

ABERCORNUCOPIA

A VILLAGE REVIEW

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G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER

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ABERCORNUCOPIA
AND
THE LAKE PRESS LIMITED
EXTEND TO ALL READERS AND
CUSTOMERS
EVERY GOOD WISH FOR A
HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

HOME CRAFT CLUB

Five clubs for women began helping local housewives with homecraft and child-care problems on November 17.

Each has a membership of about 30 so that the benefits of this assistance should soon be evident in no fewer than 150 Abercorn homes.

"Kwacha", "Independence" and "Luchche" clubs are operating at various points in the extensive Mbulu Suburb; there is a special "Police Women's Club" at the Police housing area and the "Buniji" club serves the Low Density Housing Area and the Hospital staff.

The clubs have been organised by Mr. Dismus Kalingeme, Community Development Officer and, in addition to being centres for discussion and social gatherings of the members, will provide courses in sewing, cooking, homecraft, child welfare and similar subjects at rates varying between 10/- and £1 for the three months' course.

Each club has elected leaders, 20 of whom are now taking part in training courses at the Homecraft Training Centre under the guidance of Sister Patricia.

YENDWE VALLEY PLANS

MINISTER "DISAPPOINTED" WITH LAKESHORE RESPONSE

Mr. Solomon Kalulu, Minister of Land and Natural Resources, paid a visit to Abercorn last week.

In his address to a meeting in the Mbulu Suburb on December 3, Mr. Kalulu spoke of the Government's plans to encourage the establishment of a large fish canning industry at Mpulungu.

This would produce various cooked fish products in which large quantities of vegetables such as tomatoes and onions would also be used, and the plan includes the opening up of the Yendwe Valley to agriculture for the production of the vegetables required.

This is the plan first referred to in our March issue when Mr. J.S. Sinyangwe, on his departure to take his seat in the new Legislative Assembly, stated that Mpulungu was certainly going to be an important industrial area and that he was especially interested in plans for the Yendwe Valley.

WATER SCHEME PROGRESS

Marlan and Co., who tendered successfully for works in connection with the major improvements to the water supply system decided on by the Management Board, have completed the excavation for the new pipe line.

An engineer from Messrs. Stewart and Lloyd, contractors for the new high level tank has arrived to superintend installation of the plant.

C. B. C. SHOPS

Abercorn's New M. P.

The new Member of Parliament for the Abercorn Constituency is Mr. Ranken Sikasula who was the only candidate nominated for the by-election arising from the appointment of Mr. J.S. Sinyangwe to the Zambia embassy at Moscow.

Mr. Sikasula has been a private secretary in Dr. Kaunda's office and has served as a chairman in the Zambia Youth Service.

COUNCIL OFFICES SITE

The Rural District Council has changed its original plan of building its offices on Marshall Avenue opposite the Abercorn Arms and has now applied for the site with a frontage to Swan Avenue in the same block as the new Standard Bank building.

The administrative offices sit at the Boma building, the Rural District offices and the Management Board offices will thus be almost adjacent to each other and form a compact block.

RAINFALL FIGURES

Station	(1963)		(1964)		
	Oct.	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	Total
I.R.L.C.S.	0.22	10.92	0.27	5.11	5.38
Post Office	nil	12.64	0.38	5.40	5.78
Isanya	0.09	7.34	0.17	5.00	5.17
Airport	0.32	11.12	0.19	4.12	4.31
Mr. Morony	—	—	0.34	5.09	5.43

SPACE AND STRAWBERRY JAM

When Mr. Edward Mukuka Nkoloso was living at Abercorn some years ago he was generally known as "Dr. Nkoloso" and was then the only man to wear a draped cloth or skin or some other conspicuous mark of attachment to the nationalist cause. His compatriots seemed to regard him with some amusement. They knew that he had no right to the title "Doctor" either in medicine or in any other branch of learning; nor was he regarded as a "doctor" in the African sense. He was a "character"; someone to be regarded as harmlessly and amusingly eccentric.

With the growth and increasing influence of the nationalists, "Dr. Nkoloso" succeeded in attaching himself rather closely to Dr. Kaunda as a sort of Master of Ceremonies. His dress and manner became more and more eccentric and for some time he was a prominent figure in almost every photograph taken of Dr. Kaunda at public gatherings of all descriptions.

This seemed a curious situation; for while Dr. Kaunda became increasingly careful to present himself as a serious, balanced and, indeed, formidable statesman, quite at home with world figures at ministerial and even "head of state" level, his henchman in the background presented a picture of the old-style "African personality" draped in curious oddments of decorative clothing, carrying strangely carved sticks and generally behaving more like the African beloved of the tourist rather than as the citizen of the 'sixties with his brief case and his air of Western sophistication. To me, "Dr." Nkoloso often looked very like the Court Jester of mediaeval days in Europe — ready with a quip or antic to bring a smile to the worried countenance of his royal patron. But I was wrong. "Dr." Nkoloso became a "space expert". One would have thought that however gullible people might be in matters of politics, or even religion, it would be impossible to make anybody believe that a man could be launched into space in the fashion he proposed — or at all — anywhere in Africa. Even the South Africans

would not for a moment consider making such a launch, although they doubtless have men and technical facilities competent to make a serious attempt if they cared to spend five years and £500,000,000 in doing so.

Yet "Dr." Nkoloso's space project appeared to flourish unchecked. Unfortunate youths were rolled down hills in drums, whirled around on ropes, thrown off ant-heaps and generally subjected to what was supposed to be a toughening process.

One does not know how the "doctor" himself regards the accounts of his activities which frequently appear in the press. Does he view them with simple pride? Does he think he has got on to a useful publicity stunt aimed at keeping his name before the public? Certainly he is always ready to issue and elaborate such stories and to allow photography of his "apparatus" and personnel. Yet it hardly seems credible that he should himself believe in it all.

What does the press think about it? Usually they simply print the facts given them and let the story speak for itself. Do they perhaps think that among the endless curious, illogical and humorous aspects of life in Central Africa here at last was something which could be freely used for its value as "light relief" without causing offence to anybody?

After all, the licensing of a Minister of Religion named "Strawberry Jam" to "solemnize" marriages (which was the subject of General Notice No. 2461 of 1964 published in the Northern Rhodesia Gazette of October 23, — its last issue) is quite unsuitable for "light relief". The gentleman is a Minister and has acquired, presumably by baptism, a name which, though unusual, has very pleasant, if somewhat inappropriate, associations. Some of this year's young couples are going to be able to say in later years "We were married in 1964 by the Rev. Strawberry Jam" — a pleasing thought. It is all quite solemn and sensible. Besides, one should never, of course, make fun of peoples' names — not even the famous "Three Left Feet" of

British politics — now reduced to two by Sir Hugh Foot allowing himself to be "madly squeezed into the right-hand shoe" of a life peerage — to borrow Lewis Carroll's thought of 100 years ago.

But the idea of a schoolboy being launched into space in an oil drum or rolled about in the drum in preparation for his adventure, is in a different category. It can be nothing more than one great "belly-laughable" joke. It is impossible to say, as in the case of someone with an unfortunate name, that it's not his fault; it is impossible to defend the idea as an aspect of the great contribution the "African personality" is making to Western culture, as is claimed for some of the chanting and drumming or rather perfunctory art of which so much is heard nowadays. No one can be offended at amusement derived from such an obvious absurdity as an oil-drum space vehicle.

It is felt now, however, even by the strongest press supporters of African nationalism, that this particular joke has gone far enough. It has reached the world press, particularly the American press, which shows signs of exploiting the story on the grand scale. If "Dr." Nkoloso were thought to have any official standing this could easily have an adverse effect on the attitude of the American people to Zambia and on the efforts of their government (faced in any case by considerable opposition to its aid programmes) to assist developing countries. People do not care to lend money or give massive help in quarters where mountebanks are taken seriously.

The world—which in some places can be very silly—must not be allowed to think that "Dr." Nkoloso has the least official recognition in his "space" activities or even any official connection to the Government or the President's entourage. If, by accepting the publicity and continuing so long with a "National academy of science, space research and philosophy" in a mud hut as a base for "space" experiments with an oil drum, he has made himself

unacceptable as a serious participant in the progress of his people and his country, he has only himself to blame. He should be encouraged to retire quietly into private life, kept far enough away from the President to ensure that he does not appear with him in official or news photographs and any arrangements made for his future should not include Government or party employment.

Apart from the harm that such an association can bring to Zambia, nothing is more boring than a long dead joke; and, if he should continue it and some wretched youth were thrown some few feet into the air by some childishly contrived explosion, the "scientist" might find himself liable to very severe penalties if any harm should befall the 'space-man'.

CORNELIUS

Transit traffic to end

Travellers and lorries in transit between Sumbawanga and Mbeya will soon be able to take a direct route through Tanzania and will thus no longer be making use of the Abercorn/Tunduma road.

Intensive work is proceeding on an all-weather, properly bridged road connecting the two centres which will be 215 miles long and will save some 80 miles as compared with the present route.

Sumbawanga has now been placed in the Southern Province of Tanzania and Mbeya thus becomes its administrative centre.

As soon as the road is complete a telephone land-line will also be established between the two centres.

Transport connected with fish trading between Mpulungu and Tanzania will, of course, continue, but the cessation of purely transit traffic will relieve Abercorn and border posts of a certain amount of routine cus-

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Hello America!

A telephone call half-way round the world — from California to Abercorn — came through to The Grasshopper Inn on November 23 for Mr. Bob Boughton, the American helicopter pilot who is at present instructing Robin Crosse-Upcott and Wally Puntis in the control and operation of the I.R.L.C.S. machine.

The caller was Mrs. Boughton who was speaking at 4 a.m. the same morning. At Abercorn it was about 2 p.m.

It had taken Mrs. Boughton two days to arrange this complex call through the American and British systems, but when it came through it was perfectly clear and the transmission was at such good volume that Mr. Boughton was able to converse hardly above a normal tone of voice.

The value of such calls — apart of course from the pleasure of personal communication in such circumstances — was illustrated by the fact that Mr. Boughton was able to take the opportunity of asking his wife to instruct his headquarters "as soon as the office opens" the same morning to airfreight a small spare to Abercorn.

So far as is known this is the first call from the United States to Abercorn.

It must have been of interest to Mr. H.B. Kalanga, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Information and Postal Services, who was paying a visit to Abercorn that day and spent some time inspecting the Post Office and telephone exchange.

TALKS ON IMPROVED LAKE ROUTE

Important transport discussions at Abercorn during the third week of November provided firm evidence that the Tanzania authorities are taking a practical immediate interest in the whole question of the eastern transport route to and from Zambia. It will be recalled that the East African Common Services Organisation recently declared itself in favour of the eastern rail link.

In the first place very large quantities of building materials, either not available in Zambia or more cheaply imported by the eastern route than brought many hundreds of miles by road from supply sources in the south of the country, are likely to be routed through Mpulungu. Such items as the timber, cement or steel required for substantial educational and hospital building programmes in the Northern province are much more cheaply landed at Zambia's only port than if transported over nearly 1,000 miles of road, some sections of which are very difficult for heavy transport during the rains.

Within Zambia's own responsibilities there is the question of the Mpulungu road which, as we reported two months ago, is to be brought to Class I width, grades and surface. Also mainly Zambia's concern are the port facilities at Mpulungu.

Tanzania will require to play her part in the plan for immediate import of these building supplies by providing facilities on the Dar es Salaam — Kigoma line, ensuring continuing and improved port services at Kigoma and improving the marine link down the lake.

These plans were discussed in Abercorn by transport representatives from the two countries who included Mr. Rogers, Chief Engineer of East African Railways and Harbours; Mr. D. Mellanby, Operations Manager; Mr. Thompson, Permanent Secretary to Zambia Ministry of Transport; Mr. Stott, Director of Roads; and Mr. Jones, Provincial Road Engineer.

The plans discussed include large-scale improvements to the port facilities at Mpulungu and firm assurances that the port of

Kigoma, where much work has already been done, will be maintained in operation whatever level the Lake may reach.

So far as the marine link is concerned it is considered that, providing there is enough traffic offering, the Liemba is capable of maintaining a regular weekly service. This may be begun almost at once, especially as it is becoming clear that oil fuel supplies alone now require more frequent deliveries and consumption is bound to increase substantially with the heavy demand provided by road plant and transport in connection with large building programmes. The vessel did, in fact, arrive on November 29 at seven days interval from the scheduled trip on November 22.

These discussions were not, of course, concerned with the long-term rail-link plan; but it now appears to be accepted that the line will definitely be constructed within a period of about seven years.

"Earl Of Thomond"

A news cable stating that the President of Zambia, Dr. Kaunda, was "elected Earl of Thomond" during his visit to the Republic of Eire caused a good deal of astonishment recently.

So much so, in fact, that the President's office here issued a statement saying that no title was either conferred on or accepted by him. The fact is that, in connection with the conferment of the freedom of Limerick, Dr. Kaunda was entertained as guest of honour at a banquet at Bunratty Castle where it is the custom for such a guest to be honoured as "Earl of Thomond" for the evening and accorded all the feudal honours of that ancient style.

Not only is it, of course, perfectly clear that one republic is most unlikely to be able to confer a title of nobility on the president of another republic, but in the case of the Republic of Eire such an act is expressly

forbidden by a clause in the constitution.

The whole thing was a rather charming and certainly enjoyable "bit of Ould Oireland" which we may be sure was fully appreciated by the guest.

It is, as a matter of fact, rather more "Irish" than these bare facts reveal. There is no doubt that one of the bonds which link Zambia to Ireland is the feeling which both have of having fought and defeated the perfidious British colonialists.

The last independent Prince of Thomond, Conor O'Brien, was a descendant of a line of Irish chieftains stretching back hundreds of years to the renowned King of Ireland, Brian Boru. His brother, Murrough O'Brien, succeeded him and gave up "his captainship, title, superiority and country" to Henry VIII of England who, in 1543, made him "Earl of Thomond". True,

the 3rd. Earl, who died in 1582, rose against the English; but he fled to France and in 1571 he formally surrendered his lands and was pardoned. His son the 4th. Earl "served England well in her warfare with the rebellious Irish during the closing years of Elizabeth's reign and was made President of Munster in 1605."

The 8th. Earl, Henry, (1688—1741) was created an English peer as Viscount Tadcaster. When he died without an heir the title was revived in favour of his nephew, Percy Wyndham, who had inherited the estates. On his death in 1774 the title became extinct.

The 1st. Earl of Thomond, therefore, was quite a help to English "colonialism" in Ireland and the 4th. Earl and his successors also seem to have co-operated usefully with the British governments which succeeded that of Henry VIII.

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COMING EVENTS IN

DEC

A Current

The queue awaiting service agency office has lately been so arduous that on each of the visits one customer has collapsed. Friday, November 27 Mr. Currie, fortunately very soon recovered. Mr. K.B. Jobling fainted while medical attention, was driven to stand an hour or more in this

Two main factors have contributed to this serious people from far and near to exchange Zambian notes; the other is a steady flow of our currency brought in from the credit of the Tanzania auth

The Abercorn route is used actions largely because it permits transport and insurance costs

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They estimate that a total of our currency must have been brought on two recent banking days double the usual figure and ha increase appears to have followed to restrict the export of curren

CHURCH SERVICES

ST. PAUL'S AND ST. FRANCIS

Holy Mass every Sunday

At St. Francis; 7.30 a.m.

At St. Paul's 7.30 a.m. (sermon in Bemba or Mambwe)

At Catholic Welfare Hall (Abercorn Location) 9.30 a.m. (High Mass with sermon in Bemba or Mambwe)

Holy Mass daily

At St. Francis; 6.15 a.m.

At St. Paul's; 6.15 a.m.

At Catholic Welfare Hall, Suburb 6.15 a.m.

Meetings and Classes at Catholic Welfare Hall

Mondays at 5 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Conference

Tuesdays at 4.30 p.m. Instruction for catechumens

Meetings of the Legion of Mary:-

Wednesdays at 4.30 p.m. Adults

Confessions: everyday before Holy Mass.

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Francis every Saturday 6 p.m.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Sunday
13 December Evening Service, 6.30 p.m. — Mr. M.W. Singer

Friday
18 December Nativity Play, 6 p.m.

Sunday
20 December Nine Lessons and Carols, 6.30 p.m.

Christmas Day Morning Service, 9.30 a.m. — Rev. D.T. Woffenden

Sunday
27 December Evensong, 6.30 p.m. — Mr. P. Stead

Sunday
3 January Morning Family Service, 9.30 a.m. — Rev. R.N. Fuller

COMING EVENTS IN TOWN AND DISTRICT

DECEMBER 1964

A Currency Mystery

The queue awaiting service at the very small Standard Bank agency office has lately been so long and the period of waiting so arduous that on each of the bank staff's last two month-end visits one customer has collapsed fainting on the pavement. On Friday, November 27 Mr. Currie was overcome in this way, but fortunately very soon recovered, and last Friday, December 4, Mr. K.B. Jobling fainted while in the queue and, after receiving medical attention, was driven to the fee-paying hospital for a rest before returning home. It has become a commonplace to stand an hour or more in this queue.

Two main factors have contributed to increased pressure on the bank staff to this serious extent. One is the eagerness of people from far and near to exchange their money for the new Zambian notes; the other is a steady increase in the large amounts of our currency brought in from Sumbawanga to be placed to the credit of the Tanzania authorities.

The Abercorn route is used for these inter-government transactions largely because it permits a very substantial saving in transport and insurance costs over any other method.

By strict banking procedure these sums should be lodged with the bank at Dar es Salaam and then shipped to the head office of the bank—formerly the Salisbury office—and there accounted in the central banking system as a transaction between the two territories.

There has always been a substantial import of Northern Rhodesia or Federal currency from Tanganyika into Abercorn, normally resulting from payments for imports of grain, fish and such commodities from that country into this territory. Before the establishment of a bank agency at Abercorn some five years ago this was handled by the Provincial Administration sub-accountant who occasionally had to accept and account several thousand pounds worth of Tanganyika notes and shillings.

The amounts now much more frequently brought in from Sumbawanga are also now much larger. The bank staff's visit to Abercorn, normally occupies three hours—from 9 a.m. to noon—with a half hour or so each end for preparing for custom and balancing. Latterly, however, the teller (who on Dec. 4 brought an assistant with him) has been unable to get away until long after 2 p.m. in spite of working throughout the lunch hour.

There are grave suspicions among business men here, who, doing their own banking in such a small office cannot fail to note these large sums being handled, that this traffic now far transcends any requirements of legitimate trade.

It has been noted, for example, that new Zambian currency still apparently in the packets in which it was issued, is among that received and, as these packets appear to amount to sums far larger than are likely to be used in local trading, it is thought that they must be currency illicitly exported, exchanged in Tanzania—where there is no currency control—and then returned via the Abercorn route, the Tanzanian proceeds being available for deposit anywhere in East Africa or even outside the Continent altogether.

They estimate that a total of between £60,000 and £70,000 in our currency must have been brought in by the Tanzanian authorities on two recent banking days. This is thought to be at least double the usual figure and has led to the comment that the increase appears to have followed the Zambia government's action to restrict the export of currency by means of postal order purchases.

COMING EVENTS

Sunday Dec. 13	Yacht Club Regatta
Saturday Dec. 19	Abercorn Club Children's Party
Saturday Dec. 26	Informal Dance and Pantomime Club, 8 p.m.
Thursday Dec. 31	New Year's Eve Ball, Cabaret Club, Abercorn Club, 8 p.m.
Friday Jan. 1	Longest Drive Golf Competition Club.
Tuesday Jan. 26	Annual General Meeting Abercorn Club.

FORTHCOMING FILMS

Wed. 16 December	KID FROM TEXAS — colour
Wed. 30 December	CINDERELLA
Wed. 13 January	ON THE RIVER — Starring Danny Kaye
Wed. 27 January	YELLOW SKY — Starring Gregory Peck
Wed. 10 February	SHERIFF OF FORT DODGE — Western/Color SCOPE Starring John Wayne
Wed. 24 February	AMOROUS PRAVDA — Starring Ian C. Frazer
Wed. 10 March	THE BIRDS — Alfred Hitchcock Starring — Tippi Hedren
Wed. 24 March	GUNS OF DARKNESS — David Niven Starring —

TOWN AND DISTRICT

DECEMBER 1964

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THIS IS

COLD

THE BEER

CASTLE

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Saturday Dec. 19	Abercorn Club Children's Party — 4 p.m.
Saturday Dec. 26	Informal Dance and Pantomime at Abercorn Club, 8 p.m.
Thursday Dec. 31	New Year's Eve Ball, Cabaret and Dinner at Abercorn Club, 8 p.m.
Friday Jan. 1	Longest Drive Golf Competition, lunch at Abercorn Club.
Tuesday Jan. 26	Annual General Meeting Abercorn Club, 4.30 p.m.

FORTHCOMING FILMS

Wed. 16 December	KID FROM TEXAS A western in colour
Wed. 30 December	CINDERELLA
Wed. 13 January	ON THE RIVIERA — Musical — Starring Danny Kaye
Wed. 27 January	YELLOW SKY — Drama — Starring — Gregory Peck, Anne Baxter.
Wed. 10 February	SHERIFF OF FRACTURED JAW — Western/Comedy CINEMA-SCOPE Starring — Kenneth Moore
Wed. 24 February	AMOROUS PRAWN — COMEDY — Starring — Ian Carmichael and Liz Frazer
Wed. 10 March	THE BIRDS — DRAMA — Alfred Hitchcock Starring — Rod Taylor and Tippi Hedren.
Wed. 24 March	GUNS OF DARKNESS — DRAMA Starring — David Niven.

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Rail Link Plan Condemned

Despite the continued insistence locally that the Zambia-Tanzania rail link will certainly be constructed within the next seven years or so, the world's top authorities on such matters, after four months' on-the-spot investigation, frankly record their strongly hostile re-action to the proposals in a report to the Zambia government just made public.

The Economic Commission for Africa and the Food and Agriculture Organisation, both United Nations bodies, have added their opposition to that of The World Bank so that the project is now authoritatively and adversely criticised from the economic, the agricultural and the financial points of view.

The report, details of which have been in the hands of the Government since March but were released for publication only on December 4, considers that the rail link, although uneconomic at present, may be necessary "later in the century." Any time, that is, within the next 35 years.

It dismisses the view that Rhodesia might cut off Zambia's outlets to the coast and to world trade and it does so, obviously, because those who formulated the report expect that the U.N. policy of fully integrating southern Africa into a continental "one-man-one-vote" system will succeed in the quite near future.

The argument favouring the rail link as an insurance against interference with Zambia's outlets has always been irrationally reversed. There is no risk (except possibly under war conditions) of the southern territories severing communications for

political reasons. Civilised countries just do not operate in that way.

The real argument in favour of the link is that, if it was in operation, it would be possible for Zambia to sever communications as a political weapon against the southern territories. It is an irrational and expensive weapon and, what is more, one that would immediately become useless if it succeeded in its purpose of changing these states in such a way that they would become acceptable as friends and colleagues of Zambia.

The expenditure, with interest and rolling stock, is estimated in the report now published as £58,000,000 and this, apparently does not include the required port facilities in Tanzania. Thus, if it succeeded in its purpose that £58,000,000 would lie rusting in the bush for eternity because the former transport system would again come into use.

Nor does the report consider that the link would do much towards opening up the Northern Province. That area, it says, is remote from urban markets and its agricultural potential is affected by sandy soils.

They recommend road improvements costing about £8,000,000 as an alternative and this is, obviously, the only sensible economic solution.

It was the solution which was perfectly apparent to any unbiased layman 18 months ago when the idea of the link was newly publicised. In the issue of Abercornucopia dated June, 1963, "Cornelius" wrote:

"With the development of modern heavy road transport it seems doubtful whether the tracklaying is worth while: for the basic engineering would serve a road equally well — especially in country which requires no tunnelling at all and a minimum of embankment and bridging work so that the narrower width of a rail track is not, perhaps, of major significance. The steeper gradients permissible for roads also simplify and cheapen the engineering."

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DR. ROBERTS LEAVES HEALTH SERVICE

It was with no little dismay count at a local store — gifts that local people heard recently that Dr. Chris. Roberts, was leaving the Zambian medical service. Dr. Roberts ended his duties as District Medical Officer here at the end of November and will shortly be going south where he intends doing some post-graduate study before taking another appointment.

People frequently remarked on the number of lads to be seen at work in his garden and it appears that he found it hard to resist giving a few days work to the unemployed youths who often asked him for a job. Similarly, he would often give poor patients or their relatives a note to get meal or flour on his ac-

It is all the more unfortunate, therefore, that his departure seems to have been the result of a disagreement in the political field over an incident which occurred while he was doing duty elsewhere than at Abercorn.

Dr. Roberts' appearances in dramatic and lighter entertainment on the Club stage will long be remembered. He has a natural talent for comic mime which has several times been favourably noticed in these columns.

Everyone will wish him the best of good fortune and many "Happy New Years".

FOOTBALL PLANS

Abercorn District Football Association is busy re-organising for next year's season. Mr. Muswaba, of the Post Office staff, is chairman and Mr. Mugala, of Abercorn Management Board staff has been appointed Captain. Mr. Gunther Edl is honorary treasurer and is hoping to obtain many more members at the very small subscription of 2/6 a year.

There are prospects of some assistance from the Management Board and also, perhaps, from Community Development

sources if the Association can really get going and prove that there is a keen body of footballers and followers of the game in the area.

In a match between the Abercorn team and The Outward Bound Lake School on December 6, Outward Bound looked very tough and were leading 3-2 at half time. However they failed to stay and Abercorn fought back strongly after the interval scoring 5 more goals to win 7-3.

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T V M I Bazaar Success

The T.V.M.I. Annual Jumble Sale and Christmas Bazaar, held on December 4 and 5 respectively, proved most rewarding financially. A provisional estimate of the surplus over expenses is £120. Thanks to this generosity of members and the general public the Committee is confident of being able to maintain both the high standard of the library and fortnightly cinema shows, even if, in some cases, the income fails to meet the cost of the film.

The Jumble Sale attracted close on 100 eager buyers. The auctioneers, Mrs. Anne Parton with Messrs. Frank Missen and Karl Kuhne, barely avoided being trampled underfoot from time to time when barricades were pushed over in the excitement.

The official opening of the Christmas Bazaar, a more formal occasion, was preceded by the playing of the National Anthem, a record which had only been received the day before as a gift from the Zambia Independence Celebrations Directorate.

Before asking the District Secretary, Mr. Gavin Barr, to open the Christmas Bazaar, Mr. Kuhne (Chairman of the T.V.M.I. Committee) thanked all concerned in providing the many splendid items on display. Mr. Barr in his address paid tribute to Miss A.M. and Miss A.H. Gamwell and Miss Leonard-Davis. He also spoke of the 60 years of continuous service given to the Abercorn and District community by the Tanganyika Victoria Memorial Institute. He drew an analogy with London's Windmill Theatre — which claimed "we never closed" and is now being turned into a cinema — saying that the T.V.M.I. similarly had not closed down over the years and has for some time now been providing fortnightly cinema shows — but not he said, the dancing girls!

"PORTRAIT OF ABERCORN"

Two representatives of the R.S.T. publication "Horizon" — Tony Howard and Chris Mills — spent some days here in the third week of November gathering literary and photographic material for a "Portrait of Abercorn" which is expected to appear in that journal early next year.

They have, it is thought, gained a vivid impression of the more light-hearted aspect of life here and it is likely that the "portrait" will have sparkle and colour more reminiscent of a Fragonard pastoral than of the grim greeny greys of Graham Sutherland. However, a night "at sea" with the fishing fleet

and some alarming hovering by helicopter in a rainstorm and amid maribou storks over the Kalambo gorge will certainly add "body" and more serious significance to the picture.

It will be recalled that during this year "Horizon" published articles on Mr. Desmond Vesey-FitzGerald and Mrs. Mary Richards and their work here and a beautifully written sketch of the long residence here of Miss Gamwell and her sister.

Orders for this coming issue of the magazine, which will undoubtedly be of considerable interest to overseas friends, can be placed with The Lake Press Ltd.

LOCUST — TOWN GOLF

The golf season is drawing to a close in that all the competitions have been played except the Captain's Cup, the date of which is not yet fixed.

A match was arranged between Locusts and Town for November 28, Locusts borrowing some town players to make a good field. Unfortunately the weather interfered and some players did not turn out so only two matches were played which resulted in a moral victory for the Town. The official match

was cancelled. The Locusts pair, Jim Ennis and Bob Jones won their match against Bill Morony and Chris Vermeulen 1 up and the Town pair Taffy Martin and Joan Carlin won theirs against Pix McLoughlin and Karl Kuhne 6 up.

The fortnightly bridge evening, alternating with the cinema shows, and run by the golf section at the Club are popular and will continue through the off season.

Loss to Yacht Club

Mr. Alan Bowmaker, Provincial Fisheries Officer, has been recalled to the Department's headquarters at Chilanga and is leaving Abercorn at the end of December.

His duties will be carried out by Mr. Jonas Mubanga who has been Mr. Bowmaker's principal assistant in fisheries work throughout.

Very great progress has been made in the development of the fishing industry during the two years Mr. Bowmaker has been here which is largely attributable to the close co-operation which has existed between the executive and administrative side under him and the research and scientific side under the local direction of Mr. George Coulter.

Both Alan and Jennifer Bowmaker are very keen and expert

helmsmen, Alan, in fact, being considered by his fellow Yacht Club members as the best skipper on Lake Chila. He served for a brief term as acting-Commodore but has throughout been largely responsible for stores and supplies and has personally done a great deal of repair work on the club boats.

Jennifer was, of course, one of the still talked of "Bunny Girls" at the last Commodore's Ball and both she and Alan have been keen and valued performers on the lighter side of club entertainments during the last two years.

All this skilled and willing activity in helping to brighten social life in Abercorn will be very greatly missed by the now fast diminishing band of permanent residents.

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CHILA CHAT

"Go on!" Pick her up! She'd love it!"

"No, no! I'm much too old to be picking up half-naked girls!"

This snatch of dialogue is alleged to have been heard the other day in this office. The Editor was so busy at the time that he can hardly recall the circumstances, but he is informed that the lady in question was Miss Caroline Lloyd, aged 7726 years, in her topless bikini, and he therefore faces the well known fury of a woman scorned with equanimity. However, it just shows what awful things can happen to editors.

The township has been full of tales of remarkable happenings on the night of Saturday, December 5. It is said that Mark Lloyd was discovered swimming all alone in Lake Chila late in the night and, when asked why, replied with all his well known boyish charm, "I was just looking for a water lily!" Alec Gregor, found scrabbling through a fond mother's stock of baby clothes, cried frantically, "I must have a safety-pin — at once!" Marshall Singer, when finally disentangled from the bottom of a Rugby scrum on the verandah of the Residency, rebuked his rescuers saying, "It's only a few of my friends saying good-bye!" In contrast to the well-known sailors' and soldiers' version, this seems to have been a farmer's farewell.

The practice of traditional handicrafts is being strongly encouraged at Kawimbe these days and some of the products — leather-work, basket-work and carving — are on sale at this office. The leather-work unit cures and tans local hides and sheepskins and will be pleased to cure customers' own game pelts at a modest charge.

A change in agricultural policy requiring the Group Extension Officer to be stationed at Kasama has led to the transfer of Mr. and Mrs. M.W. Singer to the provincial headquarters. Abercorn thus loses not only the presence of an officer who has been most successful in stim-

ulating a big increase in local Turkish tobacco growing, but an active and closely interested secretary to the Council of All Saint's Church and two strong supporters of the Yacht Club. Mrs. Singer's always helpful presence at District Headquarters will be missed in the administrative sphere as will her regular provision of Yacht Club Sunday lunches in Abercorn's leisure activities.

Cmdr. T. Fox-Pitt R.N. (retd.) who some 12 years ago was a Provincial Administration officer at Mpika and whose strongly expressed sympathy with African nationalism led to his departure from Northern Rhodesia some years ago, has now returned to the territory and has been appointed Local Government Officer here. The most valuable publication, perhaps, to appear under his name is the useful little Bemba vocabulary he compiled many years ago which is still widely sold.

A leopard attacked a sheep from a small flock belonging to Mr. H.A.D. Martin in the Mbulu valley a few hundred yards upstream of the main road crossing on Sunday, November 22. The herd boy found the remains of a monkey which it had previously taken. One Abercorn lady, whose pleasure it is to stroll about near that spot and admire the tree orchids at present in blossom, has now realised why her dogs were so unwilling to follow her into the thicker parts of the stream bed. As the child said: "It's a pity God made dogs unspeakable."

Designs submitted by members for Abercorn Club tie are now under consideration by a special sub-committee. The difficulty is to design a motif symbolic of all club activities and at the same time having a clear reference to Abercorn. One ingenious solution combines a marabou stork with golf balls. This device, though it may be said to be positively pregnant with symbolism, is perhaps, not altogether symbolic of outdoor sport.

Mrs. Woffenden, who has faithful to his vow to shave off his renowned fighter-type moustache as soon as he qualifies as a helicopter pilot, has now reached the half-way point in his "conversion course" and has therefore shaved off half of the moustache. If the other half of the course lasts as long as the first half it seems certain either that the single blade will fly off into space (probably helped by Pam's scissors) or else that Robin's engine will seize up and entirely disintegrate possibly at one of the forthcoming Christmas parties. His only safe course is to be careful not to "take-off" or in any way become airborne in this unbalanced condition — or has he found some way to "feather" the thing?

The work of laying and connecting up the second line of penstock piping to the Lunzuwa hydro-electric power station is almost complete. Power was cut off for two hours on Sunday to permit work on the final stages of putting the new valve gear into operation.

Mrs. Betty Reeks is still in hospital at Ndola making only a slow recovery from the serious relapse which she suffered after surgical treatment of the shoulder joint injured in a riding accident last September.

The direct Ndola — London radio telephone link is available from Abercorn between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at a charge of £3 for the first 3 minutes and £1 per minute thereafter.

An extraordinary one-bladed propeller effect has been achieved by Robin Crosse-Upcott who,

The new District Medical Officer is Dr. F.W.B. Kanweka who qualified in South Africa and comes to Abercorn after a tour of duty at Fort Jameson. Dr. Kanweka has made a special study of leprosy. His wife, who is a South African from the Cape Province, is a State Registered Nurse.

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