10.0, although the effect was somewhat spoiled because they had to borrow a ladder whenever they wanted to put it up, so they even agreed to buy a new ladder.

That June A.H. Anstee attended his last meeting, the month before he had arranged to fit a sump at the drain head under Office Number 2, and by July the chairman placed on record "the deep sense of gratitude of the board to the late A.H. Anstee for the untiring effort and devotion he at all times exercised in the interests of the company and their sincere regret at his demise". He was indeed greatly missed, having served on the board for nearly 14 years; his only relative surviving was his sister in England. Anstee's place as a trustee of the company was taken by Col. Heyman and as a director by R.M. Nairn, who had been a tenant of the building for many years.

The war continued to disrupt the company affairs and the dividend fell to 2½%.

At the beginning of 1917 P.B.S. Wrey, who had been a director for many years and had often acted as chairman, was knighted. He had been in the country since at least 1897, because in June of that year he had been appointed a J.P. for Matabeleland. Later the same year, Mr. W.J. Shepard, B.A., proposed opening a business college in one room of the building, but business generally was poor; many people left Bulawayo, Shepard went to the Belgian Congo and the directors agreed to let all the upper floor rooms as bedrooms at £2.10.0 per month each, "without furniture, attendance or hot water", although a geyser and small tank were installed for the use of tenants.

The Exchange Bar lease was transferred to Mrs. Cottrell and the rent increased to £47.10.0 per month, guaranteed by the South African Breweries, but she secured a reduction of £5 per month six months later.

An interesting commercial practice was formally endorsed by the Board when they authorised the secretary to pay the hall porter of the Grand Hotel 5s. for every commercial traveller he brought to use the sample room.

In May, 1918, Atkinson, the secretary who had been appointed after Sanderson's death, accepted the appointment as secretary to the Umtali Club, and his place was filled by the Buluwayo Board of Executors & Trust Company Limited.

Mrs. Cottrell married Mr. Martin at the end of 1918, and in 1919 renewed the bar lease at £42.10.0 per month, and again in 1920 at £45.0.0, after the Board agreed to refund her £4.10.0 for the installation of a lamp. They also agreed to have the lower portion of the bar painted in green marula "providing the cost is not too high".

A bonus of 2½% was added to the 1920 dividend, making 12½% for the year, so things had definitely improved since the end of the First World War.

During the 1920s the affairs of the Company settled into a fairly mundane pattern. Rose Martin resumed the name of Cottrell in December, 1921 (a divorce?), and the lease continued with rent received quite happily in either name until the bar passed to W.E. Freyer in June, 1923 at £47.10.0 and to J.A. Jaquest in March, 1926 at £53.10.0, rising gradually to peak at £58.10.0 and drop back in the mid-1930s to £52.10.0, when in October 1934 it passed to C.B. Wright & Son and in January, 1935 to H. Green.

During 1934 it was agreed that the time was right to develop the rest of the property, and Mr. MacGillivray, who had been joined in his practice by his son, was instructed to design the extensions by adding a third floor to the existing building and extending all three floors along Selborne Avenue to the lane.

MacGillivray ingeniously designed the extensions to blend with the existing buildings and solved the problem of the curved pediments, which had been a feature of the old building, by retaining them but piercing them so that the windows became a bolder feature, as can be seen in the illustration. The contract was awarded for £14 958 and work began in November, 1934. Included in the design was a lift, which is still there, but is now automatic — originally it was operated by a uniformed attendant.

The building operation was not without its difficulties, and several tenants successfully claimed for damages suffered, but all was eventually completed by September, 1935.

The bar lease passed from Green to M. Trappler in 1936, who successfully renewed his lease for five years in 1939 at £60 per month with no escalations! The building filled rapidly at rents of £6 per room, and there was a general spirit of goodwill, with the trustees agreeing to spend £18.10.0 to floodlight the buildings and a similar amount for buntings during Coronation week in 1937, but the lift continued to play up and several tenants moved into newer buildings that were being put up in the city. In fact, by 1938 the directors had to completely renew the lift. By the beginning of 1939 the directors were seriously concerned by the number of offices becoming vacant, and formed a committee to investigate the matter.

There was much competition from other buildings, and the board were forced to advertise offices to let in the local newspaper and to agree to rent reductions, and all through 1939 tenants continued to leave, and there was gloom at the impending Second World War.

But when the war did break out the directors were patriotic enough to place two rooms at the disposal of the National War Fund "free of rent for the duration of the war", and, as was the case before, many tenants left to go on active service.

In terms of the law of the time, the lessee of the bar, Trappler, was convicted of "supplying a half bottle of liquor to a coloured man", and so heinous was the offence that Trappler was given formal notice and the bar was taken over by Ohlssons Breweries, who placed Mr. Konson in as their tenant and tied him to purchasing not more than 75% of their own brewed and bottled malt liquor. Konson only lasted five months; he was replaced by Mr. Roche, and a neon sign advertising the bar was put on the parapet. The Municipality

agreed to lop branches off the trees in Main Street, so that the sign could be seen.

During 1942 the war continued to have a damaging effect on the company's affairs. Rents drifted down, the Exchange Hall was let at only £7.10.0 per month, and the sub-lessee of the bar complained that the bar was an unpayable proposition with the rent at £60 per month; however, as the main lease was with the Breweries the directors felt safe in maintaining the rent during the balance of the lease. So depressed did matters become that in January, 1943 the directors put a price of £40 000 on the property and recommended to the shareholders to sell, but nothing came of the idea. The only fortunate consequence of the hostilities was that Government departments proliferated and began to take up vacant offices in the building.

In mid-1943 the Hon. A.R. Welsh, who had been on the board since originally being nominated alternate to Sir Charles Coghlan in 1917, was knighted. He had succeeded the Hon. L. Cripps as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in 1925 and served as Speaker until Federation, but still managed to attend most meetings of the directors under the chairmanship of R.M. Nairn, who it will be remembered, had also joined the board in 1916.

January 1944 saw the Breweries renew the bar lease for two years, but the rent stayed at £60 during the pleasure of the board as long as they remained satisfied that "the difficulties at present existing in regard to obtaining stocks of beer and whisky" remained, otherwise the rent would go up to £65. Roche gave up his sub-lease and Cecil Lockwood became the bar-keeper; he came highly recommended but only lasted until August, when he was replaced by Mr. Sydney Page and Mr. Liebenberg "once he was released by Rhodesia Railways". Interestingly, business for the bar must have improved, because Page immediately proceeded to lease Room 1 and had a service opening made "to take the overflow from the front bar".

The year 1945 and the company's 50th anniversary passed almost unnoticed and at the beginning of 1946 the Breweries agreed to a rental increase to £75. During February an offer of £40 000 for the building, bar and licence was declined, and a further offer of £45 000 was declined in March.

That year also saw alterations to the building with the veranda on Main Street being renewed and a suggestion being made that the original exchange hall be demolished to make way for a four storey office block of 26 offices and a bar lounge --- fortunately the plan was not proceeded with, because no building permit could be obtained, but the hall rent went up to £30 and a general increase in office rents occurred. For the Royal visit in 1947 the directors suggested decorating the Exchange Buildings with bunting, but following a discussion with the City Engineer the chairman advised that "the King had expressed the sentiment that he preferred to see buildings without decorations and bunting", so the directors settled for two new Union Jacks instead.

An escalation was introduced into the bar licence from 1949 with a rent of £100 per month rising to £150 per month by 1951. Liebenberg had by then become the sole sub-tenant. Strangely, in 1950 all the tenants agreed the rents were too low and they all agreed to an increase of approximately 15%! In June that year Liebenberg had to relinquish the bar due to ill-health, and was replaced by P.H. Veal.

Sadly in April, 1951 R.M. Nairn died, having been chairman of the company for 27 years and on the board for 35 years. Only the month before the directors had sent him and Mrs. Nairn flowers on the occasion of their golden wedding. C.F. Osmond, chairman of the Buluwayo Board, was appointed company chairman briefly.

The number of shareholders dropped and the company remained only as a property-owning entity with the bar licence still firmly held. The work of the actual exchange had effectively ceased during the depression of 1929. Mr. L. A. Levy became chairman and no dividend was recommended because "the rents were liable to be readjusted by the Rent Board, which could result in payment of rent being refunded".

In 1953 Sir Alan Welsh ceased to be a director and he sold his shares, having been associated with the company for nearly 40 years, and the number of shareholders dwindled with the control vested in the hands of the Sher family. In 1956 Mr. L. Sher took over the bar at £175.0.0 per month, and the Exchange Hall was at last incorporated into the bar area. In November, 1958 the bar licence was passed to Rhodesian Breweries, and in July, 1959 the ground floor offices were converted to shops with Leonard W. Baart engaged as architect, and L. Sher was appointed chairman.

In December, 1963 the bar passed to C. Q. Gaskin still at £175 and so on to the 75th annual general meeting in September, 1970, but like earlier milestones, it passed effectively unnoticed.

In March, 1974 all the shares in the company were purchased by the Mining Industry Pension Fund, and their representatives were placed on the board. The lease of the bar passed to George Demetriou and then to Mr. and Mrs. Jephcott, and A.M. Spencer-Cook was appointed chairman.

In 1977 the Mining Industry Pension Fund took transfer of the Exchange Building, and the company remained in existence as the owner of the oldest bar licence in Zimbabwe.

1982 saw the final stage of the present development, with the M.I.P.F. deciding to demolish the interior of the building but to retain the street facades, the bar and Exchange Hall, and to build in its place a modern block of shops and offices behind the original facades, thus effectively preserving a small part of the Bulawayo streetscape and skyline. Graham Mills was appointed architect, but at the time of writing this article, tenders have not yet been received. However, it is expected that the cost may be slightly above that of the original building!

---

### MASHONALAND COMMITTEE

The Mashonaland branch committee for the year 1982/1983 is as follows:

Chairman, T.F.M. Tanser; vice-chairman, R.H. Wood; secretary, Mrs. R. Wakefield; members — W.P. Brookes-Ball, R.D. Franks, J.A.C. Fleming, A.M. Rosettenstein, H.B. Watson, R.A. Zeederberg.



# FOR THE COLLECTOR —

1970 Rhodesiana Society Bronze Medals — \$5 each.

---

Portfolio of Historic Botanical Prints — \$25 each.

---

Back Numbers of *RHODESIANA* (Nos. 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 26-40 inc.) — \$3 each.

---

**The Journal *RHODESIANA***  
(Nos. 19-40 inclusive available)

The nett price per copy, inclusive of all bank charges and surface mail postage is: Z\$3,00; USA\$8,20; £4,30; DM18,60; S Fr 14,80; Rand 7,90.

**The Journal *NADA***  
(Published annually from 1923-1980)

The following issues are available: 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980.

The net price per copy, inclusive of all bank charges and surface mail postage is: Z\$2,00; USA\$6,80; £3,60; DM15,40; S Fr 12,20; Rand 6,60.

### **Botanical Portfolio**

A rexine-bound portfolio containing six antique botanical prints and accompanying text published in 1978 to commemorate the Society's Silver Jubilee.

A few copies of this limited edition of 500 are still available at the following nett price inclusive of all bank charges and surface mail registered postage: Z\$25,00; USA\$40,40; £21,40; DM92,20; S Fr 73,20; Rand 39,20.

### **Bronze decade medal**

This medal was minted in 1970 in a limited edition of 500. A few medals are still available in a velvet-covered presentation box at the following nett price inclusive of all bank charges and surface mail registered postage: Z\$5,00; USA\$11,00; £5,80; DM25,00; S Fr 19,90; Rand 10,70.

### **The Journal *HERITAGE***

(Published annually). The following issues are available: No. 1, 1981; No. 2, 1982.

The nett price per copy inclusive of all bank charges and surface mail postage is: Z\$3,00; USA\$8,20; £4,30; DM18,60; S Fr 14,80; Rand 7,90.

*Write to:*

**THE HISTORY SOCIETY OF ZIMBABWE  
P.O. BOX 8268, CAUSEWAY, HARARE.**

# Judgement on Preservation Order Appeal

*The following is the text of a judgement delivered on 1 March 1982 by Judge M. V.J. Koch, President of the Administrative Court of Zimbabwe, refusing an appeal by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe against a preservation order issued by the City of Salisbury (as it then was) in its capacity as the local planning authority. The order had been made in respect of Jameson House, formerly the F. S. A. D. Building in Samora Machel Avenue, Harare.*

*Heritage has decided to publish the text of the judgement because of the special interest of the society in the preservation of historic buildings and, since this is the first known appeal against a preservation order, for its definition of the criteria involved. The judgement is as follows:*

This is an appeal in terms of section 39(1)(b) of the Regional, Town and Country Planning Act, No. 22 of 1976 against a building preservation order served on the appellant, Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, under the provision of section 31(1) of the Act, by the Respondent, the City of Salisbury, in its capacity as the local planning authority.

The order in question is part of exhibit "13" which is before the court and is cited as the F.S.A.D. Building Preservation Order, 1981. It was served on the appellant on 2 July 1981, and is in respect of a building known as Jameson House, formerly the F.S.A.D. Building. It is marked on a plan annexed to the order.

Before becoming immersed in the facts of the present case it is as well to consider the extent of an appeal under the provisions of section 39(1)(b). Legislation in force prior to the introduction of the present Act did not provide for the issue of preservation orders and the President of the Court has been unable to find a previous appeal of this kind. However, a report of a case in England, *Amalgamated and Investment Property Company Limited v. John Walker and Sons Limited*, [1976] 3 All E.R. 509 (Court of Appeal) is interesting in two respects and may afford some explanation of why section 39(1)(b) is included in our existing Act. Firstly, it seems that in England a building could be listed for preservation without any right of appeal and secondly, it emphasises the need for a right of appeal.

A preservation order, which is in some respects similar to a temporary interdict, is one restricting the demolition, alteration or extension of a building unless or until the owner or occupier of the building obtains a development permit to do so. Part IV of the Act deals with the control of development and if regard is had to sections 2 and 22 it will be seen that an owner of a building can demolish it, or alter the interior, providing the alterations do not materially affect the external appearance of the building, without a development permit unless there is in existence a preservation order.

The serving on the owner of a building of a preservation order in no way precludes the subsequent issue to him of a development permit, if it is in the public interest to permit the demolition, alteration or extension of the building in question. The provisions of subsections (5) and (6) of section 31 make this quite clear.

Section 39(1)(b) provides for an appeal immediately a preservation order is served on an owner of a building. If it is unsuccessful he is prohibited from interfering with the

building unless and until he obtains a development permit permitting him to demolish, alter or extend it. If thereafter an owner is aggrieved at a local planning authority's decision to refuse a development permit, or the terms of any permit granted, and appeal lies under the provisions of paragraph (1)(a).

In an appeal under the provisions of paragraph (1)(b) the court is concerned with the question of whether or not there is evidence to justify the local planning authority's opinion that a building is of *special* (my italics) architectural merit or historic interest and it would seem from what is said in *Jones v. City of Salisbury*, 1972(2) R.L.R. at page 398, lines F-H that the onus of justifying the order is on the respondent. The scope of an appeal under paragraph (1)(a) is far wider because here the court is considering the correctness or otherwise of a local planning authority's attempt to balance, in the public interest, the conflicting interests of society, on the one hand the need to preserve a building as against, on the other hand, a need to develop the property. It is only when an owner of a building applies for a development permit that the local planning authority becomes aware that he intends to develop the property and what his precise plans are in that regard. Also, depending on the nature of the development and whether or not it requires special consent, the local planning authority may have to take into account the views of persons wishing to object to the proposed development.

It is only at this stage that the planning authority is in a position to consider such things as the present state of the building, the possibility of its restoration, the possibility of its incorporation in any proposed development, the expense involved, compensation, alternative methods of recognising the historical interest in the building, the need for the proposed development in the public interest and so forth.

The is of course the first full enquiry into whether or not the building is of special architectural merit or historic interest and it follows from what has been said that in this appeal the court is simply concerned with examining the evidence objectively to see if the building falls within the stipulated criteria.

Turning now to the question of what is special architectural merit or historic interest in the context in which it is used in section 31 it is accepted that the word "special" qualifies both "architectural merit" as well as "historic interest". The word "special" has, of course, several shades of meaning and it does not follow, in my opinion, that because it is used in conjunction with the word "merit" it necessarily means architecture of an exceptional standard. It might mean, for instance, having a distinct or individual character — wherein lies its merit or worth. Quite obviously one must have regard to the purposes of the legislation as set out in the preamble to the Act and look at the attributes of the building in the context of this country at this time taking into account, of course, the period during which it was built. The fact that a building is an old one does not mean, necessarily, that it merits preservation although this may be one of the factors to be taken into account.

Jameson House is situated on the street frontage of Stand 7486, on the northern side of Samora Machel Avenue, between the points where First and Second Streets enter the avenue. It was purchased with land on which it stands by ACIRFA Investments (Private) Limited, a property holding company of the Reserve Bank, in May, 1980, for redevelopment purposes.

A legend on the pediment, which can be seen in photographs, exhibits "8" and "17" suggests it was built by or for the French South Africa Development Company in 1896. However, newspaper cuttings, exhibits "4", "5" and "6" indicated it was probably completed in 1898. From the evidence it does seem a possibility that it was in fact built in

stages. The contents of exhibits "5" and "6" would seem to suggest this possibility. For instance in the newspaper article, exhibit "5", published in the Rhodesia Herald on 21 May, 1898, this is said, and I quote —

The French South Africa Company are erecting spacious premises at the side of their own large offices, part of which together with the new building has been leased to the Government for the purposes of a High Court."

Plate "11", exhibit "14", shows the letters F.S.A.D. on the ground floor windows of the eastern portion of the building suggesting those were the company's offices.

Whatever the present-day critics of the building may say about it, it would seem from a contemporary view published in a newspaper article in the Rhodesia Herald on 5 April, 1898, exhibit "4", that the building was regarded as something quite special at that time. I quote —

"Not alone the building outside, but in the appointments of the numerous offices of the two storeys, the premises are a great advance in finish and material on anything yet attempted in town."

At any rate it was regarded as being suitable for the seat of the High Court! Extracts from official records exhibits "2" and "3", together with various newspaper cuttings, exhibits "4", "5" and "6", establish that in all probability the High Court of Matabeleland, sitting in Salisbury, first occupied the building in June, 1898. The High Court, which later that year, became the High Court of Southern Rhodesia, eventually vacated the premises in 1917.

In 1920, the building, which can be seen in photographs 1 and 2 of exhibit "9", was altered by the addition of a colonnade on its southern side and this can be seen in photograph "4" of the same exhibit. There seems to be some dispute about why this was done. On page 2 of exhibit "10", "Comments on the Special Architectural Merit of Jameson House" by Mr. Peter Oldfield this passage appears —

"On page 4 of the booklet under plate 4 the caption says that 'During the building's occupation by the High Court, judges and jurymen had complained about the unbearable heat. No doubt the colonnade provided an admirable solution for keeping the building cool and its removal may well cause problems to the inside temperature'.

"It is more likely that the colonnade treatment was not designed as a shield for solar heat penetration, as it is on the cool south side of the building but as a buffer from street and traffic noise and as an extension of private space, now taken up by shops at street level."

The reference is to plate 4 in exhibit "9" which is entitled —

F.S.A.D. Building  
A case for Preservation  
by A.M. Spencer-Cook

Whatever was the reason for the erection of the colonnade in 1920 it would seem that from an architectural point of view the original building had certain drawbacks.

Later a tower was added to the south western corner of the building — photograph 5. Over the years further alterations were made and superficially the existing building bears

little resemblance to the original, although, structurally, it is in the main intact and could be restored.

Over the years the building has changed hands on a number of occasions before it was eventually purchased by its present owner. Mr. Spencer-Cook in his booklet "A Case for Preservation", exhibit "9", on pages 9-11, has given an account of the fate of the building in the period extending from the early part of this century until the present day. I do not propose to repeat it but simply to comment that not only does this account show how the building has been altered over the course of years but it demonstrates that from the point of view of architectural merit and historical interest the building has for a long period existed in obscurity. This has been borne out by the evidence we have heard in this case and in fact it seems that no one has exhibited, publicly at any rate, any real enthusiasm for the preservation of the building prior to Mr. Spencer-Cook voicing his belief that the famous spirit medium Nehanda was tried in the building and sentenced to death by Mr. Justice Watermeyer in March, 1898, for her part in the uprising. In fact if Mr. Spencer-Cook is correct in his "F.S.A.D. Building and the Trial of Mbuya Nehanda — A Reappraisal", exhibit "16", it would seem that in the latter part of 1980 the Director of the Queen Victoria Museum consented to the demolition of the building by its present owners. The fact that a building has existed in obscurity cannot be given too much weight, however. It is not unusual for this to happen and undoubtedly buildings which should have been preserved have been demolished due to a lack of interest in them. In this particular case this state of affairs may have been due to some extent to the manner in which the building has been altered over the course of years masking its architectural merit and, from an historical point of view, the particular period of history that this country was going through at the time.

The evidence establishes and it has been conceded by the respondent that in fact Ambuya Nehanda was not tried in the building at all. However, it is common cause twenty-two persons were, for their participation in the 1896-97 uprisings. Of these 22, charged with murder and attempted murder, twelve were sentenced to death, nine to long terms of imprisonment and one was acquitted. There is no evidence to show that any of them was a leader, a renowned hero, a leading personality or a person of any particular significance or stature setting him apart from any other persons who took part in the events of the time. In fact the respondent's legal practitioner made no such representations to the court basing his case on a different premise.

The interior of the building has been considerably altered over the course of years and the old courtroom no longer exists. From the evidence presented to the court it seems doubtful that it will be possible to establish its precise situation although it was obviously located in the portion of the building occupied by the officials of the High Court.

Not surprisingly perhaps the court has been presented with conflicting opinions on the architectural merits of the building. The building has been inspected by the members of the court and for my part I believe that the report, exhibit "10", submitted by Mr. Oldfield, is a very fair and accurate assessment of its architectural merit. I do not agree, to quote from page 12 of exhibit "9", that "it is a particularly fine example of the style of late Victorian office chambers". To some extent I think that the building might even be imposterous, being, from the point of view of architectural merit, a perfectly ordinary block of offices set behind a facade, purely decorative or ornamental in character, to give an impression of a particular architectural style.

I do not think it would be unfair to say that both Mr. Jackson and Mr. Spencer-Cook

have been preoccupied with the preservation of the 1920 version of the building. Apart from the consideration that such matters as to how the building would fit in with its surroundings being irrelevant to the present enquiry I believe that the building as altered in 1920 is of little or no architectural merit for the reasons given by Mr. Oldfield. I quote the final paragraph on page 2 of exhibit "10" which I think correctly sums up the situation —

"However, the general result is not unpleasing, but unfortunately the addition makes a hotch-potch of the complex and is not in keeping with the building which it masks. The design, construction, finishes and detailing are not of a prestigious or monumental character and the removal of the addition may be necessary if the integrity and meaning of the original building is desired to be preserved."

No doubt it was a feat to erect a block of offices such as the F.S.A.D. Building in the period 1896-98, before the arrival of the railway here in Salisbury, but it seems to me here that is a factor which should be taken into account in considering the historic interest in the building rather than its architectural merit.

To my mind the issue of the order cannot be justified on grounds of special architectural merit.

The court has been urged to find that the building is of special historic interest on two grounds; firstly, it is the sole remaining example of a set of office chambers in Salisbury from prior to the turn of the century and secondly, it was the High Court building in which twenty-two persons were tried for their participation in the uprising at that time.

What is of special historical interest is not easy to decide.

Office blocks are commonplace today but they were rare at that time. Other office blocks such as White's building, erected in 1896, have since disappeared.

The F.S.A.D. building appears to be the sole remaining example of an office block in Salisbury prior to the turn of the century. Although it may not be of special architectural merit it was regarded as being a building quite grand at that time and I think it is of special historical interest for these reasons. The fact that it was used, albeit temporarily, as the High Court of Matabeleland and then the High Court of Southern Rhodesia adds to its historical interest. That 22 persons were tried in the building of whom twelve were sentenced to death for their participation in the uprising is I think of special historical significance to the great majority of the population.

Accordingly, the appeal is refused.

Messrs. Sheppard and Naude concur.

---

Founders Building Society, which was established through the enterprise of Sir Albert Robinson, was registered on 12th February, 1954, and commenced business on 3rd May in that year.

The original members of the Board of Directors were Lord Robins, Chairman; Sir Albert Robinson, Deputy Chairman; Sir Keith Acutt; Mr. H.N. Roper and Mr. Henry Tucker. Mr. J.R. Petrie was appointed Manager.

Mr. L.M. Cullinan and Sir Humphrey Gibbs were appointed Chairmen of the Harare and Bulawayo Local Boards respectively.

Founders, with its Head Office in Harare, has always been a truly national Building Society and has developed 18 branches and sub-branches and many agencies throughout Zimbabwe. It employs some 250 persons of all races.

From its beginning, Founders' aim has always been to provide a full range of building society services and firmly establish a name for security and friendly service.

Local knowledge in each area where it is represented was considered most important, and at an early date local boards of directors were appointed and branch offices built or purchased.

In consequence, the Society now owns premises in Bindura, Bulawayo, Masvingo, Kadoma, Gweru, Marondera, Kwekwe, and has recently completed a new branch office in Mutare.

The Society commenced business with an initial capital of £100 000 and after only eleven months' operations the assets had increased to £1 million, and by the time the Society had celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1979, the assets exceeded Z\$100 million. At the present time the Society's assets exceed Z\$120 million and its reserves are in excess of Z\$5.5 million.



Founders First Street Branch and Head Office in Harare

# Bantu Ethnic Structure: The Southern Frontier

by A.S. Chigwedere

The issue of straightening the pre-1890 history of Zimbabwe has become a burning issue with the attainment of independence in 1980. I hope that in not long to come the historians interested in the matter are going to postulate theses for the examination and scrutiny of other historians and the country at large. In this paper I intend to postulate mine and attempt to prove it from the evidence along our southern frontier which I look upon as a most important frontier for all Southern African Bantu history. In the next issue of this journal I hope to prove my case further by a similar analysis of the northern frontier of our country. This is therefore some sort of a piecemeal approach calculated to make understanding of my argument easier.

The "southern" frontier here referred to is the belt along the southern borders of Zimbabwe, the region on both sides of the Vembe River (Limpopo) and extending into Botswana and Mozambique. There is no doubt that if we unravel the ethnic history of this region, we go a long way towards unravelling the original ethnic history of the Bantu. Who was in the forefront of the Bantu migrations from the north and who was next should be evident from this frontier. Whether or not there were other non-Bantu migrants from the north should also be evident from this frontier. For these reasons I hold the southern frontier to be particularly significant.

After an examination of the dynasties in Zimbabwe (I loathe to call them tribes for, in my view, they are not), a definite ethnic structure emerged and I began to wonder whether or not this was unique to Zimbabwe. I proceeded to analyse the "tribes" in our neighbouring countries and I saw the same ethnic structure emerging. I went further to look at all Bantu Africa and the same picture was confirmed. This is the picture I hope to prove from an examination in this paper of our southern frontier.

My discoveries leave me in no doubt that the original Bantu family divided up into initial segments which I shall call the Three Bantu Tribes. These tribes were:

- (a) The Dziva Family which was patrilineal and whose distinguishing mark was "identification with water". In due course this family segmented and fragmented into a multiplicity of dynasties but all or most of which continued to be patrilineal and to identify themselves with water by picking their *mitupo* from water animals and water plants. They were traditionally known as "The Masters of the Water" and are indeed Masters of the Water to this day.
- (b) The Soko Family which, like the Dziva family, was patrilineal and is still largely so. But unlike the Dzivas, its distinguishing mark was and still is identification with land and it was traditionally called the Masters of the Land or Masters of the Soil. To this day segments of this family identify themselves with land by picking their *mitupo* (totems) from land animals and land plants. They are therefore still the Masters of the Land to this day. I must point out at this stage that the Mbire Soko are only a segment of the continental Soko family.



- (c) The Tonga Family whose distinguishing mark was and is still largely matriliney. Members of this family cause the greatest confusion in Africa because some of their segments picked their *mitupo* from land animals and plants while others did so from water animals and plants. But they are matrilineal and this has remained their major distinguishing mark.

These are the original Bantu families or tribes. But after the death of the Prophet Mohammed in 632 A.D. a new tribe was born in Africa descending from Moslems along the east coast and north coast of Africa. In Zimbabwe this tribe is known as Mwenyi or Lemba. Its *mutupo* is Mebva (mouse) and its original *chidao* is Museni. Although segments of this new family are today treated as African, they are not of Bantu origins and can therefore not be traced to one or the other of the original three Bantu families.

The fifth family to emerge descended from the Portuguese after 1400, in Zimbabwe after 1500. In Zimbabwe segments of this family are known as Chikunda. Like the Mwenyi/Lemba they are not of Bantu origin and are therefore not traceable to one or the other of the three original Bantu families. We shall not come across them along the southern frontier.

Any examination of the traditions, customs and important elements of the culture of the Bantu tribes south of the Sahara will leave no doubt that the Bantu originated from a common geographical locality and have a common ancestry. After all, this is why we are all called Bantu. But one thing that is indisputable is that the original Bantu family could not suddenly in one generation have multiplied into 50 or 100 tribes. It must have segmented into two, three or four tribes which in turn segmented into new tribes. The evidence available suggests that it segmented into three originally and these are the three original Bantu families, Dziva, Soko and Tonga.

The earliest group associated with the southern frontier are of Bush stock referred to in documents as Abatwa. This is a reference to the Bushmen now normally referred to as San. These people were of course not Bantu but it is important to mention them briefly for they help us to sort out the order of migration from the north. It also helps us to sort out certain names that have apparently no meaning to us today. The Hottentots, now called the Khoikhoi, do not appear to have been associated with Zimbabwe in any way. They appear to have migrated to the south through the western regions of Southern Africa.

But the San have been everywhere in Zimbabwe. Evidence of them are the rock paintings in caves scattered throughout the country. The Shona in their oral traditions mention the Maisire, the Mandionerepi or the Abatwa as the original inhabitants of this country. This is a reference to the San people whom they drove to the south and west of Zimbabwe. Certain northern regions of this country have been referred to as Butwa, meaning the land of Abatwa and Portuguese chroniclers recorded it as such.<sup>1</sup> But gradually the name died out in the north. The San people were driven to the south and they occupied the regions along the Vembe River (Limpopo). This is the region that then became known as Butwa, again meaning the land of Abatwa. In the early days it was common for writers to refer to this region as Butwa or Vutwa or Vuhwa, Buswa or Burswa or Burua, all meaning the land of Abatwa.<sup>2</sup> This name is not unique to Zimbabwe. The Sandawe people in Tanzania who are of Bush stock are known as Abatwa today. This is also true of Rwanda and Burundi. When those San people were driven by the Bantu further south we then find parts of Zululand being referred to as Butwa.<sup>3</sup> This is so because the area had then become associated with the Abatwa before the arrival there of the Bantu. I

point this out to make it clear that the Bantu were not the first Africans to occupy these regions.

The first group of Bantu people to occupy Zimbabwe were members of the great Dziva Family, the Masters of the Water. This immediately suggests that they were the vanguard of the Bantu migrants from the north. There is no doubt that they remained so up to the advent of the Europeans in South Africa. For evidence of this we look to the southern frontier.

Oral tradition asserts that the Dziva people in Zimbabwe descended from Dzivaguru who to this day operates in the Zambezi Valley as a *Tavara* high spirit; that descended from Dzivaguru were Karuvu and Saruvimbi; that the descendants of Karuva and the Karuva spirit remained in the northern regions of the country; that the descendants of Saruvimbi trekked to the south towards the Vembe River and were the first Bantu people to cross that river; that they did so in two main groups, the descendants of Kuwena (Kwena) who identified themselves with the crocodile and were for this reason known as Kwena, Kuena, Ngwenya or Garwe, and the descendants of Muguni or Mguni who identified themselves with the flesh and were called Ngona, Nguna or Nguni. Before they all split up into these groups they also identified themselves with the fish eagle and were therefore also called Hungwe (fish eagle) or simply Shiri (bird) which was the same fish eagle. We now need to examine the archaeological evidence along the southern frontier.

The archaeological record in South Africa is that the region from the Vembe River to the east of the Drakensberg Mountains was occupied by groups of Bantu people called Ngona (Nguni) from about the fifth or sixth century. It goes further to suggest that they tabooed fish and were mainly agriculturalists. It also suggests that the plateau region from the Vembe River and to the west of the Drakensberg was occupied from about the same time by groups of Sotho-Tswana people who were largely pastoralists. Both east and west of the Drakensberg this remained the position up to the Chaka revolution of the beginning of the nineteenth century. To quote a few authorities —

Brian Fagan and Roland Oliver state: "The earliest Iron Age so far discovered to the south of the Limpopo is in Swaziland where two radiocarbon dates around the fourth or fifth century A.D. have been obtained from occupation debris in an artificial cave now known as Castle Cavern . . ." They add: "Given the geographical location of Swaziland there can be little doubt the miners of Castle Cavern were in some sense ancestors of the Nguni people who, from the earliest historical times, have been the south-easternmost of all the Bantu peoples, inhabiting the only well-watered region of South Africa between the Drakensberg mountains and the Indian Ocean."<sup>4</sup>

The position up to about 1800 along this coastal belt had only changed in terms of the area occupied by these people. But the occupants were still Nguni segments including the Swazi, the Mtetwa, the Zulu and the Xosa by then in what was to become the Cape Province. These people know that they are called Nguni because they descended from Mguni. As one of them states, "the earliest known name of the Xosa tribe was AbeNguni. The name was derived from a progenitor in the royal line called Mnguni (Munguni)".<sup>5</sup> And, like the Hove (fish) segment of Zimbabwe, the Nguni were known to taboo fish. "The leading ethnographic studies are in agreement that Nguni are an amalgam of a formerly matrilineal stock of cultivators and fisherfolk (Tonga) . . . and a patrilineal and pastoral stock with a strong aversion to fish-eating (the Nguni proper) which entered the south-eastern coastal plain from the interior plateau . . ."<sup>6</sup> Needless to add the Zulus taboo the fish to this day and this is identification with water, Masters of the Water. In this case then,

archaeological evidence is in total agreement with oral evidence. It is in agreement with the ethnic situation as it stands in South Africa today.

If we switch to the region west of the Drakensberg we see a Sotho identity. The Sotho were the earliest Bantu migrants to occupy the interior plateau of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State. Again, they remained the major Bantu occupants right up to the beginning of the nineteenth century. Let us return to the archaeologists again: "Certainly, the Iron Age record of most of the central plateau seems to be a record of the Sotho. The earliest evidence has been found around Phalaborwa in the valley of the Olifants River in the north-eastern Transvaal. Here there are abundant traces of the ancient mining of both iron and copper and a series of radiocarbon dates has been obtained by N.J. van der Merwe from occupation sites, mining shafts and furnaces, which range from the eighth century A.D. to the nineteenth."<sup>7</sup>

But the Sotho are Kwena by totem and this name means the crocodile. This is true of the Sotho of the Transvaal and Orange Free State. It is true of the Sotho of Lesotho. But this is also true of the Tswana of Botswana. One of the major tribes of Botswana is the Kwena tribe. The other major one is the Ngwato tribe which also has very close ethnic associations with the Kwena tribe. As I tried to demonstrate elsewhere,<sup>8</sup> about 90 percent of the Tswana tribe are traceable to the original Kwena tribe. Furthermore, these tribes recognise Kuena as their original common ancestor.

Thus archaeology is again supported by oral evidence. It is also supported by the actual ethnic situation as it stood around 1800 and today in the Transvaal, Orange Free State, Lesotho and Botswana. We thus have every reason to believe that Mguni and Kuwena were the founding fathers of the Nguni and Sotho-Tswana respectively and that these two descended from Saruvimbi whom we are going to come across shortly. They are all segments of the Dziva Masters of the Water and were the earliest Bantu people to occupy the regions north and south of the Vembe River.

If today we examine the ethnic composition of the "tribes" north of the Vembe River along the southern frontier, we still find that the dominant elements are members of the Dziva family. The most dominant chief here is Matibi who is Dziva Mbedzi by *mutupo*. His ancestors are known to be the earliest to occupy this region. His greatest known ancestor is known to be Luvimbi or Saruvimbi whom we mentioned earlier. But he is also the greatest remembered ancestral spirit, highly deified by all the Dziva Mbedzi people at Marungudze Hill. In keeping with African tradition, he can only be the greatest spirit if indeed he is the greatest ancestor. Let us examine Marungudze Hill (in Mberengwa) for a moment.

In 1948 Marungudze Hill was visited by the archaeologist Roger Summers. In the rock shelter of the cave which was the focal point of the complex, he found paintings of a group of seven fish and two paintings of birds with long necks. This in itself was a Dziva identity. As Summers puts it, "the rock painting with its remarkable paintings of fish and water birds makes it almost impossible to doubt. . . that it is a symbol of the *mutupo* Dziva (the Pool)".<sup>9</sup>

The highest spirit deified at this hill was Saruvimbi. "Ruvhimbi is evidently the above-mentioned Luvhimbi. The name seems to have been an hereditary title of the Mbedzi chiefs and goes back to the deified ancestor and 'first man' Rabuvhimba".<sup>10</sup> The head of all the Dziva complex associated with Marungudze Hill was Chief Matibi. All the Dziva and Kwena chiefs in this southern belt were at one time or another under Matibi and were in fact segments of Matibi's family. This takes us to the west into Botswana and to the

east into Mozambique. The Sotho in the Transvaal are Kwena and closely associated with Matibi. But these Transvaal Kwena are "the same as the Kwena clan of the Cwana people whose chief was known about 1725 by the name of Matipe (Matibi). Nor is this the only instance where the name occurs in Bechuanaland . . . the successor to the chieftainship among the Kuruman Cwana, totem hlaping (the pool) was in 1812 called Mathebe. Moffat knew of a Hurutse rain priest Mathibi and of Hlapi (pool) Chief Mathibi; the Kololo Chief Sekeletu's father-in-law was called Matibe".<sup>11</sup>

All this should leave no doubt that the central figure in the whole Dziva complex in our southern frontier was Matibi. But he was Dziva, Mbedzi, Pfambi, Kwena and Hungwe at the same time. The quotations above make it clear that the Tswana are segments of his tribe; the Transvaal Tswana are segments of his tribe; along the frontier the Thavatsinde, the Twamamba, the Romwe, the Rembetu and the Kwindi are all Dziva Mbedzi and related to Matibi. Further to the east are the Mlambo (hippo) and the Mhlanga (water reed) people in the Chipinge area and closely related to Matibi. Indeed, there is nowhere in Zimbabwe where you find such a concentration of the Dziva Mbedzi, Kwena people as along the southern frontier. But this is not an accident; it was determined by history.

At this stage we can understand the meaning of Karanga or Kalanga. The whole southern area was earlier called Butwa since it was a belt of Abatwa people. Now the whole southern sector of Mashonaland is called Karanga. But we also know that at one time in our history practically the whole country was called Karanga. I affirm that this was so because at one time the only Bantu people to occupy the country were Karanga and these were the same Dziva Hungwe people. To appreciate this one has to go back to north-east Africa where a segment of the Bantu occupied the eastern coastal belt "on the rising side of the sun". Langa was their name for sun and it is still the Nguni word. For this reason those people were called Kalanga.

Segments of them drifted along the east coast and were the first to cross the Zambezi and Vembe Rivers. They were still on "the rising side of the sun" and were still Kalanga. Thus when they occupied this country they called it Kalanga, meaning the land of the Langa people. It is interesting to note that up to the Chaka revolution there were still tribes among the Natal Nguni called Baxa-Laka or Baxa-Langa or Elangeni in addition to Dzivani and Siziba. Baxa in Baxa-Langa only shows the influence of the clicks of the Khoisan people on the Nguni language. Otherwise it is the same old Bakalanga. Examine all Africa and you will come across other Bantu groups even around 1500 who were known as Kalanga especially in East Africa. The Ziwa or Ziba or Ziva or Kiziba are even more common all over.

What this means is that the Dziva Hungwe people who occupied this country before 1000 A.D. were known as Kalanga and the country they occupied became known by the same name. But around 1000 A.D. they were invaded by a new Bantu group (the Mbire) and were driven to the south and west. Their areas of greatest concentration became the southern and western provinces of the country. The name Kalanga or Karanga became restricted to these provinces. This is why southern Mashonaland is still referred to as Karanga and western Matabeleland as Kalanga. Anybody therefore who is not a segment of the Dziva, Mbedzi, Kwena, Hungwe complex can only be Karanga or Kalanga by residence and never by ethnic origin.

It has been necessary to devote most space and time to the Dziva group along our southern frontier because they are so important in unravelling our early history. The other

groups along this frontier do not deserve so much time and space. Next I shall treat segments of the Tonga family along the frontier.

The Tonga are not a major feature of early Zimbabwe. A few groups crossed the Zambezi into this country before 1000 A.D. They were mainly close to the east coast but they were overshadowed by members of the Dziva family. One or two groups came into the interior and were mixed with the Dziva people. Earlier we came across the Ngona people as an amalgam of patrilineal and matrilineal people. The matrilineal section was represented by the Tonga who, unlike the Nguni, were a fisherfolk. Archaeologically, these are the people represented by Gokomere Period I 11.<sup>12</sup> They were among the earliest Bantu to cross the Vembe River because they were among the earliest Bantu to settle in Zimbabwe.

The majority of the Tonga, however, remained along the east coast. When the Mbire invaded the country around 1000 A.D. they were driven to the south along the coast and some of them ended up in South Africa. These are the people known as the South African Tonga today. The majority remained in Mozambique. I am not concerned with the Tonga along the Zambezi River because they are along the northern frontier and crossed into this country much later.

In the seventeenth or eighteenth century, however, segments of the early Tonga diverted away from Mozambique towards the west into the south-eastern corner of Zimbabwe along our southern frontier. Today they are still in that corner of Zimbabwe and are known as Hlengere. At the same time they are known as Tonga or Tsonga. Anyone interested in the details of this group is referred to my *From Mutapa to Rhodes or Dynastic Histories Bk 1*. All that I want to point out here is that small groups of Tonga people were among the earliest Bantu people to occupy this country and to cross the Vembe River.

The third group of Bantu people to come into this country were the Mbire Soko people who did so between 1000 A.D. and 1100 A.D.. Archaeologically they are represented by Zimbabwe Periods III and IV.<sup>13</sup> They are the people associated with the construction of the major stone forts of this country including Great Zimbabwe. Unlike all earlier migrations their arrival represented a real invasion of the country and this is why the earlier Dziva and Tonga occupants ran away to the peripheral areas. It may be remembered that the Sokos were the Masters of the Land or Soil and were and still are patrilineal. They picked all their *mitupo* from land animals and land plants and this represented identification with the land which was their distinguishing mark.

On the southern frontier the Mbire Soko family is represented mainly by the Venda clans. There is no doubt that the Venda reached the frontier after the Dziva and the interior Tonga. The Venda are largely in the Beitbridge area, both north and south of the Vembe. By 1800 they had not even reached the Vaal River. In other words, they were and still are typically frontier people.

Many of the Venda are still Ncube and this is Soko. Up to 1896-97 they officiated at the Matopo national shrines side by side with the Zimbabwe Sokos. Many of them, however, have changed to Ndou or Tou which is the elephant. This was derived from Sororenzou their greatest ancestor whom they call Thoyo ya Ndou. But this Sororenzou is the same Murenga who is also the greatest ancestor of the Mbire and who operated from Njelele in the Matopos in 1896. The Venda have established their homeland in the Transvaal and have called their capital Thoyo ya Ndou. The national emblem is the head of the elephant. It may be remembered that Murenga Sororenzou is the father of

Chaminuka the greatest Shona *mhondoro*.<sup>14</sup> Thus the Venda have continued to identify their history with that of the early Mbire Sokos. Their other known ancestors are Hwami and Dimbanyika and these are Mbire.

On the frontier to the west of Beitbridge area, through Mberengwa and Gwanda, we find the Mbire represented by Chitaudze who is Moyo and Rozvi; Bangwe who is Shumba Mberebwa; Madzivire who is Shumba Murambwi and a segment of Chibi; Bare who is Soko Humbe; Mapiravama and Mudavanhu who are both Soko Mbereka; Matevaidze who is Moyo Chirandu and Rozvi; Chizungu who is Gwai Gumbi Chuma; Madlabadza who is Gumbo Sambire and is a segment of Gutu. East of the Beitbridge region we find Neshuro in the Mwenezi area and he is still Soko and Mbire; we find Nagare who is Moyo and Rozvi; the Ngava or Maposa people who are Wamambo by *chidao*.

A comment on the last one may be necessary. If one tries to dig into the history of the Zimuto dynasty one will be told that they come from South Africa. They certainly come from the south into the present Zimuto chiefdom but not from south of the Vembe. They come from the frontier area and are closely related to the Ngara still in the area. They married into Negare's family and Negare was a regional Rozvi chief. For this reason they called themselves Vakuwasha va-Mambo, meaning the sons-in-law of the Mambo, meaning Nagave, and this is where their *chidao* comes from. The frontier Ngara people make it clear that they came from Gokomere Hill near Govera Hill in Mozambique and that they were Mbire. They relate that they ran away from Mozambique during the course of a war between a Rozvi warrior called Rovenyika and the Sena people over fish. They then married into Negare's family and changed their *mutupo* from Nguruve to Ngara.<sup>15</sup>

This detail has wider significance than is apparent. The mere fact that these Negara people were Nguruve and Mbire at the same time ties up with Makombe of Barwa and Chikanga of Manicaland. It means that the whole Makombe-Chikanga complex was originally Mbire and there is no doubt that it was. Yet it sounds absurd today to call them Mbire; this shows the enormous changes that have taken place on the surface of our history.

It is important to note that the whole Mbire complex at the southern frontier is a migrant complex that came to the region after the Dziva complex. This why they had not by 1800 proceeded very far south of the Vembe River.

This completes the examination of the original three Bantu families along the southern frontier. But if one tries to fit every dynasty along the frontier into one or other of the Dziva, the Tonga and the Mbire Soko one finds that there is a distinct group that does not fit into any of them. This is the Mwenyi/Lemba group that also reached the frontier.

The Mwenya/Lemba group is of Mohammedan descent. The whole group south of the Zambezi River looks on Serimani as its greatest remembered ancestor. This is not a Bantu name. By 900 A.D. the Moor traders were already in touch with our ancestors along the east coast. Their descendants started to come into existence. The Mwenyi/Lemba group is therefore an old one and it is not surprising that segments of it are on the southern frontier. Some of them spilled into the Transvaal and Chief Mposi is one of their representatives there. Some of them still practise circumcision and this is a Mohammedan tradition. They eat meat of a beast killed by one of them and whose throat has been severed with a knife. This too is a Mohammedan tradition. Their *mutupo* is Mbeva (mouse) or Zhou which is also a mouse and not an elephant. Their *chidao*<sup>16</sup> is Musoni but those along the frontier use Mhiza meaning "experts". Some of them have been mixed up with the Mbire and have abandoned their original *mutupo*. Mavesere, for instance, now calls

himself Moyo Mushavi Mushoni. His only association with the Lomba is the *chidao* Musoni but he knows he is of Lomba origin. But unfortunately in Matabeleland today they interpret the Zhou to be the elephant and not the mouse. The name of their chief, Che-Nondo, may tie up with the Nondo people in Matabeleland. The Dumbuseya are another group that has mixed up with the Mbire and are today Moyo. But they know they are also of Lomba origins. To the east we come across the Dhliwayo and the Beta in the frontier region. These too are of Mohammedan origin and are Mwenyi/Lemba.

There is no Chikundu dynasty anywhere in the frontier region. This is not surprising since the group came into existence after 1500. The majority of them are still concentrated in the east, near the centre of their origin.

Thus the southern frontier is a vital indicator of the early ethnic composition of the Bantu tribes in this country and of the early ethnic structure of the Bantu family. Whatever happens, whoever has a fair idea of a sizeable number of tribes in Africa cannot fail to be impressed by the prominence of the Dziva, the Soko and the Tonga. This reflects the ethnic structure of the Bantu family. This, I hope, will help to make clear why there are so many common cultural traits in all Africa south of the Sahara. When this is understood and appreciated, we should not find our history as complicated and tangled as it has been made to appear. South African early Bantu history cannot be independent of early Zimbabwean and Mozambican history. But, likewise, early Zimbabwean history is not independent of Zambian and Malawian history, and so it goes on to the north. In short, the early ethnic structure of each reflects the early ethnic structure of the country to the north and in some cases to the east and west of it. This is an indication of the significance of each east-west frontier in revealing Zimbabwe's early history.

#### NOTES

1. Dos Santos quoted by Theal Vol. VII, pp. 274-5.
2. Even as recently as 1899, when the Shona again started to organise themselves for the resumption of *Chimurenga* to take advantage of British involvement in the Second Anglo-Boer War, the call for the renewal of war is reported in the National Archives as coming from "Burswa" which was a reference to the Mberengwa region. Vide NAZ/NS/14/7.
3. T.W.T. Posselt, *Fact and Fiction*, p. 6, note 2.
4. R. Oliver and B.M. Fagan, *Africa in the Iron Age*, C.U.P., 1975, p. 107.
5. J.H. Soga, *The Ama-Xosa, Life and Customs*, Lovedale Press, 1931, p. 6.
6. R. Oliver and B.M. Fagan, *Africa in the Iron Age*, C.U.P., 1975, p. 107.
7. *Ibid.*, pp. 108-9.
8. Vide Botswana in *The Birth of Bantu Africa*.
9. NADA No. 29, 1952, p. 82.
10. *Ibid.*, p. 45.
11. *Ibid.*, p. 45.
12. Starts around 950 A.D.
13. Zimbabwe Period III starts around 1075 A.D.; Period IV starts around 1450 A.D.
14. A *mhondoro* is normally an ancestral spirit ranging from the founding ancestor of a dynasty to the greatest national spirit.
15. NADA No. 36, 1959, p. 109.
16. The sub-totem or praise name.

# Kagubi: Why is He Forgotten?

by R.H. Wood

This is a talk\* not only about the events during the Mashona Rebellion or as it is now called, the first Chimurenga War, but also about Kagubi who was perhaps the leading African figure during the Rebellion and who has close association with these hills.

The historical Kagubi lived in this country and was active between 1660 and 1680 as one of the founders of the Rozwi empire. He was at that time the leader of Guruuswa, the area occupying the south-west quarter of Zimbabwe, and he took over leadership of the Rozwi dynasty from Gumboreshumba who is called the progenitor of the Rozwi dynasty which eventually ruled most of this country.

Kagubi's spirit or his *mudzimu* lived on from that time occupying the human form of a spirit medium *svikiro*. Before the European occupation, Kagubi's spirit medium was Kawodza who lived on Kagubi Hill on the southern bank of the Umfuli River approximately 13 miles west of Beatrice. Below this hill is a pool in the Umfuli River which has never been known to dry up and which according to tradition used to give forth the noises of cattle, sheep, goats and cockerels. Kawodza himself was killed in a Matabele raid and the family of his son fled north, eventually settling in these hills. One of his sons was Gumboreshumba, presumably named after the founder of the Rozwi dynasty and prior to the occupation in 1890, Gumboreshumba found himself possessed of the Kagubi spirit previously held by his grandfather.

We are told that Gumboreshumba, who is hereafter called Kagubi, lived in Chikwaka's Kraal in the Goromonzi Hill above us. He was obviously a man of some substance in the area. He was married to a daughter of Chief Mashonganyika whose kraal was some three miles to the south and he also had wives from the kraal of headman Gondo which is on the hill to the north of us. He became known as a supplier of good luck in hunting and was able to speak to people "from the trees and the rocks". He was believed to be the spirit husband of the other great Shona spirit, Nehanda, and it may have been this connection which enabled him in due course to persuade Mbuya Nehanda to preach the gospel of war in Mashonaland. With this background, it is extraordinary to me that one of his daughters was sent to school at the newly opened Chishawasha Mission, some 10 miles away.

Shortly before the Rebellion, Kagubi returned to the Umfuli area and sent emissaries to the spirit medium, Mkwati, who lived in a cave in the Matopos and who was the *svikiro* of the Supreme God, Mwari. These emissaries were ostensibly sent to obtain medicine to destroy locusts but they came back to Mashonaland with the news that Mkwati had revealed that the Shona should rise up against the whites in the same way as the Matabele were doing and that Kagubi would have the same powers to kill the whites as Mkwati had.

On receipt of this message, Kagubi sent messengers to all the chiefs and people of importance in Mashonaland to start the rebellion, promising them that they would have nothing to fear because the white man's bullets would turn to water.

\*Delivered at Goromonzi at a Mashonaland Branch meeting on 26 September 1982.



Because of his Goromonzi connection, it is not surprising that his message was acted upon quickly in the area. In fact the commander of Chief Chikwaka's warriors, one Zhanti, actually travelled to the Umfuli to receive the message and returned to this place eager to act upon it.

As we know, the rebellion broke out on or about 16 June, 1896, with the first killings being in the Umfuli/Hartley area and in the Norton area. We then had the excitement of the Mazoe Patrol and when this was going on, the Native Commissioner for Salisbury, Alexander Duncombe Campbell, decided that he should ride out to this area to warn the whites of the uprising. He and a Mr. Stevens left Salisbury on the night of 19 June, reaching the Balleyhooley Hotel the next morning at dawn. He decided that it would be safer for the whites in the area to assemble on his farm near Mashonganyika's Kraal than to attempt to return to Salisbury, and this is what he told the owners of the Balleyhooley Hotel and other traders and farmers in the area to do. He then rode on to Mashonganyika's kraal and found the people ostensibly friendly.

He left the kraal to round up other whites in the area and when he returned an hour later, he arrived just in time to see his brother, George Campbell, being killed by Mashonganyika. He also saw Dr. Orton's cart being dragged towards the kraal and came to the conclusion that they must have been killed. He and his companion then fled back to Salisbury and although the Ortons had in fact managed to escape themselves, other whites including Mr. Dickenson, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Law and Mr. Beyers were all killed when they were attempting to make their rendezvous at Campbell's farm. Thereafter followed a period of stalemate with the whites in laager in Salisbury and the blacks sitting back in their kopjes believing that it would only be a matter of time before the whites would return from whence they had come. In August 1896, Col. Alderson arrived in Salisbury to take command of the operations and for a period of two or three months fairly ineffectual forays were made from Salisbury to the various kraals to collect food for the laager and to burn down the kraals.

Chikwaka's Kraal on this kopje was burnt down by a force led by Major Jenner in August and on 16 November Mr. Campbell and the same Major Jenner backed up by a force of 400 men encamped where we are standing spent two days urging Chikwaka to surrender. Chikwaka who at this stage must have been living in the caves which we will soon visit, remained on the kopje in front of us and these negotiations were carried out at long range; Chikwaka and his men remaining behind the enclosed graves which we will soon visit and the whites shouting from the bottom of the kopje. At that stage the symbolic method was favoured and a badza and a spear were put on the ground and the chief was invited to choose which he wanted; the spear signifying continued war and the badza signifying peace. Chief Chikwaka declined to accept either and the conference like so many, ended inconclusively.

By the end of 1896 it became apparent to the authorities that sporadic raids against the rebels were about as effective as punching a sponge and only the semi-permanent occupation of the disaffected areas would permanently quell the revolt. In January 1897 the significance of Kagubi's role in the rebellion had become known and a police fort was established among the hills on the Umfuli and attempts were made to capture him. These attempts were unsuccessful and on or about 18 January, 1897, Kagubi fled the Umfuli area and made his way back to his old haunts, these hills. Within a matter of days he was back and made his home in Headman Gondo's Kraal on the kopje to the north.

This precipitated the construction of the fort at the point we are now standing.

Construction was started on 27 January, 1897 and completed three days later. The fort was left under the charge of Lt. Harding and became known as Fort Harding. Colin Harding must have been a man of great enterprise. He arrived in Bulawayo penniless in 1894 and in two years before the rebellion had worked successively as a sawyer's mate, a bricklayer and a solicitor's clerk. Correctly believing that this succession signified a reduction in status, he returned to England but on hearing of the rebellion hurried back to this country. He joined the Umtali Volunteers and had the doubtful distinction of commanding the firing party that killed Chief Makoni. He attached himself to Alderson's column as a galloper and when the B.S.A. Police was formed, was offered a commission as a Sub-Inspector/Lt. He was left there commanding a garrison of 20 white and 20 black policemen and his task was to bring Chief Chikwaka and headman Gondo to heel.

As Kagubi, the fountain-head of the rebellion was in residence at Gondo's kraal, this was no easy matter. On completion of the fort, a five-day truce was arranged but this was ignored by Gondo and rejected by Chikwaka. Over the next few days the garrison was reinforced by additional men and guns and on 10 February the caves of Gondo and Chikwaka were fired on ineffectively by the 7-pounders that the fort had. The garrison was further reinforced and on 16 February Harding led 29 Europeans and 65 African policemen on a direct assault on Gondo's kraal and caves. The police brought with them hand-grenades of dynamite which they now hurled into the caves. It was on this occasion that the "black watch" established a somewhat disreputable legend in the history by applauding with resounding cheers every time a grenade burst and drove out a crowd of Gondo's people to become easy targets for the waiting Maxim gun.

After Gondo's kopje had been taken, the assault was carried across the connecting spur to Chikwaka's stronghold and this was also taken without loss. I think that you will agree with me after going through the caves of Chikwaka's kopje that the only way that this could have been taken by 90 men without loss is with the caves being deserted when the charge was made. It seems entirely improbable to me that Chikwaka's people would have stayed complacently in those caves when a preview of what was going to happen to them was taking place on the adjacent kopje. It is significant that when these cleaning up operations took place, none of the main actors were caught or killed. Kagubi himself had escaped before the operation and had made his way into what is now the Chinamora Communal Area and Chikwaka and others had disappeared north into the Mrewa hills.

Fort Harding remained manned for the rest of the year and formed the base camp some four or five months later for successful attacks on the kraals of Mashonganyika and Kunze. In September, October and November 1897 Campbell stayed at Fort Harding and received the surrender of the main rebels in north-eastern Mashonaland at this fort. A few hundred yards to the west of the fort a Police Pioneer cemetery which contains the graves of eight European policemen, some of whom were killed in the skirmishes around this area and others of whom died of fever. On conclusion of the hostilities the fort ceased to be used and the first Goromonzi police station which is about half a mile back on the dirt road was built.

Back to Kagubi, he continued to evade the forces until October when he gave himself up to a Native Commissioner and was later tried for murder. His conduct in these proceedings was not particularly admirable. He disavowed his part in the rebellion and attempted to switch the blame to Nehanda. He was hanged in 1898 at the same time as Nehanda, but unlike Nehanda who remained proud and unrepentant to the end, Kagubi

appeared to recant and shortly before his execution, was in fact persuaded by a priest from Chishawasha Mission to become a Christian and was christened Dismas. The priest was assisted by Kagubi's daughter and the Chishawasha people.

It seems to me to be clear that despite this somewhat abject ending, Kagubi should be credited with the spark which set alight the rebellion and yet his spirit wife, Nehanda, seems to have received more acclaim for this than he has. Is it that the people remember and compare his lack of courage at the end with the steadfastness of Nehanda or is it that his spirit was not as powerful as that of Nehanda? One hears of the Nehanda spirit being resurrected not only in the war that ended some two years ago but also in other times of crisis between the first and second Chimurenga wars. Charles Bullock in a footnote in his book, *The Mashona*, published in 1927, has this to say:

"It was no leading Mashona chief who fermented the rebellion in Mashonaland but Kagubi. That false charlatan with his concertina and paraffin tins deceived the people into believing that he was the host of the God of Battles — the Lord of Sabaoth; and that his spirit power would blind the white enemies or turn them into mountain hares. He was an impostor to us — but even so to the natives eventually; for the spirit he claimed as he did, did not rise again in another."

A similar sentiment is expressed by Native Commissioner Wiri Edwards which was published in early editions of *NADA*. I quote:

The Mondoro or Mwari was no god of war, but a new priest or mouthpiece comes upon a scene in Kagubi alias Gumboreshumba. Kagubi was a ventriloquist. Of this Native Commissioners Campbell, Kenney and myself were convinced by our investigations and comparing notes after the rebellion. Through Kagubi the Mondoro spoke from the trees and the rocks to the people. According to Mwari the cause of all the trouble that had come upon the land was the white man. They had brought the locusts and the rinderpest, and to crown it all, they, the owners of the cattle which had died, were not allowed to eat the meat. The carcasses had to be burned or buried. Mwari decreed that the white men were to be driven from the country. They, the natives, had nothing to fear, Mwari would turn the bullets of the white man into water. Nehanda, the high priestess of Mwari and the most influential in the northern and central parts of Mashonaland, was not at first inclined to follow Kagubi's lead but was finally convinced on hearing the trees and rocks give out the message from the Mondoro.

I am not naive enough to accept without question the verdicts of Charles Bullock and Wiri Edwards about Kagubi. The leaders of the lost rebellions seldom receive praise from the victors. What I would like to know is why their memories and influence of Nehanda have lived on over the last 80 odd years whereas the Kagubi flame seems to have flickered and almost died.

## SOURCES

- A. S. Chigwedere, *From Mutapa to Rhodes*.  
Peter Gibbs, *The History of the BSAP*.  
W. Edwards, Reminiscences in *NADA*.  
P.S. Garlake, The Mashona Rebellion east of Salisbury, *Rhodesiana* No. 14, July 1966.  
A. S. Hickman, Balleyhooley Hotel, *Rhodesiana* No. 17, December 1972.  
D.N. Beach, Kaguvi and Fort Mhondoro, *Rhodesiana* No. 27, December 1972.

---

## BACK NUMBERS OF RHODESIANA

Only the following back numbers of *Rhodesiana* are in stock. Copies can be bought from the History Society of Zimbabwe, P.O. Box 8268, Causeway, Salisbury, Zimbabwe, at a cost of Z\$3,00 per copy, which includes surface postage to any part of the world. Remittances from outside Zimbabwe must be for the equivalent of Zimbabwean currency.

*Rhodesiana* No. 17, December 1967.

*Rhodesiana* No. 20, July 1969 to *Rhodesiana* No. 24, July 1971.

*Rhodesiana* No. 26, 1972 onwards, two issues a year, up to the current number,

*Rhodesiana* No. 40, 1979.

**Facsimile Reprints** of Nos. 1-8 (1956-1963) of the Journal can be obtained from Books of Zimbabwe (Pvt.) Ltd., P.O. Box 1994, Bulawayo. Members of the Society are entitled to a reduced price of \$15,30 per bound volume of the set of eight Journals or \$10,60 for a set of eight loose, unbound Journals.

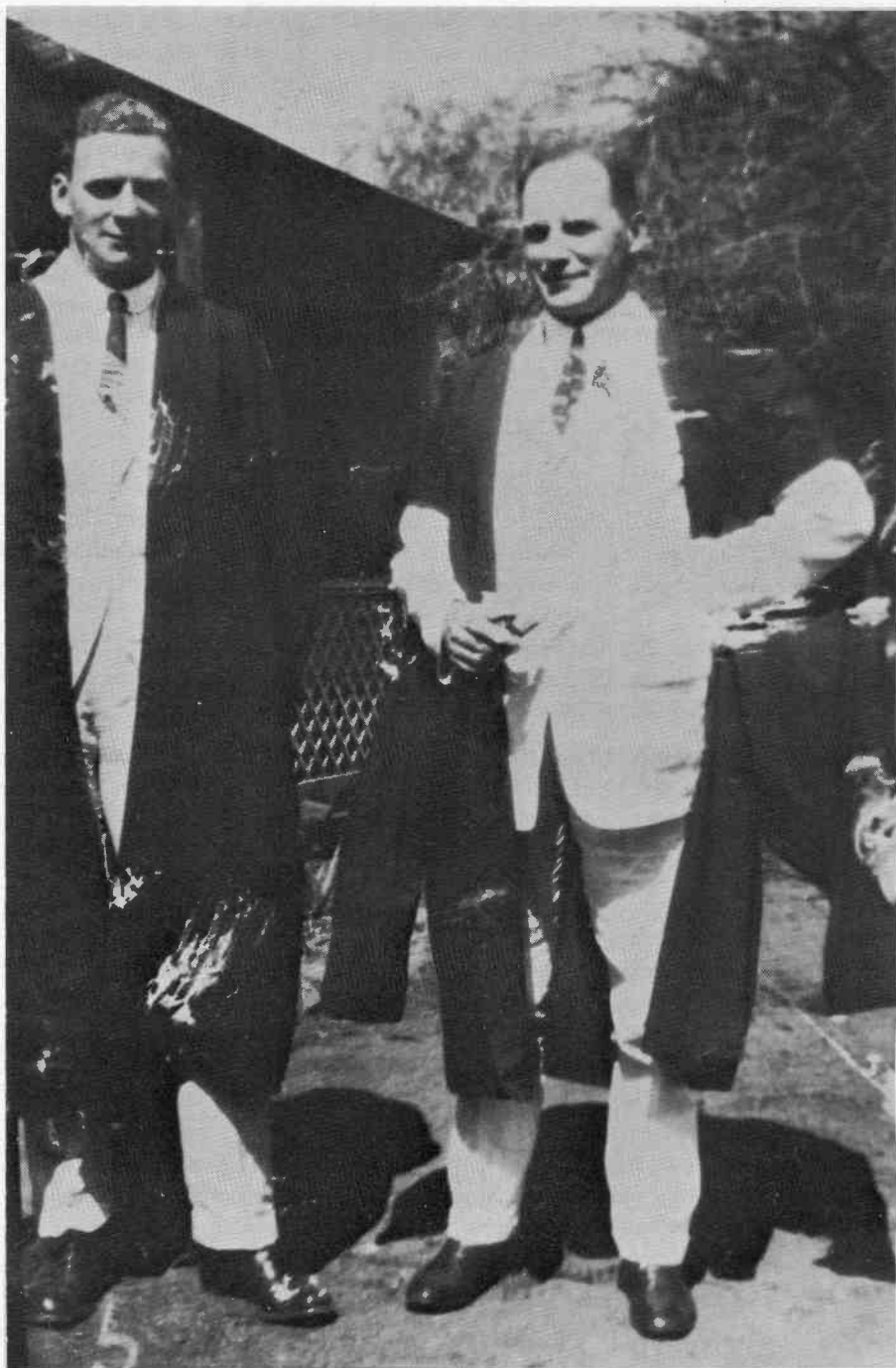
## WANTED

To complete set —

## NADA

No. 20	1943	No. 21	1944
No. 22	1945	No. 25	1948
No. 48	1971	No. 50	1973

**BAWDEN Telephone Harare 37462**



The two headmasters of Cedric College. Mr. Basil C. Chard (right) founded the school in 1919 and left the country in 1925 when Mr. Hugh H. Cole (on the left of the picture) took over as headmaster and bought a share in the school.

*Photo — National Archives*

# Cedric College

by A.M. Ewing

Cedric was started in 1919 by Mr. Basil C. Chard on Umvutcha farm in premises that had at one time been the Umgusa Hotel, situated about 200 yards from the banks of the Umgusa river. Mr. Chard, M.A. of Oxford, had been, immediately prior to the founding of his private school, the deputy headmaster of Milton School in Bulawayo. Before coming up to Bulawayo Mr. Chard had been a master at the Diocesan College ("Bishops") in Rondebosch, Cape. While there he had built up a reputation as a great coach of rugger.

While at Milton he must have looked forward to the day when he could start his own private school.

He put out feelers in Bulawayo and five professional and business men are believed to have made small loans, possibly as much as £100 each. Their names were Dr. Head, Dr. Vigne, Mr. Ellman-Brown, Mr. Parsons and Mr. Hodges. A sixth person, Mr. Herud, a mining man from the Midlands, also joined in financing Mr. Chard — there may have been others as well. All these gentlemen had sons who were to attend the school.

With finance assured Mr. Chard was able to launch his Cedric College in the old Umgusa Hotel which in 1919 was a private house. The Umgusa Hotel, before the turn of the century used to advertise fishing, boating, swimming, shooting and billiards and it naturally had a bar. History has it that Rudyard Kipling once spent a night in this hostelry and made a very unsuccessful attempt to jump over the trellis work on the veranda; his foot caught the top of the trellis and he came down heavily in the garden below.

S. W. Jameson, a great grandnephew of Sir Leander Starr Jameson, was the first head boy for which the young Jameson was presented with a book (Wagner operas) in which is inscribed "Cedric College" and the school motto "Virtute et Litteris".

The school uniform was light grey with light grey flannelette shirts. The school colours were red, black and yellow on a white background. The school badge on the hatband and blazer was a German eagle. Photos show that two kinds of ties were used, one with the colours running lengthwise and another with the colours across.

The only master whose name is known is a Mr. Stevenson who taught French, Maths and Physics so the brunt of the teaching appears to have been shared between Mr. and Mrs. Chard and himself.

Cricket was played here but there is no record of any matches with other schools. A school magazine was produced and perhaps the No. 1 volume was from the "Umvutcha" Cedric but the No. 2 volume, dated December 1921, was produced from the "Queens Road" Cedric.

From information gathered from the 35 boys who attended Cedric in 1919/20 it appears that there was insufficient accommodation for all the boys, so many of them slept on the large veranda.

The old hotel lounge, with its beautiful ceiling, was used as a dining room and another room was turned into a gymnasium and one can still see signs of when the "horse" and parallel bars were situated.

Cedric College was probably the first real private school in Rhodesia; the buildings, grounds, etc. were privately owned from 1921.

## UMVUTCHA

In 1897 the Umgusa Hotel was built on the south side of the Umgusa river — some 200 yards from its bank. It was built by a man (whose name is forgotten) who owned an undertaker's business in Bulawayo, two miles away. With the help of the Standard Bank a really beautiful building was erected. However, in spite of fishing, shooting, boating, swimming and aided by a bar, the unfortunate undertaker was unable to meet his commitments to the Bank and the manager of the bank, George Mitchell, later to become Prime Minister for a very short spell, had to insist that a goodly proportion of all burial fees etc. had to be paid to the bank to reduce the overdraft. The bank had to finally close on the unfortunate fellow and the hotel and the farm it was on, Umvutcha, became the bank's property.

The farm and buildings (hotel) were then leased to two brothers for the growing of Turkish tobacco. They imported the seed from Turkey and grew what is believed to have been the first tobacco in Matabeleland. This tobacco was grown before Mr. Pevsner grew his Turkish tobacco a mile or so away in Glenville. The brothers had a small factory in the old hotel and manufactured Turkish cigarettes — this was about 1906-8.

The bank had cut up a part of the farm into 50-acre plots some of which had been sold to the public. In 1908 Mr. R.A. Fletcher bought the farm Umvutcha and the old hotel and, unknown to him at the time, the remaining unsold plots! The Fletchers moved into the cottage near the hotel and the tobacco producers were allowed to stay on in the house/hotel and finish off their crop and sell the balance of the cigarettes.

About 1909/10 the Fletchers then moved out of the cottage and into their large house/hotel. It was a magnificent building with a huge lounge, numerous rooms and an empty bar and billiard room. The concrete foundations for the eight legs of the billiard table can still be seen. In early 1919 the Fletchers moved back into Bulawayo and leased the premises to Mr. Chard.

The farm is named after the Matabele royal kraal that Lobengula had built in 1880 and in which he lived on and off until November 1893 when he fled northwards. Umvutcha can best be described as his country residence; his royal kraal, Gubulawayo, was his administrative capital.

Should missionaries, hunters, traders and concession seekers wish to see Lobengula they would outspan their wagons near a large tree some 2 000 yards south of the royal kraal Umvutcha and near the Umgusa River and await His Majesty's pleasure before seeing him, often waiting weeks and even months. In fact Rudd's party had to wait about a month before they could get down to business and discuss what was to be known as the Rudd Concession. This tree, known today as the Missionary Tree, is a National Monument. It was also known as the Boggie Tree — Boggie had carved his name in the tree in 1888 with the help of a chisel and one of the "Gs" can still be plainly seen. The tree bark growth now covers the rest of Boggie's name.

It was at the Umvutcha Kraal that the Rudd Concession was "signed" on 30 October, 1888 by Lobengula, witnessed by the Rev. C.D. Helm and by C.D. Rudd, Rochfort Maguire and F.R. Thompson.

In 1896 the pioneer survey firm of Fletcher and Espin were in this area surveying farms. Pat Fletcher and R.A., brothers, were the Fletchers in this firm. As the royal kraal was sited on a slight rise, in fact one could look right across to Gubulawayo in those days before all the bush encroachment had taken place, the surveyor had a "fix" on a very large

tree in the Umvutcha kraal. An assistant climbed the tree and waved the pole with a bit of white limbo attached and when the reading had been taken, a small stone in the place of a plumb bob was dropped down and at that point the survey beacon was erected. It served as a corner beacon for three farms. This tree was Lobengula's "meat" tree. It was under this tree that all animals were slaughtered, cut up and the meat apportioned by the King to his staff and followers.

The royal kraal was so large that there was sufficient "firewood to keep the residents in Bulawayo supplied with wood for kitchen fires for over two years.

### QUEENS ROAD CEDRIC

Chard was keen to build a school of his own, and no doubt to his own design, so he purchased a smallholding on the right-hand side of the Queens Road going north between the Matsheumhlope and Umgusa rivers, about four miles out of Bulawayo, just before the "suburb" of Orange Grove, where a few houses scattered about had been built in those days.

In 1921 the school moved en bloc to its premises on the Queens Road. About 20 boys came over from Umvutcha and they were the nucleus of the new school. By the end of 1921 there were 36 boys attending, a few of whom were day boys and the year 1922 started off with 45 boys.

Mr. H.U. Moffat, later to become the second Premier of Southern Rhodesia, addressed the parents and the boys and presented the school prizes at the end of the school year in 1921.

The Rev. G.E.P. Broderick formed the school staff at the beginning of 1921 and stayed on for two years. Mr. Broderick was born in Kimberley in 1879 and educated at Benkhamstead school and London University where he got his B.Sc. in 1902. He worked for a few years just as a teacher and then with a firm of industrial chemists. He took holy orders in 1905 and was ordained a priest in 1906 and then came out to Bulawayo the same year to become assistant priest at St. John's Church and was also a part-time master at St. John's College in Bulawayo. He then became a missionary and was stationed at Bonda for six years. He was at St. Colomba's mission in Bulawayo for two years. After leaving Cedric he became the principal of the Domboshawa Government School for Africans and remained there 12 years — he was made an honorary canon in 1947. He wrote several books on African education and died on 27 June 1958.

While at Cedric he took a very keen interest in the Boy Scout movement. His main subjects in the classroom were physics and divinity.

Another master about that time was Mr. Charles Barton. He and Mrs. Barton came from Lancashire. He was a very good cricketer who had played Lancashire cricket but had not made the county side. Mrs. Barton taught as well, one of her subjects being elocution.

Mr. and Mrs. Barton only stayed about a year when they left Cedric and started their own preparatory school for boys in Hillside, Bulawayo.

An extract from the Cedric College Magazine No. 5, April 1932, says: "An important vacancy on the staff was filled at the beginning of the term by the arrival from England of Mr. H.H. Cole, B.Sc. (science and mathematics). After serving throughout the war and receiving a commission in the Cheshire Regiment, he took his degree at Bristol University. Besides undertaking the boxing and drawing classes he has taken over the Scout troop, which he is bringing up to a high degree of efficiency."



Fifty-three years later, Hugh Cole, C.B.E., B.Sc., retired. He had in his time accomplished much. He had been a partner in Cedric College for which he had paid £500.

He had been headmaster of Chaplin (Gwelo), Prince Edward, Falcon and St. Stephen's at Balla Balla and had been vice-principal of Milton School. He became Chief Education Officer and later was appointed Secretary for Education to the Government of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, and finally was on the staff of the University of Rhodesia though he held no formal teaching qualification!

The same magazine goes on: "Arthur C. Curle joined the staff at the same time. He had served throughout the war, had been mentioned in despatches and had been commissioned in the H.L.I. He had been a member of the Warwickshire County 1st XI — had played rugby for North Midlands and hockey for his county, Warwickshire".

Mr. Curle played hockey and cricket in Bulawayo and played for Rhodesia against the Transvaal in Bulawayo in March 1923. He took a very keen interest in the Scout troop. He coached us at cricket and gave us an idea of what rugby was all about — it was after all a bit difficult to play serious rugby when the boys ranged from 10 years old to boys of 16 and only some 30 to choose from.

When Mr. Curle left Cedric he joined the Rhodesia Railways.

Two other masters were associated with Queens Road Cedric. One was Mr. Rylands.

The other was an elderly man, Mr. Brindley, who worked part-time; he was not a qualified teacher. As he lived close by on the other side of the Queens Road where there were about three houses (Broderick had one of them) he was handy and could be called upon quickly if any master was ill. His main subject was drawing. He taught in 1921.

The first matron was a Mrs. Rawstone, 1921 and 1922. She resigned at the end of 1922 to take up a post offered her in the Government school hostel at Hartley and her place was taken by a Mrs. Burness. This lady had a very unpleasant experience one night when an African male entered her room which was adjacent to one of the dormitories and tried to molest her — she promptly pulled out her revolver from under her pillow and shot him in the shoulder. The African bled profusely and was easily tracked down by police and Mrs. Burness' effort earned her a "mention" in College Magazine No. 5 when it was said that "Mrs. Burness is to be congratulated on the success of her shot"!

Basil Chard was a product of Keble College, Oxford, where he obtained his M.A. He joined the staff of the Diocesan College, Rondebosch, in 1904 and remained at "Bishops" till the end of 1917.

The following is an extract from the Bishops Magazine of December 1917:

"Mr. Chard has been on the staff for 14 years and has rendered splendid service to the college both in the classroom and in the playing fields. He played for the old college 1st XV in its days and was rightly regarded as one of the best forwards. He also kept wicket for the college 1st XI. Ever since he first came here Mr. Chard has ably and diligently coached the school teams at 'rugger'. Bishops has produced many brilliant individual footballers and generally turned out a fine team every year; it is safe to say that the teams of the last dozen years have owed a great deal of their excellence to Mr. Chard's coaching. It goes without saying that Mr. Chard has made hundreds of friends among present and past Diocesans, and these will join us in our expressions of regret that the College is losing the services of so genial a sportsman and efficient teacher. The cause of his resignation is also a matter to us of great regret: Mrs. Chard's health during the past year has given rise to grave anxiety, and she has been ordered by her doctor

to leave the coast and live up country. Mr. Chard has just been appointed vice-principal of Milton School in Bulawayo and we take this opportunity of wishing him and wife success and every happiness in their new sphere."

The reference to his playing for the 1st XV and 1st XI may appear puzzling but until 1911 Bishops had undergraduates and played in 1st league rugby and cricket in Cape Town. Many Springbok teams until 1911 contained men who were students at Bishops.

Mr. Chard, on leaving Bishops presented the school with the cup that bears his name, for the inter-house athletic competition. He remained at Milton for about a year and then started his Cedric College. Mr. Chard's aim was to build a school modelled on English public school lines.

Scouting played a very prominent part in the activities of Cedric. Cedric was in fact more closely identified with the Scout movement than any school in the country. The Bulawayo Town Troop was the No. 1 troop and the Cedric Troop was No. 2 troop in Matabeleland. The Cedric Club Pack was the No. 4 cub pack in 1924. The troop excelled at Morse, heliograph and semaphore signalling as well as bush craft. Mr. Trott was the signal instructor; he was attached to the old SRV (later to become Rhodesia Regiment).

As the country round Cedric was practically unoccupied (there were very few houses in the area at the time) scouting took place over a very large area of wild thickly wooded country and we could roam miles in all directions and every Scout and Cub enjoyed the various games we played.

Our small troop boasted two King Scouts in Vigne and Head who both attended the jamboree in England in 1924. Our 14-mile walk took us across Hull's farm Woodville to Nabasjuduna and from there on to Cement Siding where tea and cake was laid on by Mrs. Sherwell, wife of the manager of the Cement factory, and finally back to Cedric.

Chard, Broderick and Cole were the Scoutmasters between 1919 and 1923 and Curle was the assistant Scoutmaster.

The school put on at least two plays before it moved to Salisbury — one was Chu Chin Chow when all of us had parts however small.

As the Cedric year was divided into three terms cricket was played in the first and third terms. Many matches were arranged against Plumtree School and other Bulawayo teams and St. George's which then had not moved up to Salisbury.

Hockey was the main game in the winter term. It was played on a very rough ground with no grass on it. The field was fast in places and slow in others when the ball would be "lost" in the dust so control by 12- and 13-year-olds was wellnigh impossible. Ken Nauson was our star player and he later played for Rhodesia as did Bob Williams who attended Cedric when the school had moved up to Salisbury. Our coach was Mr. Curle, a very good player himself.

Towards the end of 1923 Mr. Chard sold a share of his Cedric to Mr. Cole. Mr. Chard also announced that the coming terms, "Lent" in 1924, would be the last at the Queens Road site as the school was moving to Salisbury. Cedric School Magazine No. 8 under Headmaster's Notes says: "The great move has been successfully accomplished and we are now settled in our permanent quarters. We have lost a number of boys owing to it but some of them would have left in any case by reason of the bad times and their places have been more than filled by new boys.

"Our new situation is certainly very bracing and the health of the school has been excellent — there has been no illness except a few colds. We are delighted with our surroundings, and our prospects, generally, appear to be distinctly good.

“Owing to various unforeseen circumstances all the buildings have not yet been completed, but in no way has this been allowed to interfere with the work of the school.”

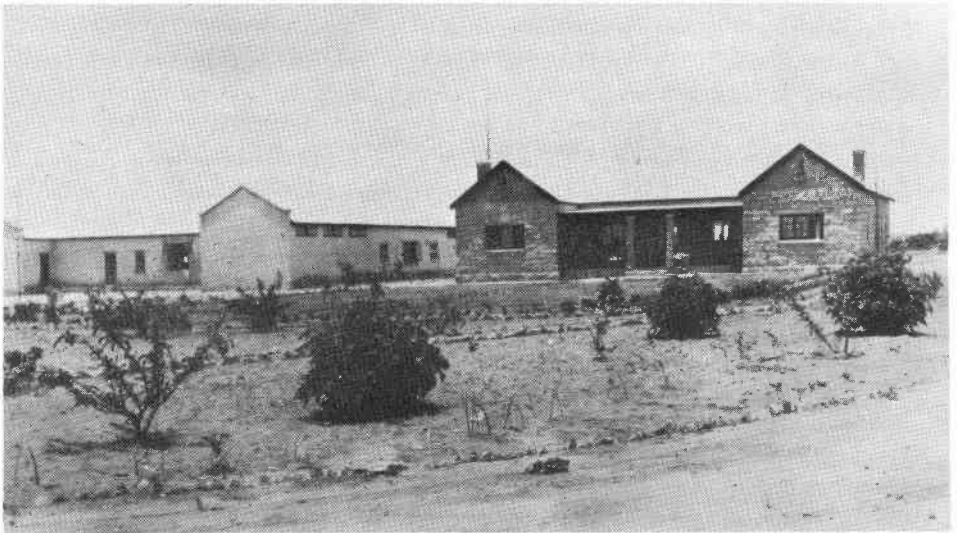
The premises were a great improvement on those at the Queens Road site. They were situated on a ridge with open, sloping ground on two sides. The grounds consisted of 50 acres with plenty of level space for cricket, rugby and hockey grounds, and tennis courts. The water was plentiful and provision was made for a swimming-bath, something that was missing on the Queens Road.

At the end of the first term at what later became Bishops Mount, Mr. and Mrs. Chard decided to take leave. They left for England leaving Mr. Cole, the partner, as the headmaster. The Chards did not return to Rhodesia. Instead he became the private tutor to the children of the Maharajah of Baroda in India.

In the absence of Mr. Chard Mr. T. McChlery took over his particular branch of school work. He also coached the boys at rugby and boxing. He only stayed the one term and went on to Oxford.

The first matron at Bishops Mount was Miss Dunlop who only stayed three weeks. Her place was taken by Miss Z. Sloan. Mr. C.F. Bishop joined the staff at the beginning of the term (June) as games master. After the Great War, during which he was wounded while serving with the 8th Middlesex, he played cricket for Somerset County XI in 1921 and had been asked to play for Gloucestershire. In hockey he had been a member of the Dorset County and West of England elevens.

Some time in 1927 Bishop Paget, Bishop of Southern Rhodesia, approached Mr. Cole on the desirability of establishing a Diocesan Preparatory School in Mashonaland. The Bishop had met Robert Grinham and Maurice Carver in 1926 when they had come



The new site for Cedric College built in Salisbury (Harare) in 1924. Some time after the school was bought by the Diocese of Southern Rhodesia the stone house on the right, renamed Bishop's Mount, became the residence of Bishops of Southern Rhodesia and later Mashonaland, four of who have made their homes in the house.

*Photo — National Archives*

out with hopes of starting a church school on lines they had worked out together. They came up to Rhodesia and found an ideal site at the Ruzawi Inn, four miles from Marandellas. As there was really no need for two junior schools about 50 miles apart it was suggested that perhaps Mr. Cole would throw in his lot with the new school but Mr. Cole decided he would rather get out entirely. The result was that the Diocese of Mashonaland bought for £3 000 the 50 acres and the buildings from Mr. D. V. Williams who had erected the buildings to be used as a school. Messrs. Grinham and Carver bought the goodwill of the school from Mr. Cole.

In the preliminary prospectus sent out by the principals of the proposed new school, Messrs. Carver and Grinham said: "We are now able to announce that the headmaster of Cedric School, realising the necessity of a diocesan preparatory school leading up to senior diocesan school and being in entire sympathy with the venture, has decided to give up his school in December. He is transferring his goodwill to us, and is recommending the parents of his boys to transfer them to the new school". So Ruzawi was launched.

Mr. Chard returned to Africa and in 1940 when masters were at a premium owing to the war, he was taken on by Michaelhouse, Natal. He was last seen in Shabani where he was an evangelist. He died in Devon aged 90 and blind.

---

### BRONZE MEDAL

The Rhodesiana Society's Bronze Medal was struck in 1970 for sale to members and their families only. The total number struck was only 500 and a few are still left for sale. Each one is unique as it has a different serial number. As well as being a personal souvenir of belonging to the Society the medal forms a good investment. (The word investment is used advisedly as a number of the medals have made their appearance on sales of Africana in Johannesburg.)

The medals are slightly larger and thicker than a 25-cent piece and are in an attractive green velvet-covered presentation case. The price, including the case, is \$5.00.



**Ernest Homan.**

*Photo — National Archives*

# Ernest Edward Homan

by R. Cherer Smith

Homan was born in India and was the son of a surgeon-general of the Indian Army. He was educated in England at Shrewsbury, and although it was the intention that he should serve in the navy, he abandoned his career and came to South Africa in 1879 in search of diamonds at Kimberley. Five years later he went to Canada, but returned to South Africa in 1887.

He went to Vryburg where he joined the firm of Messrs. Julius Weil and Company, who had extensive trading interests in the Bechuanaland Protectorate. He was appointed their representative to the north and arrived in Salisbury by Cape cart in 1891 to open one of the first trading stores in Pioneer Street. His store was shown as occupying stands 15 and 16 on the first surveyed map of Salisbury.

Soon after his arrival in Salisbury, however, he became manager of Henry Borrow's estate near Salisbury which was named Borrowdale in honour of its owner, who, in company with Heany and Johnson, had contracted to equip and supply the Pioneer Column on its journey to the north. The estate was subdivided into a number of farms. Greystone and Quinnington, which formed part of this estate have been turned into attractive suburbs of Harare. The farm was used to grow vegetables for the rapidly expanding population of Salisbury, and to facilitate this, a dam, the first to be built in Rhodesia, was constructed on the estate. An orchard was also planted which included citrus and other trees. Cattle were also introduced but many were stolen and it became necessary to fence the estate into large paddocks which formed the basis of the original sub-divisions.

Borrow left for England during the early part of 1893 and while he was away Homan was entrusted with the task of building a home for his bride-to-be, Miss Lucy Drake. The farm thereafter became known as the Homestead and was later owned by Sir Digby Burnett, later general manager of Lonrho. The Homestead has been sub-divided into numerous smallholdings and forms the area currently known as Borrowdale Brook. The building did not survive for long, but before it was demolished it served as the home of Gertrude Page, one of Rhodesia's best known women authors of the 1920s.

Borrow was killed in the Matabele War at the battle of Shangani on 4 December, 1893, before his marriage to Miss Drake could take place. After the death of his employer Homan worked as an agent in Salisbury and took an active part in the affairs of the new township. The population had been greatly reduced by the large number of pioneers who had left to take part in the Matabele campaign and who thereafter decided to remain in Matabeleland where the prospects of finding gold seemed to be brighter than in Mashonaland. Business at the capital was almost at a standstill and in these unfavourable economic conditions a meeting of Salisbury merchants was called. It was attended by nine businessmen, among whom was Homan. It was decided at this meeting to form the Salisbury Chamber of Commerce and Mr. H.J. Deary was elected the first president; later he became the second Mayor of Salisbury. Homan succeeded Deary three years later as President of the Chamber in 1897. It was a difficult time, caused by the Mashona Rebellion and the cattle disease that devastated the country's herds.

Homan was closely associated with Deary in other activities and on 9 April, 1895, joined with him and other citizens of Salisbury to form the Salisbury Board of Executors which the promoters felt was necessary to administer deceased and insolvent estates that occurred regularly in the uncertain conditions prevailing in the country's first few years of European rule. Other board members included such wellknown pioneer personalities as J.H. Kennedy (soon afterwards captured in the Jameson Raid), T. Meikle, W.E. Fairbridge (Editor of the Rhodesia Herald) and H.J. Deary. The company was the thirteenth to be registered in the country. Two years later Homan became chairman of the Salisbury Board of Executors, a position he held until his death in 1921. Before the company built its own premises in Manica Road the board met in Homan's house.

Homan was a foundation member of the Salisbury Club, and when the club was short of funds in 1899, it encouraged its members to make a payment of £50 and become life members. Homan was one of 14 members who availed themselves of this offer and those who remained in Salisbury were well rewarded for their investment.

Homan did not lose touch with his old firm, and when they decided to form the London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company in 1909, Julius Weil invited him to become their first general manager, a position which he accepted and held until 1914.

In company with Mr. W. Martin he was responsible for opening the Giant Mine near Gadzema and through his association with Lonrho later became the main shareholder of the company that owned the mine. He also became associated with the Cam and Motor Mine, the majority shareholding of which was also owned by Lonrho.

Homan was made a Justice of the Peace, and held various other appointments in the capital, among which were membership of the Liquor Licensing Board, the Labour Board of Southern Rhodesia, and he was a representative of the joint stock companies on the Rhodesia Native Labour Bureau.

He was a member of the Salisbury Town Council from 1897 to 1899 and had a special interest in the town's layout and tree planting programme.

His interests tended to the political scene and he served on the Legislative Council as a member of the Progressive Party from 1905 to 1908, being one of the two representatives of the Northern Division.

He owned Craig Farm in the Enterprise district, which in later years was purchased by Lord Malvern, who as Sir Godfrey Huggins, was Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia from 1933-1953 and the first Prime Minister of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

Homan was a bachelor, but during his term as general manager of Lonrho was instrumental in building one of the most elegant houses in Salisbury, which he named Bronte. The house was designed by the famous architect Sir Herbert Baker and stood on five acres of ground in Baines Avenue. The building followed the style of Groote Schuur in the Cape, which was restored by the same architect for Cecil Rhodes and which became the official residence of the South African Prime Minister at the Cape.

Homan died in 1921 and was buried on his farm near Salisbury.

# Correspondence

## MYSTERY OF A BSAP SPOON

SIR,

Going through some old family cutlery, I came across an unmatched silver tablespoon. On it was a partially obliterated crest which I identified as the police crest; the rather angry lion with tail raised either jumping on or running across a Matabele shield, angry presumably because an assegai is protruding from his chest.

I could not remember stealing any police silver and the more I thought about it the clearer my conscience became. Although I had served in the police reserve for 20-odd years, the opportunity of stealing a silver spoon had not presented itself. I was so far "below the salt" as it were, that plastic was more my line and quite frankly the condiments and tableware at such stop-overs as Ngundu Halt and Mateke Hills did not present temptations. No one coveted those dirty fly-stained plastic mugs, the only historical interest in which related to the identity and state of health of the last user.

In any event I am not in the habit of stealing cutlery; although I do wonder why there nestles in our kitchen drawer a fork bearing the initials R.R.C.C. My only contact with Ruzawi River Country Club was a cricket match in the early sixties where I had been bowled first ball, an event not so infrequent in my experience as to cause me to filch one of their forks in a moment of pique.

I looked at the spoon more carefully. Below the shield was the legend, almost unreadable, "B.S.A. Police Matabeleland". Strange I thought — this was not our neck of the woods. Our family had always been Mashonas and no one as far as I knew had ever lived farther south than Gweru. I turned the spoon over. On the back behind the crest was the inscription "From J.S.N. 1897".

Who was J.S.N.? My son who had just been reading about the Mazoe Patrol volunteered the suggestion that it may have been Captain Nesbitt. We had known the indirect descendants of Captain Nesbitt for many years but as his Christian name was Randolph, that idea went out of the window. I therefore turned to Peter Gibbs' *The History of the B.S.A.P.* and looked in the index. There it was — Nicholson J.S. I had never heard of him, but as he warranted two lines of references, I read on.

Captain J.S. Nicholson had been sent out by the Imperial authorities in early 1896 to take over command of the Matabeleland Mounted Police at the time of the Matabele Rebellion. John Sanctuary Nicholson, for that was his name, had been with the Seventh Hussars prior to this and in fact although he stayed with the police in this country until 1903 he never formally attested into the force, regarding himself throughout his service as being on secondment. Both Gibbs and Hickman in his book *Rhodesians served the Queen* give the impression of Nicholson as a very capable and efficient officer. A photograph in the latter book shows him as youngish and athletic looking, sporting a very bushy dark moustache.

By 1898 he had become Commandant General of the B.S.A.P. in succession to Sir Richard Martin, but he preferred to remain in Bulawayo and ran the force from that centre. We hear of him supervising the armoured trains employed to keep open the railway line to Gaborone at the start of the Boer War in 1899 and in the following year doing some



excellent staff work in arranging the link up of the Commonwealth troops (arriving via Beira) with Plumer's force marching to relieve Mafeking. For this and other good works he was awarded a D.S.O. at the end of the war and in August 1903 he returned to the "less exacting demands of a directorship of the family business which rejoiced in the manufacture of London Dry Gin."

None of this explains why he was giving away the mess silver in 1897, a fairly cavalier gesture even for an officer of the Seventh Hussars. Perhaps it was his own family silver that he was dispensing so generously. He may have had this embossed with the police crest to raise the tone of the Bulawayo mess. If the spoon had been older than the establishment of the police force, this surely would have been the position. But the silver mark reveals that the spoon was made in London in 1897 when Nicholson was already in this country and this makes it more likely that the police paid for the silver that was being given away. On the other hand the inscription "from J.S.N." might denote a gift to the police by its Matabeleland Commandant.

Of course, we shall never know but I would like to believe that the gallant captain (later colonel) gave this spoon to my great-grandfather, Thomas Berry, who came up to Salisbury as accountant to the B.S.A. Company in 1896 and was chairman of the Salisbury Club in 1897. Perhaps Nicholson stayed at the Club when spending the odd weekend in the capital and gave the spoon to Berry in appreciation.

R.H. WOOD  
Harare

#### SMALLER BASKET

SIR,

It is fashionable to denigrate the deceased but I find it difficult to understand why A.D. Campbell should be described as having a reputations as a trader that "was not too good" (Page 45, Heritage No. 2, first paragraph).

It is alleged that having made an arrangement for the purchase of maize and groundnuts at a certain measure Campbell substituted a smaller basket than the one agreed.

Should he have wished to cheat the vendors thereby he would have substituted a larger basket so that he obtained greater produce for the sum agreed.

R.H. JAMES (Life member)  
Knysna, C.P.

---

#### BOTANICAL PRINTS

Copies are also still available of the portfolio of historic botanical prints in full colour produced as a souvenir to mark the silver jubilee of the Rhodesiana Society in 1978. Price \$25.00.

# Annual Meeting 1982

The annual general meeting of the society was held in the Jameson Hotel, Harare, on Tuesday 23 March, 1982, under the chairmanship of the national chairman, Mr. R.C. Smith.

After submitting his report (which is given at the end of this extract from the minutes of the meeting) the chairman called on Mr. Spencer-Cook to inform the meeting on the success achieved in the preservation of the F.S.A.D. building, Jameson House. Mr. Spencer-Cook then briefly summarised the proceedings, which had resulted in the City of Salisbury making a preservation order on the building, in which it had the support not only of this society, but also of the Queen Victoria Museum; the owners of the building had appealed against the order, but had lost the appeal. This indicated that the society was now in a position to offer advice to the City of Salisbury on such matters.

Mr. Spencer-Cook said he had been asked to conduct the Duke of Gloucester on a tour of historic buildings on his proposed forthcoming visit, which was a further indication that the society was one of some standing. (The Duke's visit had unfortunately to be cancelled because of illness.)

Mrs. Honey proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Spencer-Cook which was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

The adoption of the chairman's report was then proposed by Mr. Kimberley, seconded by Mr. Hill and passed unanimously.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**

The Honorary treasurer presented the Balance Sheet and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1981. These were unanimously adopted.

**ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** The following members were elected after being duly proposed and seconded:

National Chairman	Mr. R.C. Smith
National Deputy Chairman	Mr. M. Spencer-Cook
National Honorary Treasurer	Mr. J.A. Ogilvie
National Honorary Secretary	Mr. D. Whaley

Members: Mesdames D.M. Fleming, M.R. Izzett, and E.A. Norton, and Messrs. W.E. Arnold, E.E. Burke, M.J. Kimberley, E.A.C. Mills, T.F.M. Tanser, R.W.S. Turner and R.A. Zeederberg.

## **SCRAP BOOK FOR ARCHIVES:**

Mrs. J. Honey said she had made available to the national chairman a quantity of papers collected over the years consisting of items such as Rhodesiana newsletters, programmes, dinner menus, etc. She knew the Director of Archives would be very interested to receive these papers presented in suitable form. Mrs. Honey called for a volunteer to prepare a scrap book of these items as she regretted she was unable to undertake the task herself owing to other commitments.

## **BOOK WRITTEN ON THE LIFE OF THE LATE LORD MALVERN:**

Mrs. Cooper said that some years ago a very interesting little book had been written on the life of the late Lord Malvern and that recently she had been offered "as many as she liked" of those remaining unsold as these would otherwise be destroyed. She thought there

were about 200 copies available and suggested that if members of the society were interested in acquiring copies, she would undoubtedly be able to arrange for this. General interest was expressed and in response to an inquiry Mrs. Cooper said she was under the impression the books would be made available to the society free of charge.

It was agreed that Mrs. Cooper should endeavour to obtain all the books for the society and that a small charge would be made to members wishing to buy a copy, for the benefit of the society's funds.

## **CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT**

Your committee met on three occasions during the year to consider the business of the society. Each meeting was well attended and all committee members have made meaningful contributions to the work of the society.

### **BRANCHES**

#### **Mashonaland**

The Mashonaland Branch has had an active year under the chairmanship of Bert Rosenttenstein and have undertaken a number of outings, of which I am sure, you will hear more in his annual report at the conclusion of this meeting.

The branch also undertook the arrangements for the annual national dinner which was held at the Royal Salisbury Golf Club. The dinner was a resounding success, and I am sure that those who attended will be anticipating the next one which is always a highlight of the society's calendar.

#### **Manicaland**

The branch has suffered from a loss of members, but nevertheless two of its stalwarts Messrs. Bent and Went still endeavour to keep members interested by combining with other bodies and are able to provide some facilities for the Manicaland members.

#### **Matabeleland**

It is with much regret that I have to report the demise of the Bulawayo branch which had been active for many years under the chairmanship of Mr. Harold Vickery, ably assisted by his wife Paddy.

A certain amount of dissatisfaction had been expressed within the branch as a result of the two changes made to the society's name. A special general meeting was called of the branch to consider its future at which 52 members were present.

As national chairman I attended this meeting and explained the reasons which had led to the change of name, and urged the members present to continue their allegiance to the society, rather than fragmenting it by setting up a local society. After prolonged discussion a vote was taken upon setting up an autonomous body, and the vote was split equally between those who wished to continue as an autonomous society. As a result it was decided to maintain the status quo but no local members were prepared to form a committee. The Matabeleland branch was therefore put into mothballs for the time being in the hope that at some time in the future it could be revived again.

#### **Membership**

The society, like many similar bodies, has suffered through emigration although some emigrant members have retained their links with the society. An effort was made to obtain

new members and a pamphlet containing an invitation to join the society and setting out the aims and objectives of the society was printed. This has had some response and as a result we have already gained 12 new members. The present membership of the society stands at 480. An interesting feature has been the number of schools who have joined the society. I would appeal to members to recruit new members whenever possible so as to maintain the viability of the society, for unless its membership can be maintained the printing of the journal which is largely paid for from subscriptions may not be possible in view of rising costs.

### **N.A.D.A.**

The N.A.D.A. Association was dissolved and your society undertook to take over its stock of back numbers of its journal *N.A.D.A.* These can be obtained from the society at a cost of \$2,00.

### **Rhodesiana**

The Society has stocks of back numbers of the *Rhodesiana* journal which are available at \$3,00 per copy. A few of the botanical print folders can also be obtained and at \$25 each they are very good value for money.

### **Finance statement**

The financial statement will be presented by the hon. treasurer. Although the society has remained viable this has been due to a generous donation received for advertising. It is hoped that *Heritage 3* may yield some useful revenue, but the present level of subscriptions may have to be increased in the light of rising costs. This is a matter that the incoming committee will have to address itself to.

### **Newsletter**

The society at one time produced a newsletter for members. I believe that consideration by the incoming committee should be given to its reintroduction as it provides an excellent link with members. Those who do not have an opportunity to join in branch activities have the journal *Heritage* as their only link with the society, which I believe is not enough.

### **The Journal of the society**

*Heritage 1* appeared during the year under its new style and was generally well received. Some comments were made regarding the quality of the paper used, but paper and printing are becoming exceedingly difficult due to shortages of paper, ink and printing skills.

*Heritage 2* is with our printers and should be available for circulation to members shortly. It will be bigger than *Heritage 1* and our Editor, Bill Arnold, is to be commended for his hard work. This issue will contain articles by black members, which I am sure our readers will find interesting.

Preparations are in hand for obtaining copy for *Heritage 3*. It is hoped that most of it will be devoted to short histories of the country's leading companies. They are being asked to sponsor their contributions and this will be one way of keeping the cost of the publication within the budget.

### **Historical Buildings**

The preservation of buildings of historical value is one of your society's objectives and in this regard a sub-committee under the chairmanship of Mr. A.M. Spencer-Cook was appointed to take care of this aspect of the society's interests.

The year has been quite exciting, with the committee being involved in advising the City of Salisbury on the conservation of the Market Hall, where the City Council have agreed to restore the hall to its former use as a market, thus achieving two objectives — the restoration of the original market hall and the provision of a market area for the street vendors in the adjacent bus station area.

The committee has also been active in trying to achieve the preservation of the old F.S.A.D. Building (Jameson House) in Samora Machel Avenue, Salisbury. The new owners wish to demolish the original building, which at one stage housed the High Court of Southern Rhodesia and which was the scene of the trial of some 22 Shona people involved in the first Chimurenga, and of which 16 were sentenced to be hanged. A preservation order was served on the owners, who took the matter on appeal to the Administrative Court, and members will be pleased to learn that the case for preserving the building has succeeded.

Two other items of interest have arisen; firstly, it seems most likely that the old Post Office in Manica Road, Salisbury, originally the Magistrate's Court, will be preserved by the present owners, Founders Building Society.

Secondly, the facade of the Stock Exchange Building in Main Street, Bulawayo, first erected in 1914 following the destruction by fire of the earlier building, will be preserved in situ, and form the facade of a new office block to be erected on the site.

### **Conclusion**

With the country having reverted to more settled conditions there are now prospects of the society becoming revitalised and playing an important part in the social life of the nation. However, it requires an effort on the part of all of us not only to maintain an active interest in the society and what it does but to solicit support by inviting our friends and neighbours to join.

**WANTED**

**NADA**

**1974 & 1976**

**PROFESSOR MURPHREE  
UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE**

**Home Telephone: Harare 39915**

# Mashonaland Branch Activities 1982

The first outing of the year to the Beatrice vicinity got off to a somewhat delayed start with the non-arrival of the luxury bus. After some dramatic to-ing and fro-ing, the bus and driver were located and 44 members set off from the Harare Magistrate's Court along the Beatrice Road on Sunday 4 July.

The weather, having been clear and warm for many weeks beforehand, was grey and cold. Happily, however, the murky weather in no way affected the members' enjoyment of the outing.

The first stop was made at the Joyce Mine some 10 km out of Beatrice. Following a general introduction of the history of the area by Mr. T.F.M. Tanser, Mr. A.M. Rosettenstein gave an amusing talk on the life and activities of early miners in the country. Such activities as crimping detonators between teeth and dropping down a hoist to find a snake at the bottom of the shaft made mining in those far off days most hazardous, but also provided for some memorable reminiscences. In this regard we were most fortunate in that Mr. Wolhuter who had managed the Joyce Mine in the 1930s was able to make the mine really come alive by his recounting of many perilous and hilarious experiences.

Mr. Dave Plenderleith, the mine manager, then gave a general sketch of the workings of a mine after which the party was separated into two groups which were escorted round the mine workings and given a detailed account of the steps taken after the ore has been extracted to the final gold product being sent for assaying. Both the original method of the shaker table and mercury, through to the more modern chemical means of separation were explained. After the most informative and amusing talk, members filed back into the bus which started off for Canterbury Farm where several examples of rock paintings were to be seen. At the site of the paintings we were treated to a most interesting talk by Mrs. Peggy Izzett, a long-time member of the society and a person whose tremendous range of interests and personal enthusiasm gave us all some understanding and appreciation of an artwork and community about which most of us knew very little.

After the talk on the rock paintings, the bus retraced its steps along a somewhat hazardous road to the Canterbury Farm house where Mr. and Mrs. C.J.W. Fleming had prepared a roaring fire surrounded by bales of hay and a supply of tea, coffee and other beverages to supplement the picnics which members had brought. This proved a most enjoyable (and warming!) interlude and many were the expressions of gratitude to the Flemings for their kindness and hospitality.

There is a saying in the Beatrice District that if one shakes a tree, out falls a Fleming. This was shown to be so as the next stop was at Gilston Farm owned by Mrs. Betty Fleming. At Gilston, Mrs. Fleming's tobacco manager, Mr. Jeremy Webster, showed the party the old means of curing tobacco and compared this with the modern batch curing methods. The processes of storing, sorting and baling were also explained in a most delightful and entertaining manner. Following the exposé on tobacco the tour ended back at starting point in Harare at about 6.00 p.m.

As the economy of this country has largely been built on the mining and tobacco industries, the outing was a historically significant one in addition to being most enjoyable and illuminating.

The branch's special gratitude is due to Mr. Andy Fleming who had put in a great deal of preparatory work to enable such a successful outing to take place.

## HARARE TOUR

On Sunday 1 August, we undertook a local tour of some of the historical buildings of Harare.

Enticed by an article in the *Herald*, we were delighted that out of the 110 people who came on the tour some 20 in number were visitors to Zimbabwe who were interested to hear of aspects of the history of our capital city.

Mr. Tim Tanser opened the proceedings with a talk on the House of Assembly and its environs. Having been built originally as an hotel, by two of the great characters of early Rhodesia, Robert Snodgrass and David Mitchell, the building was put to several uses until it was decided in 1898 to use it as the first legislature. Many amusing anecdotes attach to this building, which has witnessed many historic decisions and through whose portals many famous men have passed.

The tour then moved along Baker Avenue to the old Lonrho building which Mr. Michael Spencer-Cook showed to be one of the finest examples of Edwardian architecture. It was also proved that by careful and clever renovation, an old building could still play its part as offices or other accommodation in our modern world.

Having then to contend with the roar of traffic up Samora Machel Avenue, Mr. Spencer-Cook gave fascinating talks on the Prime Minister's Office and Chaplin Buildings which now house the Administrative Court and the "Stables". In respect of the "Stables" Mr. Spencer-Cook hypothesised that with the current uncertainty that Mbuya Nehanda was tried at F.S.A.D. Building, now Jameson House, it is more likely that the trial in fact occurred at the "Stables" which for a short period of time in 1897 were used as the High Court buildings.

Mr. Tanser then spoke on Mother Patrick's mortuary which is one of the few original buildings maintained as they were built and which stands judgment to the great courage and dedication shown by Mother Patrick and her fellow "angels of mercy" in developing the health services of this country. At the same spot with the towering lines of the Earl Grey Building in the background, the character and achievements of Earl Grey as the Administrator of Mashonaland were discussed. Whilst Earl Grey was by no means a great Administrator, having been referred to by Dr. Jameson as "a nice old lady", he was known for his kindness and gentleness. Subsequently he became Governor-General of Canada. The mark he left on this country was his insistence that agriculture could and should be a major force and that efforts should be made to increase and diversify the agricultural production.

The history of the Catholic Cathedral, built in 1924, at the corner of Fourth Street and Rhodes Avenue was then discussed. The great industry and talent of Father Le Boeuff SJ was commented on and the architectural features pointed out.

Finally, the tour moved to Cecil House which was built in 1895 as the head office of de Beers Consolidated Mines Limited and subsequently used as the Administrator's office. It was largely due to the efforts of Mr. Spencer-Cook and the late Mr. Tony Tanser that the building had a preservation order placed on it and is now restored to the same condition as it was when first erected. The building is still used as offices and nearly all the furniture is period furniture from 1890 to 1900.

Most importantly, offices recently erected for the Mining Pension Fund which now adjoin Cecil House, have been so cleverly designed as to complement the original structure. Mr. Spencer-Cook gave an animated talk on the history of the building, and the

part it played in our heritage and after the members of the society had walked around the offices admiring the furnishings and furniture, they were able to see a display of photographs which had been taken for a recent architectural exhibition at the National Art Gallery, sponsored by Radar Metal Industries Limited. This display provided many examples of early Rhodesian architecture together with examples of some of the more modern buildings.

It illustrated most clearly that progress need not mean the destruction of what has gone before, but that the co-ordination of old and new can achieve a harmony to reflect the heritage of the past and the promise of the future.

### GOROMONZI

The third outing of the year was on 26 September to the Goromonzi District some 40 km east of Harare.

For this outing and in this era of "self-help", the committee decided to request members to use their own transport as it was felt that if administrative difficulties and costs could be curtailed, it would be easier to arrange additional outings. Certainly this view proved a beneficial one as some 90 people gathered for the outing among whom were several local inhabitants from the area.

The tour was led by Mr. Richard Wood who, together with Mr. Richard Franks, had done much research and preparation for the outing, gave a most informative talk on the summit of a kopje which looked down on the site of Fort Harding. Although there is little left of the Fort, its proximity to the kopje was important, as shelling from the Fort onto the kopje had occurred during the First Chimurenga in 1896. Much involved in the action around Goromonzi was Kagubi, one of the foremost spirit mediums of the Shona. Indeed it was Kagubi who initially sent out the call to the chiefs and headmen in Mashonaland to start the First Chimurenga war.

After Mr. Wood's talk the group made its way along the ridge of the very attractive and well treed hill to the northern end where all were entranced by the vast caves in which the Shona of Chief Chikwaka had taken refuge in 1896. Some of the caves were as vast and as tall as cathedrals and many artifacts dating from their occupation were still to be found.

After everyone had slid down slopes, crouched beneath massive overhangs and manoeuvred sideways down narrow clefts of rock, the party returned to the base of the hill. There among the shady groves of indigenous trees, members pondered over the personalities and happenings of those far off days, and after a leisurely picnic lunch, set off home having had a most entertaining and thoroughly enjoyable day in the "bundu".



# The Flame Lily — National Emblem?

Was the flame Lily (*Gloriosa Superba*) ever adopted as the national emblem of this country? Although its acceptance as such is widespread there is very little evidence to show that it was ever proclaimed as the country's floral emblem, writes R.C. Smith.

Perhaps it was popularised as the country's emblem in 1947 when a diamond brooch depicting a flame lily was presented to Princess Elizabeth, now Queen Elizabeth II, by Rhodesian schoolchildren of all races as a 21st birthday gift during the royal tour of Southern Africa.

The brooch was designed by Mr. Leonard Bell, a Salisbury jeweller.

The Federation of Women's institutes seemed to be the promoters of the idea that the flame lily was the country's national flower, for in *The Rhodesia Herald* of 8 February 1951, published in the column Cabbages and Kings, there was this comment: "In the minds of members of the Federation of Women's Institutes, the flame lily is Rhodesia's national flower". A member telephoned me to remind me that the lily is the Federation's (of Women's Institutes) emblem.

On 26 March 1954, according to another report in the *Herald* it was announced that His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Llewellyn, chose a design prepared by Mr. H. Carter, which shows a flame lily, to be carried or flown on cars used by ladies of his household. Two flags were made by Mrs. E.K. Piggott (convenor of the Salisbury Women's Institute needlework committee).

The Federal Prime Minister proposed that the flame lily should be made the national emblem of the Federation (*Rhodesia Herald* 1 October 1959), but there seems to have been no further action taken except that in May 1960 Central African Airways commenced their "Flame Lily campaign" to attract tourists to the Federation. The two successor airway corporations of Air Rhodesia and Air Zimbabwe have continued to popularise these "flame lily" tours.

With the foregoing evidence can one assume that the flame lily, one of our most beautiful wild flowers is our national emblem? There seems never to have been an official pronouncement to this effect — but perhaps it has just become our floral emblem by tradition and usage.

● The flame lily has been depicted on the country's postage stamps on more than one occasion. It was first used on the 4d. Southern Rhodesia stamp issued on 6 February, 1952 and on the 6d. stamp of the first post-Federation definitive issue and it also appeared in the second "Rhodesia" definitive issue which followed immediately afterwards.

It was used as the motif for the 7½c stamp of the second decimal definitive set that was issued on 14 August, 1974. When the postage rates were changed the stamp was first surcharged 8c and then reissued in the new value

The plant is found in two forms. The one is a climbing plant. The other is erect. In both forms a variety of colour is found from bright scarlet to light yellow. It usually flowers in December, and as a picked flower can make an excellent display.

# Book Reviews

*Religious Change in Zambia* by Wim M.J. van Binsbergen, (Published by Kegan Paul International, London)

The author is head of the Department of Political Science and History, African Studies Centre Leiden, and the book is an academic study of a subject that is often difficult for Westerners to follow. The book is a collection of essays, in which the author seeks to provide a theoretical framework with which an interpretation of the data on indigenous religion change in Zambia may be made. As such, the publishers claim that it constitutes the only extensive and systematic attempt to come to terms with the data on Zambian religious change. The essays reflect the important issues and debates current during the 1970s and the profound changes that occurred in the theory and methodology of sociology, anthropology, history and political science at the time.

The book will not appeal to the casual reader, but it will be useful to any student of the foregoing sciences relating to central Africa.

The earlier studies of the book were intended as a terminological and theoretical exercise from which models were to be constructed as an aid to the interpretation of the relation between religion and the society in which that religion occurs.

The religion examined is primary traditional African religion and there is unfortunately little to be found regarding the impact of Christianity; however, a number of cults are included in the study including the impact that Marxist philosophies have had on the local society.

Of particular interest to the sociologist and political scientist will be the author's models and findings on the relationship between the general socio-economic and religious changes that have taken place in Zambia.

The author claims that religious innovations, with their new concepts of nature, God, time, the individual achievement, not only reflect the emergent industrial, bureaucratic mass society, but also are equipping more and more individuals with the new world-view and value system without which such a society can hardly be realised.

The Lumpa uprising, under the leadership of Alice Lenshina's separatist church which took place shortly after Zambia's independence is well documented and forms an interesting, albeit tragic example of the conflicts that can arise between the state and religious cults. The ruling party regarded the sect as a challenge to its authority and effectively quashed the uprising, but at a great cost of lives. The sect was banned and the leaders taken into custody.

The book priced at over \$40 is well referenced and an extensive bibliography will be useful to any student wishing to extend his knowledge of this subject.

R.C. SMITH

*Ideology and Development in Africa* by Crawford Young (Yale University Press, New Haven and London, 1982).

The author, Crawford Young, is professor of political science at the University of Wisconsin. His work was sponsored by the Council on Foreign Retalions Inc., a non-profit, non-partisan organisation that is not affiliated to the United States Government.

Professor Young sets out to examine the economic performance of a sample of African states that have been grouped under one of three general ideological categories: Afro-Marxist, populist socialist and market-economy capitalist. He then attempts to evaluate the achievements of these states against the six criteria of economic growth, equality of distribution, relative autonomy, preservation of human dignity, popular participation in the government and the capacity to respond to changing needs. In all 17 countries are examined in some detail and of these six had negative growth rates.

Some of the countries considered have been independent for more than two decades, others for half that period or less. This difference in time is further complicated by the fact that certain countries have changed their ideological direction. These factors complicate assessment of performance under the six criteria. Mozambique and Angola, for example, have been singled out as countries of special importance to the continent as these two states have the best potential resource base and ultimate prospect of success; but both "have been so incapacitated by civil war on the one hand and the Zimbabwe spillover on the other, that fair appraisal is really precluded". Zimbabwe's independence removed a critical obstacle and Mozambique in the 1980s, it is considered, will become a crucial testing ground.

While *Ideology and Development in Africa* is directed at the serious student of African politics and economics it is also of considerable interest to a much wider public. Although Zimbabwe is only referred to in passing, there is much to interest the reader here as events in countries such as Mozambique and Somalia, Ghana and Tanzania, Kenya and Nigeria are well documented and described. Professor Young's style is most readable.

R. W. S. TURNER

*In the following pages Heritage publishes short accounts of the history of a number of important Zimbabwe undertakings, which have played and continue to play a most important part in the life of the country. They include a statutory body, the Dairy Marketing Board, a representative organisation, the Commercial Farmers Union, and commercial firms like Duly and Co., Johnson and Fletcher and the TA group of companies.*

*The History Society of Zimbabwe is most grateful to these bodies for their sponsorship of the articles and for making a valuable contribution to recording the history of the country.*

## The Dairy Marketing Board 1952-1982

The Dairy Marketing Board was set up in Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) on 1 October 1952 with the main purpose of creating a system of orderly marketing of milk and dairy products. It was also empowered to provide for the reception of milk and dairy products delivered to it, the manufacture of dairy products and the administration of regulations to register all milk producers. The setting up of the Board was a consequence of the Dairy Marketing Scheme introduced in terms of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1951.

An effective authority to control the dairy industry in the country was badly needed and long overdue.

In 1948 a Select Committee of Parliament recommended the establishment of a central purchasing committee (Milk Marketing Committee) to buy milk delivered by producers to the existing dairies and to re-sell this to the dairies for processing and sale, thus eliminating the "closed shop" attitude of some co-operatives to producers who were not co-op members. This committee existed from 1949 till 1952 when the Dairy Marketing Board replaced it and assumed much larger responsibilities.

The Board had nine members consisting of representatives of consumers, whole milk producers, cream producers and commerce and industry together with three Government representatives, the Chief Dairy Officer, the Chief Agricultural Economist and a senior official of the Ministry of Health.

The Board's first chairman was Mr. S.W. Sandford, the consumers' representative: on 12 August 1953 he was also appointed managing director.

Milk processing and distribution in Salisbury (now Harare) was the first task to which the Board had to address itself. The Dairymen's Co-op, which had operated in the centre of the business area, had taken over land and buildings in Manica Road East to which it planned to move the dairy. But before the DMB came into existence the co-op gave notice of intention to go into liquidation. Thus within two months of its establishment, the Board found itself carrying out the functions of the former co-op from the new premises.

Operating the Salisbury dairy was the main activity of the Board during its first financial year but it also took over the business of the Gatooma (now Kadoma) Co-operative Society on 1 July 1953 and that of Rhodesia Co-operative Creameries (1936) Ltd on 1 September. The latter consisted of the Gwelo (Gweru) dairy, the Que Que (Kwekwe) dairy and a disused cheese factory in Fort Victoria (Masvingo).

During 1953 the cash (delivered) price of milk was 6d. a pint. Ice cream manufacture was concentrated at Salisbury and the butter factory of the Rhodesia Co-operative Creameries was taken over by the Board.

During the following year work was begun on the new dairies for Gwelo and Umtali (now Mutare), the Salisbury dairy was improved and was reported to be working satisfactorily. Sales of whole milk from the Salisbury dairy rose from 5 500 gallons a day when the Board took over to an average of 7 000 gallons a day by the latter part of 1954. There was a surplus of milk throughout the year and an effort was planned to increase whole milk sales, especially to the low income population who at that time bought little fresh milk.

In June 1955 consultants who had been commissioned to examine the Board's operations submitted their report which was approved by the Board. The recommendations dealt partly with accounting procedures and went on to propose that the dual posts of chairman and general manager and of Salisbury dairy manager and dairy consultant should be split.

Mr. Sandford resigned from the Board and as chairman and managing director in February 1965 and was succeeded as chairman by Mr. T.C. Pascoe, an experienced dairy farmer who was a foundation member of the Board. The new general manager, Mr. L.A. Fletcher, who was appointed on 1 April 1956, said recently: "Mr. Sandford was in 1952 Mayor of Salisbury and it was a good move on the part of Government to give a man who was a popular mayor and a go-getter the job of going round the country buying up junk heaps from various farmers' co-ops. They had done their best on a co-operative basis but the plant was useless, buildings out of date, everything was wrong.

"It was Mr. Sandford's job to buy all these and satisfy the farmers that he was giving them a square deal. He did an excellent job. I know because I took over from him."

Before his departure Mr. Sandford had the satisfaction of seeing the new dairies at Gwelo and Umtali completed and brought into operation in June and August 1955 respectively.

Mr. Fletcher came to his new post from Bulawayo where he had been managing the Rhodesia Co-op Milk Co. (1936) Ltd whose Model Dairy was described by the Minister of Agriculture at the time of the Board's establishment as the only efficient dairy in the country. When Mr. Fletcher joined the Board the Model Dairy itself was taken over, on 1 March 1956. At the same time the Board was authorised to buy the plant and equipment of the other dairy in Bulawayo, the Bulawayo Creamery. The distribution of milk for the whole of Bulawayo was made from then from the Model Dairy. The cost of these new acquisitions was £145 786 which brought the value of the Board's fixed assets to £847 337 as at 30 June 1956.

Production of whole milk continued to increase and during 1956 the Board received nearly 10 million gallons. An important development was the opening of the first depot a high density housing township to make milk more readily available. At the same time production of skim milk powder was begun.

During 1957 suitable land was obtained on which to build the much needed new dairy for Salisbury. The new dairy on the northern edge of the main industrial area was opened in June 1960 by Mr. J.R. Corry, retiring Secretary for Agriculture and a former Chief Dairy Officer who had been closely concerned with the establishment of the Board.

Bulawayo's first high density area depot was opened at Mpopoma in February 1960 and agreement was reached with the Salisbury City Council to replace the rented premises at Harare (now Mbare) with a major depot. By the middle of 1960 the Board had depots operating in most high-density areas in Salisbury, Bulawayo, Gwelo and Gatooma and was hoping to sell milk in all such areas before long.

In 1960 the Board decided to close the Que Que dairy because it was becoming expensive to run and needed alterations; in March 1961 it became a milk and sales depot only.

Milk prices had been increased since the Board's inception but not substantially. The cash retail price was 8d. a pint and the weighted average price per gallon paid to producers was 34,62d. in 1960-61, a reduction of nearly 5d. compared with five years earlier.

Whole milk sales were running at well over 7 million gallons a year; the newly opened Nestlé factory in Salisbury, making milk powder and baby food, was taking more than half a million gallons a year; and more than 1 100 tons of cheddar and gouda cheese a year were being made. Skim milk powder sales were more than 800 tons, production of sterilised milk exceeded 60 000 gallons and a big drive took sales of skim milk, particularly cultured lactic skim milk, to nearly a million gallons a year. Butter was still imported from South Africa and Kenya to meet the shortfall between manufacturer and demand.

Within a year of its completion in 1960 extensions had to be made to the Salisbury dairy and minor alterations and additions to all the others except Gatooma where it was decided to build a new dairy. This became operative in October 1962.

For 18 months, as a result of the acquisition by the Board of the Co-operative Creameries of Northern Rhodesia, the Board became responsible for dairy marketing in that country till the dissolution of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland at the end of 1963.

Mr. Pascoe's term of office as chairman ended on 17 May 1964 and he indicated that he did not wish to be reappointed thus ending 12 years on the Board, most of it as chairman. Mr. S.H. Webster, assistant general manager but about to leave the Board's service to enter commerce, described Mr. Pascoe as "absolutely first class". Mr. Webster, who had been with the Board for about ten years at this point, said that in that time "it grew from an object of a bit of a joke into an efficient organisation responsible for all the dairies in the country".

Mr. Kenneth Norvall, who succeeded Mr. Pascoe, remained as chairman of the Board when it was reconstituted under the Dairy Produce Marketing and Levy Regulations 1963 which had little effect on its methods of operation. A reference in the report for the year ended 30 June 1964 throws light on the progress of the industry. In the Board's first year of operation, from October 1952 to September 1953, it received 5,1 million gallons of milk and paid 3s. 3,7d. per gallon; in the 12 months to 30 June 1964 it received 16,4 million gallons and paid 2s. 8,8d. per gallon. Consumers paid 8d. a pint for milk (cash). The country was virtually self-supporting in milk, cheese and butter.

On 30 June 1965 Mr. Fletcher retired on reaching the age of 60. Mr. Webster says of his tenure of office: "Lionel Fletcher's reign was the make or break period — and it was a

'make'. If a success had not been made in his period of service, the formative period of the Board, the whole thing would have fallen apart."

Mr. Fletcher's successor was Mr. R.G. Jones who had been a member of the Board for many years as Chief Dairy Officer in the Ministry of Agriculture and who had been in close touch with the dairy industry since his arrival in the country in 1948.

At this time the Board operated five dairies — at Salisbury, Bulawayo, Gwelo, Gatooma and Umtali. All of them handled whole milk and all but Gwelo made cheese. Butter was made in Salisbury, Gwelo and Umtali; ice cream and frozen confections in Salisbury; sterilised milk in Bulawayo; and skim milk powder in Gwelo. Throughout the main centres there were depots to handle sales in the high-density areas and in the smaller towns, agents carried out milk distribution.

The chairman, Mr. Norvall, died on 16 October 1966, having been chairman for more than two years and a member of the Board since 1952. Mr. Harry Wulfsohn acted as chairman for the remainder of the 1966-67 year but found it necessary to resign soon afterwards for business reasons and Mr. E.W. Hornby was appointed chairman.

The establishment of the Agricultural Marketing Authority in 1967 resulted in the appointment on 1 December of a Dairy Marketing Board Committee of the Authority with powers similar to those of the previous Board. The former chairman of the Board, Mr. Hornby, became chairman of the new committee.

The next couple of years showed large increases in milk production and intensification of marketing effort. By 1969 turnover was nearly \$12 million and in 1973 payments to producers for milk and butterfat exceeded \$10 million for the first time and turnover had by now risen to more than \$16 million. A door-to-door delivery service was operated to an estimated 70 000 dwellings in low-density areas and 60 000 in high-density residential areas.

A major event in 1973 was the departure from the Board's service of Mr. Jones as general manager and chief executive. He was followed by Mr. Webster who had returned to the Board after some years in commerce. He was to hold the post for about three years when he again took a senior post in a large commercial concern. Mr. Hornby, who had been chairman, now took over as general manager.

Mr. Hornby was succeeded as chairman by Mr. A.B.G. Black. In August 1977 Mr. J.M. Smith became chairman and held the post till September 1981 when Mr. S.A. Millar took over.

In 1975-76 milk production began to decline and some restrictions had to be introduced on the sale of dairy products but turnover increased by five percent to more than \$18 million. Consumption of fresh milk in low income areas now accounted for about a quarter of consumption.

The 1977 annual report says that the year under review was probably one of the most difficult in the Board's history. Turnover rose to nearly \$24 million and sales increased but there was a deficit of over \$2 million largely due to Government-imposed restraint on price increases. The war was also having its effect on operations with a high turnover of staff and increased military call-ups creating problems. Armed robberies and thefts were also noted.

Mr. Hornby retired at the end of 1978 as general manager; during his term of office there was a very rapid expansion of the Board's distribution system. Mr. Hornby had been associated with the Board for more than 14 years, first as a Board member, then as chairman and finally as general manager for two and a half years. The new general

manager was Mr. L.G. Bacon who had been in the Board's service in a variety of senior posts since 1958.

During the 1979-80 year the war came to an end and, aided by a good season, milk production increased and sales rose to a new record level of more than \$36 million. The retail price of milk was increased to 16c for 600 ml, the size of the bottle adopted in November 1977 when metrication systems came into general use.

Mr. Bacon retired on 30 November 1980 after 22 years' service with the Board and was succeeded as general manager by Mr. E.G. Cross, an agricultural economist who had been a member of the Board for some years.

Since independence In April 1980 disposable incomes have been rising because of a resumption of economic growth in the country and wide-ranging income distribution measures adopted by the Government. The demand for dairy products has increased significantly and shortages of dairy products have become evident resulting in a degree of rationing and the suspension of exports. Zimbabwe could, however, supply its full domestic requirements and export a significant amount of dairy products.

It became apparent, therefore, that a development programme would have to be instituted for the dairy industry. The Board was asked to draw up an integrated plan which was submitted to Ministers in December 1980. The Board's proposals were accepted in principal and were included in the submissions to the Zimcord conference.

Zimcord donors showed a great interest in all four main elements of the plan and pledges of more than \$33,6 million were made for four major projects. These are:

- Bulk milk collection for which Norway has promised a \$3,7 million grant for milk tanks and Holland a \$2,5 million loan for road tankers;

- Long-life milk plants for which Dutch Government loan and counterpart funds total \$5,8 million;

- Milk collection in the peasant sector planned to be financed by counterpart funds of \$6 million;

- Milk production schemes set up by the Agricultural and Rural Development Authority to be financed by counterpart funds of \$11,8 million and a commodity credit of \$3,8 million.

In spite of an increase in milk production in 1982 a shortfall is expected in the next few years. This gap will be largely if not entirely bridged by the supply as food aid of skim milk powder and anhydrous milk fat by the European Economic Community. The agreement covers the supply of 16 000 tonnes of skim milk powder and 2 750 tonnes of milk fat over four years. The counterpart funds generated by these supplies, as also those from the leasing of the milk tanks provided by Norwegian grants, will be used to finance parts of the development plan for the industry.

The first of the two proposed long-life milk plants is being built at Chipinge where there is a well established dairy industry. The factory is expected to be in production before the end of 1983 with a capacity of one million litres of the product a month with the possibility of doubling that amount by the addition of equipment later.

Investigations are in hand aimed at the eventual establishment of a milk collection system to enable peasant dairy farmers to participate in the industry.

There are also proposals for creating four milk production schemes under the auspices of the Agricultural and Rural Development Authority.



The Dairy Marketing Board today has a staff of 3 400, an estimated turnover of \$86 million in 1982-83 and a capital budget of \$17 million. The milk intake is rising at the rate of 12 percent a year.

In order to assess its prospects more clearly the Board has proposed that the Irish Government should send a team of specialists to study the dairy industry of Zimbabwe and prepare a critical review of the development programme. Fulfilment of this programme will ensure that the Board continues to play a dynamic role in the future of Zimbabwe.

# Commercial Farmers' Union

by C.W. Ball

Director Commercial Farmers' Union

The Commercial Farmers' Union, previously the Rhodesia National Farmers' Union, was established in 1942 by the unification of various separate representative agricultural organisations.

The Union's principal purpose which is the representation of the commercial farmers' interests as well as the development of a healthy and viable agricultural industry, have remained unchanged up to the present time. In the process, as a national representative body, it has been ever mindful of its broader responsibility to and concern for the wellbeing of the country as a whole and the general national interest.

Its operation and affairs are influenced very substantially by the Farmers' Licensing and Levy Act which enables, with the approval of the Minister, a licence fee to be charged and a levy to be raised on the produce of its members. Its constitution has been substantially changed in recent times and is now non-racial in concept.

The Union is composed of some 80 Farmers' Associations each of which serves a particular local community interest, it has eight branches, based upon the main centres in the country as well as seven major producer organisations. These latter organisations extend over the cattle, grain, cotton, dairy, oilseeds, poultry and horticultural spectrum of the agricultural industry. Many smaller agricultural producing organisations are also affiliated to the Union.

Each of these commodity associations is a fully autonomous organisation, entirely self-financing, holding a special responsibility for its own particular agricultural interests.

The whole organisation, which is headed by a president and a vice-president is governed by a council comprising representatives of each of the major commodity associations and each branch area.

The Zimbabwe Tobacco Association is also represented on the Council and, though the ZTA is an entirely separate organisation, the two bodies maintain close and consultative links.

The Union as a whole comprises some 5 000 commercial farmer members and is serviced by a large and highly complex staff organisation departmentally structured and versed in all aspects of the agricultural industry.

Thus, the Union as a whole has a system of both commodity and geographical representation, built up from grassroots level, based essentially upon the all important farmers' associations, to which most members of the Union belong.

The Union's undertaking is financed by the fees derived from the issue of farmers' licences, supplemented by income from its constituent commodity association elements. In turn, the Union acts as the levying authority for its producer associations, the members of which voluntarily levy themselves on the produce which they produce and market.

The Union, basically, functions as the channel of communication between the country's commercial farmers, Government and those organisations and bodies which are connected with or who serve the agricultural industry. These are, in the main, statutory marketing boards, research stations, Government ministries, departments and agencies,

as well as the suppliers of the industry's input needs in commerce and industry. In more recent time the Union has started to "internationalise" its relationships again, and is a founder member of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers.

Of major concern to the C.F.U. and hence the area of its greatest involvement on behalf of its members has been the economic viability of the agricultural industry, the assurance of its input needs, labour, land and related issues, which subjects are a matter of almost continuous ongoing dialogue.

The Union and producer associations annually negotiate with the Agricultural Marketing Authority and Government the final prices paid to agricultural producers in respect of controlled crops. These prices are an essential aspect of farmer confidence and the aim is to see that they are pitched at acceptable levels so as to ensure adequate production of the country's food and raw material needs.

Many other areas of involvement on behalf of its members requires virtually continuous contact and discussion over a wide range of subjects and they include all aspects of legislation which affects farmers, security, land policies and practices, water, mining, environmental control, research, compensation, transport, stock and crop theft, provision of finance, natural resource protection, agricultural education and training, taxation, drought relief and assistance and so on — indeed the list is endless and includes also such items as health and education. All the Union's members are affected individually at one time or another by these matters and they often require the Union to intercede on their collective and sometimes individual behalf.

The future prosperity and wellbeing of Zimbabwe will depend heavily upon a sound and developing agricultural industry. It is the Union's policy, aim and purpose to work closely with Government and all related agencies toward the achievement of this goal, in which the Union believes it has an important role to play.

The C.F.U. is currently negotiating with Government and other farmers' unions to form one single minded representative entity.

# Duly & Co. Limited

## **The Founder**

Charles Duly was born in 1870 in Islington, London. From an early age he was attracted to mechanical things and at the age of 14 he found employment with the London and South Western Railway Company, completing his apprenticeship with a Southampton engineering firm in 1890.

His spirit of adventure was stirred by reports of good prospects for young men of his profession in South Africa. He obtained a post with the Cape Government Railway where he stayed for two years.

Reports of the development of the Witwatersrand goldfields drew him to Johannesburg where his skills were quickly exercised in machinery repairs for the mines.

During his time in South Africa his hobby was cycling and he made his mark at the Wanderers and other cycle tracks near Johannesburg.

Then stories began to reach him of the new land of Rhodesia — a young country ready for development and in need of young men with skills and pioneering instincts.

In 1894 he cycled from Johannesburg to Bulawayo in the remarkable time of ten days — a record that was not to be broken for many years. Even today, on tarred roads and over a shorter route, a cyclist would have to average 80 kilometres a day to equal this feat. (His interest in cycle racing continued for many years and he donated a cycle track, in Bulawayo, which still bears his name.)

Shortly after arriving in Bulawayo he used his mechanical experience to establish a sawmill and grain mill but made little financial progress in the face of existing competition. He saw the need for an inexpensive means of transport and opened a cycle shop in Abercorn Street in 1895. The venture prospered and a branch was opened in Gwelo (now Gweru) in 1897.

During the Boer War he enlisted as an officer and was instrumental in founding the Rhodesian Volunteer Cyclists' Corps in which he distinguished himself in the dangerous duties of despatch rider.

## **The Motor Age**

To Charles Duly goes the distinction of having imported, in 1902, the first motor car into this country — a 6½ horsepower French Gladiator. He became the first motorist in this country and his wife, Edith, soon afterwards became the first woman driver.

During the next four years he also sold Humber and De Dion cars, Rex, Werner and Indian motorcycles and Swift and Raleigh cycles.

His association with Ford had its beginnings when his friend, Francois Issels, imported an early model in 1905. Duly was well qualified to appreciate the mechanical qualities and pre-eminence of this vehicle and in 1911 he secured the Ford agency for specified areas of Central Africa. With some trepidation, shortly to be proved unjustified, he undertook to sell 60 new Ford cars a year.

In 1912 the company was formed with its present name, taking over the branches previously established in Bulawayo, Gwelo, Gatooma (Kadoma) and Salisbury (Harare).

During the First World War, Major Duly joined the Rhodesian Forces and was in charge of the motorised column that drove to, and saw service in, Northern Rhodesia and Tanganyika.

After the war business continued to expand and, in 1919, the company imported the first tractor — a Fordson — into the country, thus laying the foundation of the company's contribution to the agricultural industry which continues today.

In those days it was the Model T or "Tin Lizzie" that was mainly to be seen on our roads. It established the reputation of both Henry Ford and this company and is still the car that comes to the minds of most vehicle enthusiasts when the origins of modern, reliable motoring are discussed.

The years between the First and Second World Wars were marked by steady progress and the strengthening of the company's comprehensive service to the farmer and the motoring public. The commercial and industrial sectors were well served by Albion heavy commercial vehicles for which the company held the agency for 30 years until Albion merged with Leyland and appointed their own dealers.

The equally famous Model A replaced the T and the steady immigration from Europe and elsewhere seemed to promise an increasing demand for the company's products and services.

The depression years of the 1930s made their mark but their effects were offset to a large extent by the opening of the Copperbelt. In 1935 the Ford Popular and the revolutionary V8 started to widen the range of vehicles available to the public.

The years of the Second World War brought the problems of reduced supplies and staff shortages. Charles Duly's son, W. Cecil Duly, was in the armed forces overseas and the full weight of administering the company fell to the founder, now a septuagenarian.

In 1945, when Charles Duly was 75, he handed the reins of the business to his son but continued to take an active interest in the company until 1948 when an accident, while he was officiating on his cycle track, led to his tragic death in 1949.

To service the increasing number of Ford vehicles in the country, the central parts depot was opened in 1932 in Salisbury. As many as 50 000 individual items have been held at any one time to ensure rapid replacements and repairs for every model sold by the company.

A further important incident was the decision by the Ford Motor Company of Canada to build a full-scale assembly plant in Salisbury, in 1961, to serve the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland — a recognition of the economic advantages of a local source of supply to meet the sales performance of the company in the Rhodesias and other agents in Nyasaland (Malawi).

In 1961, shortly before the dissolution of the Federation — and as the company celebrated 50 years with Ford — the company operated from 11 premises in Southern Rhodesia and 7 in Northern Rhodesia.

The imposing of international sanctions on Rhodesia in 1965 brought to an end the supply of Ford vehicles and tractors. The Government controlled the distribution of vehicles and unfamiliar makes began to appear in the company's showrooms, though not in such large numbers as previously, and customers had to adapt to the new models.

The reduced supply of new vehicles gave an inflated value to used vehicles and they had to be given a longer life. Now the company's experience and expertise in its parts and service operations took on added importance. The parts department had to obtain and maintain stocks of parts for vehicles which, in prior years, would have been discarded as obsolete, as well as parts lines for the new models. The service department had to draw on its ingenuity to keep ageing vehicles running safely as well as adapting to the new models.

In 1969 political considerations forced upon the company the decision to dispose of its branches in Zambia. The problems of administering them from Rhodesia had become insurmountable in view of the strained relations between the two countries. The eight Zambian branches were sold and the company now operated from 13 premises in Rhodesia.

But the company maintained its determination to expand and in 1975 it opened its new branch premises in Salisbury. This complex — one of the largest and most modern garages in Southern Africa — was designed to combine functional efficiency with attractiveness.

The new head office building was opened in Bulawayo in 1978.

After the birth of Zimbabwe in 1980 and the subsequent removal of sanctions, certain Ford products again began to appear in the company's showrooms.

In 1982, as the company enters its 71st year in the motor trade in this country, it employs more than 1 100 persons and operates from 21 premises, of which 18 are owned outright, throughout Zimbabwe.

A proud record of continuing progress of a company which had its origins in its founder's small cycle shop in Bulawayo 87 years ago.

# J and F: 85 Years' Service

Was it chance or design that brought two young engineers together in the same "digs" in the hurly-burly that was Johannesburg of the 1890s? Certainly had they not formed a strong friendship in this way, Zimbabwe would not have had, threading through its commercial history for 85 years, what is now the firm of Johnson and Fletcher Limited.

The men were George Johnson and Harold Clarkson Fletcher.

Their meeting in South Africa resulted in the establishment of a commercial and family relationship, destined to survive in neighbouring Zimbabwe for now what is almost a century.

Born in Terrington St. Clements, near King's Lynn in the United Kingdom, George Johnson came to Africa in the 1880s. Doctors had recommended that he leave the cold damp of Britain for the dry, bracing highveld of Southern Africa.

Harold Fletcher was born at Erdington, near Birmingham, in 1869 and came to South Africa in 1892 to join Consolidated Investments as a draughtsman.

George Johnson left Johannesburg in July 1897 to start their business in Matabeleland as sole agents for Reunert and Lenz.

The first invoice on record for Johnson and Fletcher Limited written on 28 September, 1897, was for £3 3s. to Willoughby's Consolidated Limited. "To advising re electrical plant for the Queen's and other mines."

It was a breakthrough! The following day, the Charter Hotel in Bulawayo agreed to have three electrical lights fitted in the bar. The contract was for £12.

An office was taken for J and F in Williams building, at the corner of Fort Street and Selborne Avenue. Renamed Ellerslie House, it was not demolished until 1970.

In their early press advertising in the Bulawayo Chronicle, Johnson and Fletcher described themselves as mechanical and electrical engineers and offered to prepare estimates, specifications and drawings for all classes of mining, electrical and general machinery.

There is still in existence a statement of assets and liabilities of the J and F partnership as at June 30, 1898 — showing the position of the first year's business.

The profit and loss account showed sales and fees of £917 19s. 6d., with expenses including £525 in salaries, £161 13s. 11d. in office expenses, £54 10s. in office rent, £25 10s. for entertainment and £3 4s. for bank charges.

It was a profitable year with £148 1s. 7d. net on the right side. The question of tax did not then arise.

An old ledger shows that the few years following 1898 saw a considerable increase in business, perhaps reflected in that in the second half of 1900 expenses on entertainment had risen to £166 8s. 3d., a sixfold increase on the first year's operation.

Interest in the business possibilities of Salisbury, as it was then known, were also reflected in the ledger, with coach fares on record for both George Johnson and Harold Fletcher. Harold Fletcher went from Bulawayo, in January 1902, to Harare (then Salisbury) and Mutare (then Umtali) at a cost of £52 17s. 6d. on the Zeederberg coach.

The partners, ever wise of development opportunities, recognised in the first decade of the century, that Zimbabwe was not destined to have an economy based on gold. People were coming into the country and the need for building timber was growing. This first major

diversification into timber, from the original concept of electrical and mechanical repairs was an important milestone and was the first of others to follow as the years went by.

In 1902 a branch was opened in Harare, on a stand bordered by what are today Stanley and Speke Avenues and Angwa Street and Inez Terrace. Central as the site is today, it was very much on the outskirts of the business area, which was only just beginning to spread from the original Kopje area along Manica Road.

The effect of diversification into timber was the need for better clearing and storing facilities at the nearest port of entry — Beira. A branch was opened there in 1912.

On June 13, 1921, the 24-year-old partnership was incorporated and became Johnson and Fletcher Limited. George Johnson was appointed chairman — a position he held for the next 26 years.

Ownership was spreading rapidly and before the first annual general meeting was held in November 1922, 76 085 £1 shares had been issued.

The early thirties presented a depressing financial picture for the company. In 1932-33 there was a loss of £1 470 — the first loss since the early days of the company, although the reserves now stood at £45 000.

But this was the bottom of the pit. From then on the company climbed into a profit position which it was to maintain for many years.

During the thirties J and F contributed significantly to the development of the country. In the electrical field they supplied £27 000 worth of equipment for the new thermal power station at Umniati, a 7 500 kW generator plant for the Bulawayo Municipality power station boilers and turbo alternators for the Harare municipal power station as well as a new suction gas power plant for the Globe and Phoenix gold mine.

By 1940 J and F men had become involved in the Second World War. Sixty-two of them saw service during the six-year struggle — and ten did not return. Those who served and those who died are commemorated on a plaque in the foyer of the J and F head office in Harare. The company entered the war years with a reserve fund of £100 000.

One wartime diversification was the establishment of a foundry in Kadoma (then Gatooma), but it was a problem child at a time when the war was still raging and craftsmen were barely available.

One of the biggest undertakings for J and F during the war years was the supply and installation of large boilers for the Electricity Supply Commission at Umniati, at a cost of some £224 000. Boilers were also installed at the Gwanda power station.

Another wartime development was the erection of a timber seasoning kiln in the

Another wartime development was the erection of a timber seasoning kiln in Khami Road, Bulawayo, for drying out local timber that now had to be used for much joinery work.

As timber merchants of such long standing, J and F have been remarkably free of fires or similar catastrophes.

In the post-war new thinking, attention was diverted from the wartime problems to the development of new premises and buildings and greater social security for the staff.

Since the Second World War, Johnson and Fletcher has blossomed into one of Zimbabwe's leading companies.

Few people would have realised when the Bulawayo branch opened in 1897 that the company would spread to Harare (1906), Kadoma (1921), Mutare (1946), Gweru



(1951), Thermal Engineering Division (1959), J and F Air-conditioning Limited (1960) and Zvishavane (1961) as well as outside the country branches such as Beira (1912), Ndola (1929) and Lusaka (1964).

The external branches are no longer part of Johnson and Fletcher due to the various political changes that have affected this part of Africa.

# T A Group of Companies

The group has its origins in Zimbabwe's all-important tobacco industry. In 1935, when the principle of selling tobacco by auction was first accepted by the then Rhodesia Tobacco Association (RTA), the late Mr. Fred Cooksey, O.B.E., took steps to incorporate the company that launched the country's first auction floor, Tobacco Auctions Limited (TA).

Mr. Fred Cooksey was the founder-chairman and, with the late Mr. A. C. (Archie) Henderson, the initial financier of Tobacco Auctions Limited; Mr. Henderson was its first managing director, while Mr. G.T. "Black" Parham — who, together with his two brothers, had come to the country for the British American Tobacco Company (B.A.T.) some six years earlier to advise on tobacco production and grading methods — was the company's first floor manager and tobacco leaf specialist.

Fred Cooksey was one of Zimbabwe's greatest farmers and most successful businessmen. He served in South Africa with the Imperial Yeomanry in the 1899-1901 war, and after his discharge from the army joined his uncle, Anthony Partridge, in 1903 in a cattle trading business in Zimbabwe.

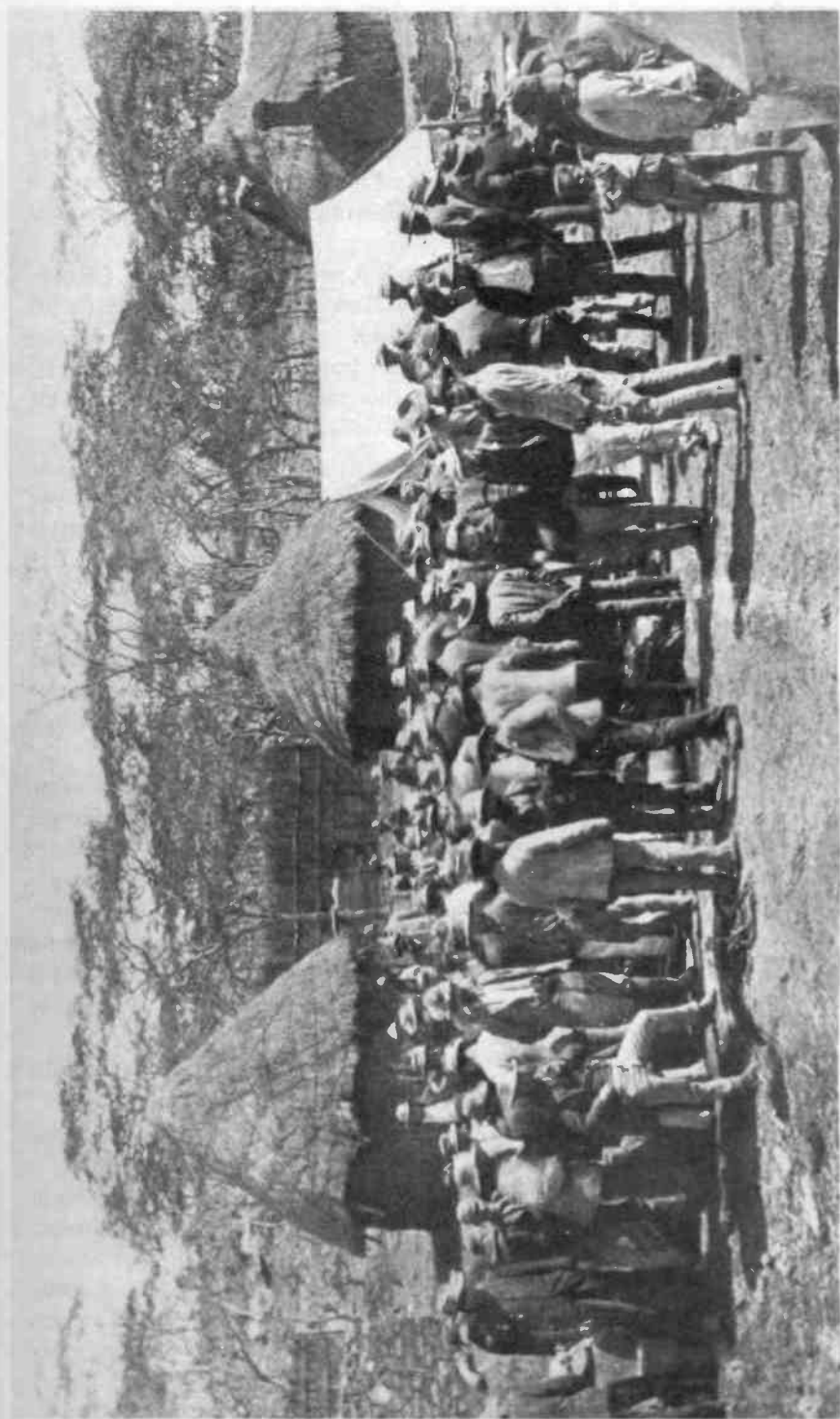
When the Great War broke out in 1914, Fred Cooksey and one, Arthur Harris, enlisted in the 1st Rhodesian Regiment. The two faced danger and hardship together during the South-West Africa campaign and became life-long friends. Harris, who later became Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Harris, Commander-in-Chief of Bomber Command during World War II, recalls: "Fred Cooksey was not only a born leader who engendered complete confidence amongst his unit, he was also a great fighter".

Great physical strength, a clear mind, boundless energy and determination, meticulous attention to detail, coupled with the ability to manage, were the reasons for his success. In 1924 a bale of his tobacco was adjudged the best in Zimbabwe and exhibited in London at the Wembley Exhibition. He became the largest individual tobacco grower in the world and was one of the original architects of the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association.

Fred Cooksey made a lasting impression on everyone he met, but for all his remarkable achievements he was always a modest man. He died "in harness" in 1964 at the age of 82 and lies in Chinhoyi's (Sinoia) Pioneer Cemetery which overlooks the land he believed to be the finest in the world.

The first auction sales in 1936 were in fact "started" by "Black" Parham, while the voices of A.E. Mackie and Bill Horsfield provided the first local tobacco "chant".

It would be difficult to look back on the tobacco industry of this country without the name, Parham, immediately coming to mind. The three brothers — nicknamed "White", "Red" and "Black" (after the colours of their hair) — were born on a tobacco farm in Oxford, North Carolina. From infancy they were completely involved in the tobacco industry and, indeed, they played a vital part in the development of the Zimbabwean industry between the wars. "White" stayed on in Africa and grew tobacco both in this country and in Zambia, eventually retiring in South Africa. "Red", after his assignment here in the 'twenties and early 'thirties, returned to B.A.T. overseas, and for many years was an executive vice-president of the Imperial Tobacco Company of Canada. "Black" remained with T.A. for the rest of his life and in the process served the company as



The first auction sale in this country: the disposal of Lord Randolph Churchill's surplus stores by auction at Fort Salsbury in 1891.  
*Photo — National Archives*

managing director and later as chairman. At the time of his death in 1974 he was deputy chairman of the group company, T.A. Holdings Limited.

The story would not be complete without a tribute to Archie Henderson. Born in Scotland, he came to Zimbabwe at an early age with his parents, two brothers and a sister. He bought the "Great B Estate" at Mazowe (Mazoe) in 1914 and when war broke out later that year he was one of the first Zimbabweans to make the journey from Harare (Salisbury) to Cape Town by car (a feat in itself), whence he worked his passage overseas to enlist.

After the war he returned to his farm and became a successful maize and tobacco grower. In 1921 he became the first grower to receive the silver trophy donated by B. A. T. to encourage quality leaf tobacco cultivation.

In 1935 he teamed up with Fred Cooksey and "Black" Parham to launch Tobacco Auctions Limited, and remained managing director until his death in 1947. He left "Gret B" to the nation for agricultural research; it is known today as the Henderson Research Station.

The years immediately following the 1939-45 war saw the most spectacular growth of the tobacco industry, growth which resulted in Harare becoming the largest single tobacco market in the world. Less than 30 years from the opening of Tobacco Auctions, the floor achieved a world record — the handling of over one hundred million pounds weight of tobacco in one season.

In 1964, a crop weight of over 300 000 000 lbs. took seven months to sell. In 1936, it would have taken less than two weeks to dispose of the whole of the national crop at the present-day rate of selling.

It is interesting to note that the export value of the unmanufactured tobacco accounts for over 30 percent of the country's total revenue received from exports.

Since the early days the T.A. Group has expanded greatly, the major expansion occurring over the last dozen years. Between 1971 and 1982 capital employed has increased from \$6 000 000 to \$80 000 000, the number of employees from approximately 1 500 to 6 000, and the number of shareholders from 863 to 6 300.

Tobacco Auctions Limited, later to become T.A. Holdings Limited, became a publicly-listed company in 1964, and its stated corporate policy is as follows:

**"Customers**

To provide for the needs of the many thousands of customers of the group's products and services and to ensure that high standards of quality, value and courtesy are maintained;

**Shareholders**

To safeguard the capital of the company and maintain an acceptable return on investment for our shareholders and future investors;

**Employees**

To provide first-rate conditions of service, training facilities, and scope for individual advancement to all our employees and generally to protect and develop their interests to the best of our ability;

**Creditors**

To sustain a strong, vigorous, successful group of companies in order to meet the

requirements of our creditors, particularly those institutions which provide us with finance;

### **Community**

To conduct our business affairs with probity, and to act in a responsible manner within the community.”

The hub of the group operations is at Cooksey House, Main Beatrice Road, Harare. Senior executive staff of T.A. Holdings Limited, the parent company of the T.A. Group, are based here, as is T.A. Management Services (Private) Limited, the group's services company which offers a broad range of management services to operating companies.

The group's operations cover a wide spectrum of activities, the principal ones being: Supplies and services to agriculture and tobacco trading; road transport, clearing and forwarding; retail; property; motor; chemical; hotels; insurance; manufacturing and electrical wholesaling; milling, refining and packaging.

T.A. is proud of the fact that from relatively small beginnings it is now one of the biggest locally-controlled public companies in Zimbabwe, and it will soon complete its first half-century of service to the Zimbabwe community.



An historic moment in 1938 when the ten millionth pound of tobacco to be sold in a season was disposed of on the TA floor.