

ABERCORNUCOPIA

A VILLAGE REVIEW

NO. 25 REGISTERED AT THE

MARCH 12 1965

G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER

PRICE 4d.

Council Chairman fined

Found guilty of game offences

Abraham Willombe, a leading Abercorn business man and Chairman of the Rural District Council, was, on Tuesday, March 2, found guilty by the Abercorn Magistrate, Mr. W. Hawthorne, of a series of offences under the Game Ordinance and was sentenced to pay fines totalling £65, with the alternative of 4 months' imprisonment.

Stanley Chungu, one of his employees, was fined a total of £21, or 3 months and 9 days imprisonment, on four counts under the Ordinance.

The most serious charge against Wilombe was that of causing another person to hunt on his behalf and on this he was fined £50. The other two charges were of being in possession of a government trophy on each of which he was fined £15, the sentences, however, to be non-cumulative.

The case first came before the Court on February 22 when Willombe pleaded guilty to being in unlawful possession of a roan antelope hide and meat and Chungu admitted shooting the roan without a license, being in unlawful possession of the meat of a duiker and unlicensed possession of 12-bore ammunition.

Willombe pleaded not guilty to a charge of causing another person to hunt on his behalf and Chungu not guilty to using a bulala lamp to shoot duiker. He has lodged an appeal against conviction on this charge.

Sentencing the accused on March 2, the Magistrate pointed out that Willombe, in his position of Chairman of the Rural District Council, might have been expected to maintain rather than transgress the provisions of the

Ordinance. The gun, government trophies and bulala lamp were confiscated.

NIGHT HUNTERS FINED

Two other men, Vincent Chiombe, a school teacher from Mayanga Village, near Abercorn, and Andrew Sichilima, each pleaded guilty to five counts of using a bulala lamp in shooting duiker. Chiombe also admitted being in unlawful possession of the meat and Sichilima pleaded guilty to being in possession of 12-bore ammunition without a license.

The offences were committed in Chief Chitimbwa's area which borders the Sumbu Game Reserve inland from the western shore of Lake Tanganyika.

Giving judgement on February 22 in these two cases, the Magistrate said he took a particularly serious view of these offences because the hunting was purely for gain and neither for sport nor food for the men themselves. This was a crime not only against those now living here but against those who would be living here in future times.

He pointed out that the maximum penalty applicable was a fine of £200 or six months' imprisonment, or both. The two men, being first offenders, would be sentenced as follows:-

Chiombe, to pay a fine of £25, or 3 months imprisonment, covering the five counts of hunting with a bulala lamp, and £10, or one month, for unlawful possession of game meat; Sicilima to pay a fine of £15, or 3 months' imprisonment, for using a bulala lamp, and £3 or 14 days for possessing ammunition without a license. His shotgun was confiscated to the State.

Work to start on Mpulungu road

Work on the major improvements to the Mpulungu Road, forecast in our July and September issues, is now expected to start next month. This was announced by Mr. H.D. Banda, Minister of Transport and Works, during his recent visit to Abercorn.

The Contractors' representatives visited the township two or three weeks ago to make preliminary arrangements such as housing for certain of their staff.

Last September it appeared that the work was to be done departmentally. Enquiries were made concerning road camp sites and road plant was said to be on the way from headquarters. Since then, however, the job has been put out to tender and the contract awarded.

A contour survey of the road was completed last July when it was stated that a sum of £50,000 was available for the improvements. This is about £2,000 per mile.

The road is to be brought up to Class I specification throughout, its steepest portions re-aligned, bridges re-built to full-width carriageway and the maximum

grade reduced from the present 8 or 9 per cent to no more than 6 per cent.

It was also stated earlier that two miles at each end were to be given a bitumen surface and the whole road built to the standard required for bitumen and "primed" ready for possible tarring later when the effect of heavy vehicles on the road can be assessed.

The recent extension of the township boundary to the neighbourhood of the Kasama turn-off means that the mile or so of main road between this point and the Mbulu crossing is now a township responsibility and will not be included in the contract. This matter will require almost immediate attention by the Town Management Board if the existence for some time of an awkward "dirt" portion between two tarred sections is to be avoided.

Fully illustrated articles on Abercorn and on Mr. C.D. Peachey's adventurous arrival and his residence here are published in the March issue of "Horzion" now on sale at this office, price 1/-.

RAINFALL FIGURES

Station	1964		1965		Total
	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	
I.R.L.C.S.	6.70	6.24	8.10	6.58	27.01
Post Office	5.94	7.31	9.86	7.31	26.77
Isanya	10.18	6.35	9.15	9.46	34.18
Airport	7.69	5.74	9.67	7.90	30.07
Mr. Morony	8.00	6.33	8.19	6.96	29.13

C. B. C. SHOPS

THE "NORTHWARD LOOK"

There is now a "Pan-African" foundation to the original Zambia/Tanzania rail-link idea and the centre of gravity of the planning appears to have shifted to a Lusaka/Nairobi axis from the Lusaka/Dar es Salaam axis formerly emphasised. The idea is no longer seen as an all-independent exit route for Zambian copper combined with some hope of developing southern Tanzania. It is now seen as an urgent project essential to the "northward look" of east and central Africa and to the projected "African Common Market" which it is hoped to establish in these and neighbouring territories. Far from being merely a link between the Rhodesian system and an east coast port under independent African control, it is now recognised as an essential link in the main continental communications system.

The African states concerned, therefore, may be said to have taken over, lock, stock and barrel, a part of Rhodes's "Cape to Cairo Railway" which was never completed.

We shall hear more about this in June when the eight-nation conference "to establish economic integration" in East and Central Africa takes place at Lusaka. On his return from the U.N. Economics Commission for Africa conference at Nairobi three weeks ago, Mr. Sikota Wina, Minister of Finance, pointed out that this economic integration can only work with good communications "which means," he added, "that the rail link to Tanzania now becomes the major development project in Africa."

Mr. Simon Kapwepwe, on his return from Nairobi, has just announced that he will shortly be meeting the foreign ministers of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania to discuss the rail link with them.

The original plan—a line passing through Tunduma to join the Dar es Salaam line so far east as Kilosa—can form no such essential link in the continental system. It merely connects Zambia and Tanzania. But a link due north through this area to

Mpanda and Tabora is a direct route joining the whole South African, Rhodesian, Zambian, Tanzanian and Kenya systems. It is a route, too, which would tap the coast lines of two great lakes—Tanganyika and Victoria Nyanza—and form a "backbone" transport route north and south which Africa so badly needs.

Because development advanced into Africa from the coast, because its former transport highways—the great rivers—flow almost entirely east and west, the central part of the continent has always lacked any north-south link and this is the physical reason (apart from any question of politics) why these central parts of the continent have had to be supplied from the south.

It was always impossible to justify economically any Zambia/Tanzania rail link and it had to be accepted that there were political considerations which might make the economic risk acceptable. Similar economic risk no doubt attaches to the northern plan but it may well be a lesser one, while the political and strategic value of a rail link traversing most of East Africa is far greater than that of the Tanzania link alone.

Thus, if this is the plan now being put forward (which we cannot as yet assume) international financial and economic agencies will no doubt consider it much more favourably than they did the original plan and it seems to me that this is what lies behind the news which Mr. Wina brought back from Nairobi.

A resolution was passed calling on all friendly nations to contribute financial and technical assistance to the rail link plan and, said Mr. Wina, "this means that the African Development Bank can play its part along with world governments and financial institutions in financing the project."

One cannot suppose that the northern territories which took part in these talks, and will join in the talks scheduled for June at Lusaka, would show all this

interest in a purely Zambian/Tanzanian link to Dar es Salaam.

Meanwhile, it is significant that, speaking at a village in the Central Province on February 17, Mr. H. Shamabanse, the Resident Minister, told his audience that a railway "through Mkushi to Lake Tanganyika" was to be surveyed. This statement has been allowed to stand in the official news release of the speech.

The Current issue of "The Financial Mail" (Lusaka) in an article on the rail link states that in recent surveys the East African Railways and Harbours Board "is reported to have found that the traverse of the Rift Valley between Tunduma and Mbeya is likely to cost up to £1,800,000 per mile on the worst stretch."

The paper also says, in an article entitled "Zambia could Lead a Common Market": "There are believed to be plans for tarring the Great North Road to Nairobi from Kapiri Mposhi as an expedient until the rail link is operating", adding that such a road would take at least two years to complete—another pointer towards the growth of the "northward look" idea.

Cornelius

Big Banking Merger

Negotiations are taking place for a merger between The Standard Bank and The Bank of West Africa. Such a merger, extending the operation of The Standard Bank on the western side of Africa to a degree comparable with their already established organisation reaching the far north of Eastern Africa, will give an enormous area of the Continent the advantage of working in a single commercial banking system. This is expected very greatly to assist trading and business generally within the Continent and will prove an important step towards the aim of an African common market.

ABERCORN MANAGEMENT BOARD

INTERIM VALUATION ROLL NO. 4. 1964

VALUATION ROLL 1965

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 26D of the Townships Ordinance (Cap 120):

(a) that the abovementioned Valuation Roll and Interim Valuation Roll are open to inspection in the offices of the Board in Marshall Avenue, Abercorn;

(b) that any objection to these rolls must be lodged with me on or before 7th April, 1965.

(c) that at 9 a.m. on 14th April 1965 in the Magistrate's Court, Abercorn, a valuation court will sit for the purpose of hearing any objections to these rolls which have been validly made in accordance with the provisions of Section 26F of the said Ordinance;

(d) that the said valuation court will sit without assessors, and

(e) that no objection to these rolls may be considered by the valuation court unless notice in writing of the intention to make such objection, stating briefly the grounds of the objections specifying the amount of the valuation of the property concerned the objector alleges should be substituted for the amount appearing on the rolls and complying as nearly as may be with the form set out in Schedule 1 to Part VI of the Ordinance (a copy of which may be obtained from my office), is lodged with me on or before the date appointed in (b) above.

This notice supercedes my earlier public advertisement regarding the 1964 Valuation Roll.

C.K. HYDE
SECRETARY

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Ford Consul MK II. Price £225 (available July 1965)

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ABERCORNUCOPIA

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MBULU SUBURB HOUSE-BOYS

The Editor
ABERCORNUCOPIA
Sir,

Those employing house-boys in the two Mbulu Suburbs should ask boys applying for such work whether they have worked as house-boys before and, if they say yes, ask them for references. For you may not know whether the boy you have employed is trustworthy.

Some servants in these suburbs chase after chickens when the house owner is away at work and sell those they catch. With this money they go and buy drink and such a servant is never found at the house when the master comes home.

One man who did not find his house-boy at home himself went to a bar and there he saw his house-boy busy drinking with a very big "chikale" in his hands.

Ask them for references and give them references when they go. Be strict and write a true reference. Mind you, it is not only chickens that are taken. Many other things are likely to be missing from homes where such servants are employed.

"Maurice".

(You're telling me! — Editor.)

The Editor,
ABERCORNUCOPIA
Sir,

The Staff of the Department of Game and Fisheries in Abercorn have donated £13.10s. to the University of Zambia Fund which is approximately 5s. from the February salary of each member of the staff. If every Department could make the same effort a really substantial sum would result.

Yours faithfully,
C.M. Kapaya

Clerical Officer
Game & Fisheries Department.

PAPERS AND PUDDINGS

With this issue ABERCORNUCOPIA enters its third year of publication. The two first years have shown that a modest sheet of some sort is welcomed by many local people and also by quite a number of former residents who like to keep in touch. No reader could be more conscious than we are ourselves of deficiencies some of which arise from the paper's hybrid nature. For, technically, it is a mongrel—neither a news-sheet (which should not appear at greater than weekly intervals) nor a review (which should not print news and should have more informed and more serious comment than is possible in a "bush-rag"). The recipe for a popular publication anywhere—and especially in Africa—is:-

"Take equal parts of Crime, Cheesecake, and Sport; blend carefully with a little sensational politics; flavour to taste with Jazz-men, Pop Singers and the like: bake quickly in a hot oven and serve immediately."

All we can run to is a modest tale of minor crime occasionally and—like a housewife with a thin store cupboard—to mix enough to fill the cake tin from whatever bits and pieces may be on the shelves. Even then the

UNIVERSITY FUND

Total amounts contributed to the University Fund Raising Campaign in the Abercorn District up to March 6 were:-

Abercorn Township Committee		£201-0-6
Mpulungu	" "	19-0-11
Chiyanga	" "	7-14-0
Mwamba	" "	7-1-8
Senga	" "	5-10-0
Nsokolo	" "	4-1-6
Nondo	" "	4-0-0
Lunzuwa	" "	3-4-5
Cizanza	" "	3-1-6
Cizanza	" "	3-1-6
Chitimbwa	" "	3-0-0
Kawimbe	" "	4-11
TOTAL		£272-5-11

Of this sum £204-8-6d. has already been sent to Lusaka.

No returns have yet been received from the sub-committees at Mambwe Mission, Mpande, Chinakila, Yendwe and Kopeka.

fruit often sinks to the bottom because of the oven's too cold or the mixture too "wet"—or something!

Which reminds me! What about an occasional really novel recipe? Here, for a start, is a local invention:-

Take one quite green but fully formed mango for each two persons; split with strong, sharp knife lengthwise down the faint groove which can be seen at the stalk end, dividing the fruit into two halves; scoop out kernels with small, sharp vegetable knife; put small nut of butter in each half and then fill with mince-meat (as for mince pies), level or heaped according to size of cavity; top with sprinkle of sugar and flake of butter; bake in medium to slow oven (as for baked apples); serve hot with a dollop of whipped cream or a teaspoon of brandy, rum or what you fancy. This is a rich and satisfying sweet to be avoided as an end to a rich and satisfying meal—a point which depends on the size of the mangoes. Try it "flambée" for fun.

Its name is "Molly Bock's Apples" and Irishmen may, perhaps, know why. J.L.C.

DIG UP YOUR BURIED TREASURE

The Bank of Zambia has announced that just over £5,000,000 of old Federal notes has been returned to them, but so far only £200,000 of the old coins have been returned. Old notes and coins become useless on June 1.

"A lot of coin is buried in the ground and this must be brought in as quickly as possible", said the Bank spokesman.

"Considerable help can be given if the active circulation of the old currency is stopped through the co-operation of the shops and stores, however small, throughout Zambia."

The Bank is therefore sending a letter to all traders asking them to help in the currency exchange by not issuing old notes and coin in change.

New power plant installed

NESCO THANKS CONSUMERS

The second high pressure pipeline and third turbine and generator are now installed at the Northern Electricity Supply Co.'s Lunzuwa hydro-electric station and the increased power now available will be delivered to the distribution system as soon as the necessary switchgear is received and installed.

Mr. Eric Moore, Engineer-in-Charge, wishes to thank consumers for their excellent response to his request that they should keep electric water heaters switched off between 6.30 and 8. p.m. to reduce peak loads on the plant and asks them to "carry on the good work" until more power can be supplied.

The present capacity, with a slight overload, he informs us, is 275 K.W. At peak periods the station has reached a 280 K.W. supply and on one occasion 295 K.W. These peaks, however, caused the automatic protection devices to come into operation and this was the reason why lights blacked out last month.

This cut, says Mr. Moore, was very inconvenient to users of motors as it caused the starters to trip, necessitating a re-start so that operators could not leave motors unattended during peak periods.

The appeal to consumers to switch off water heaters and an adjustment to light up street lamps at 7.30 instead of 6.30 were aimed at reducing this evening peak. "The response was so good," said Mr. Moore, "that we are at the moment able to carry the reduced peak load without having to switch off complete sections as has been the case in other areas where the same thing has happened."

Bringing the additional plant into operation will lead to power cuts, Mr. Moore says, but he intends to keep these to a minimum and will give due warning. If there is a cut without warning, he explains, it can be taken that there is very good reason for it.

"It is our job to sell power" he adds, "and the fewer the power cuts, the more power we sell."

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—COMING EVENTS IN

Abercorn

THE CHALLENGE OF HISTORY

The Government publication "Zambia"—a monthly magazine mainly intended for those people overseas who are interested in this country — had an interesting article in its latest issue by Dr. Brian Fagan, Keeper of Prehistory at the Rhodes-Livingstone Museum, entitled "The Challenge of Zambian History."

Dr. Fagan points out how independence has led to a great upsurge of popular interest in the pre-Colonial history of Africa and says that this has already led to a sharp rise in the number of archaeological finds reported to the Museum recently.

He explains that the history of Zambia before about 1800 can only be discovered in two ways; by the recovery of the tools and other traces ancient people have left buried in the soil; and by very carefully studying all the old historical stories and traditions which can be told by the old people of the country. What is buried in the ground will stay there and can be recovered and studied at any time; but all the knowledge the old people have in their memories should be recovered now before the passing years remove such people and their memories altogether.

He says that it is estimated man has been living in Zambia for 1,750,000 years. Almost the only way of learning about the history of this immense period up to about 150 years ago, when written records began, is through archaeology—the study of ancient remains found buried in river banks, lake beds or caves, or of pictures on rocks. Tales and legends may take us a little further back than 150 years but it is difficult to relate them to the real facts of history.

It has now been established by the careful study of remains of old villages that the oldest tribe still living in Zambia are probably the Tonga of the Zambesi Valley. It is thought that they must have lived there for the last 1,000 years.

Much can be done by ordinary people to help in this work of discovering Zambia's history—both of very ancient times and of the last few hundred years. It is a great help if when digging a well, making a road or doing any work which requires digging (even work in the fields which in England has often led to very valuable finds of weapons and treasure) people will keep on the look-out for anything unusual such as any old metal object, strangely shaped stones that look like spear-heads, arrow-heads or axes; or any sign of ancient graves with pottery and metal ornaments.

Such finds should be reported to the nearest responsible person and in most townships there is somebody who can say if they are of special interest and report them to the museum authorities.

Just to show how interesting such things can be; suppose some farmer or road worker found the remains of an ancient village somewhere in this area, and experts decided that the old pottery, bracelets or implements he found were the same as those which have been found in the Tonga areas of the Zambesi Valley. It might then be proved that the Tonga passed through here perhaps more than 1,000 years ago on their way south and another important fact of Zambia history would be established with the help of an ordinary citizen doing his usual work.

Wed. 24 March

Sunday 28th March
 Sunday 4th April
 Sunday 11th April

Good Friday 16th April

Easter Day 18th April

ST. PAUL'S

Holy Mass every Sunday
 At St. Francis; 7.30 a.m.
 At St. Paul's 7.30 a.m. (ser)

At Catholic Welfare Hall
 Mass with

Holy Mass daily
 At St. Francis; 6.15 a.m.
 At St. Paul's; 6.15 a.m.
 At Catholic Welfare H

Meetings and Classes at C
 Mondays at 5 p.m. St
 Tuesdays at 4.30 p.m. T

Meetings of the Legion of
 Wednesdays at 4.30 p

Confessions: everyday before
 Benediction of the Blessed
 urday 6 p.m.

THE GRAN

MACARNET
 FULL BOARD ACC
 LICENSED

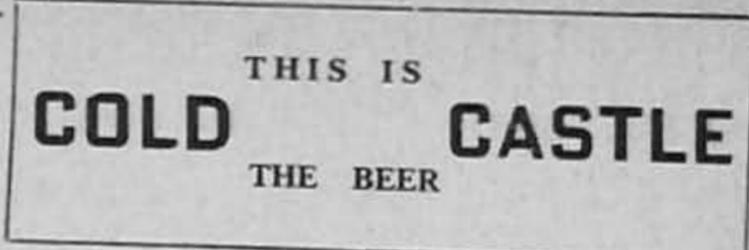
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AND

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TOWN AND DISTRICT



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The Standard Bank Ltd. began operating in its new Marshall Avenue premises on March 1 but so far only as an agency on Monday and Friday mornings as before.

nager's office, stationery store, a rest-room for female staff and full wash-room accommodation with hot water system.

The building is not yet quite ready for full occupation and it is expected that the fully operational branch will not be open until some time during April.

Three detached "flatlet" residences for staff are also provided together with communal mess-room and spacious kitchen in another detached building.

The new premises are most impressive and, both in design and construction, form by far the finest building in the township. Designed by Mr. R.G. Hope, the architect of the Cathedral at Lusaka and many other of Zambia's most important buildings, the Bank has straightforward yet modernist lines. It is a plain rectangular, flat-roofed building, given an air of considerable dignity not by any massiveness of construction but by careful design in the proportions of the structure itself, the placing and size of its long ground floor and square upper windows, the overhang of the roof and the light yet impressive glassed frontage set well back behind a spacious verandah or portico running the full width of the building.

A feature of the banking hall is its suspended ceiling. The upper windows rise virtually to roof level and the ceiling, hung feet below the flat roof, is cut back on all sides at an angle of about 45 degrees so that the full light of these windows is thrown downwards, providing excellent lighting over the whole area without the entry of direct sunlight.

The strip lighting, complete electrical and hot and cold water system, the mukwa casings to internal frontage pillars, all fittings, steel shelving, plastic tiled floors and furnishings have been executed to a standard not before attempted in Abercorn and the complete complex of buildings, with its lawn areas and paving, will form a splendid example for those responsible for the large amount of public building soon to be undertaken here.

The wall finish is in "slash" stone-work — small slabs of Kawimbe shale laid flat with deep pointing — forming a most pleasing broken surface in which the horizontal decorative effect supports the solid rectangular aspect of the whole. The varied pinkish browns of the stonework will probably retain their original appearance indefinitely, being unaffected by the universal red dust in the winter winds.

The Immigration Department, whose Abercorn office will be taking responsibility for more and more points of entry across Zambia's northern frontiers as closer control becomes established, have taken over the Marshall Avenue office in The Lake Press building formerly used by The Standard Bank agency. It will be additional to their present office in the same building and will be brought into use as soon as the necessary furniture arrives.

The great panelled banking hall is furnished with mukwa counters and head-high partitions. The building also contains two massive strong-rooms, ma-

FILM OF DARKNESS — DRAMA — David Niven.

CHURCH

6.30 p.m. Rev. R.N. Fuller

6.30 p.m. Miss J. Taylor

6.30 p.m. Rev. D.T. Woff-

of Meditation 9.30 a.m. A. A.E. Richards

Service 9.30 a.m. Rev .D. nden

FRANCIS

Bemba or Mambwe)

Location) 9.30 a.m. (High Bemba or Mambwe)

6.15 a.m.

fare Hall Paul Conference for catechumens

at St. Francis every Sat-

GRHOPPER

ABERCORN ACCOMODATION RESTAURANT LUNCHEON

RURAL COUNCIL BUILDING BEGUN

BIG PLANS FOR TOWN AND DISTRICT

Work has begun on the new Rural District Council offices to be built on a site in the same block as The Standard Bank. The contract has been awarded to Messrs. Johnson and Piccioli, builders of the bank, and the site has already been cleared.

It is reported that this is to be a thoroughly well designed building comparable with the one already on this block.

Further construction work scheduled for the Township includes local Court buildings originally provided in the former development plan; new Magistrate's Court and offices; a new prison; rebuilding of Abercorn Hospital; improvement of the Mechanical Services workshop and Abercorn Secondary school.

In the Abercorn District: conditional approval (subject to building capacity) has been given for rural police posts at Mpulungu and Senga Hill; immigration posts are to be built at Lumi River, Mpulungu and Zombe; Mpulungu Harbour is to be improved and the Sumbawanga road to the border, as well as the whole Mpulungu road, is to be improved; provisional approval has been given for a boat building workshop at Mpulungu and for fish markets at the lake.

Additional benefits for the Northern Province include: sailing and power boats for Kasaba Game Camp; improved roads and rest houses in the Sumbu Reserve; three rural health centres; a coffee estate and small scale coffee unit (subject to further studies but possibly at Malombe); 40 agricultural

tractors for the Province; and additional East Coast Fever quarantine camps.

The District and Province will also share in the £50,000 set aside for small scale business loans; the £30,000 for Group Housing Improvement projects and mission homecraft centres; the £155,000 set aside for loans to rural authorities and the £480,000 in grants for the smaller and poorer local authorities to help bring their services up to the standard of the larger units. In addition the Government will be responsible for the erection of all Lower Primary Schools and two-thirds of Upper Primary Schools, the other third of which will be provided in self-help schemes with the provision of £1,200 for each unit of two classrooms and two teachers' houses.

There is to be a farm training unit in each Province and throughout the Territory, £1,000,000 is to be made available for loans to farmers of all races.

RED CROSS OPPORTUNITY

Members of the local branch of the Red Cross and others interested in the valuable humanitarian work of this great society met last Tuesday (March 9) and elected Mrs. A.M.E. Richards as Group Leader and Secretary and Mrs. R. Crosse-Upcott as Treasurer. Mrs. Richards for long held very senior Red Cross positions in Wales. It was decided to hold a fete in aid of the Society later in the year.

There is at present an immense opportunity for typical and urgently needed Red Cross help in ameliorating the pitiful condition of the 3,400 Lumpa "refugees" who are camped within 20 miles of Abercorn under unavoidably arduous "re-settlement" conditions. Such work may well be far beyond the scope of a local branch but, if it were taken up centrally, there is much that residents in this area could do.

The most urgent requirements at the moment are large tins for cooking, blankets and any kind of used clothing.

Leave For District Secretary

Gavin Barr, District Secretary, who is going on leave later this month, is probably the only British official who has played guitar duets with his Prime Minister.

Almost exactly a year ago on March 5, 1964, Dr. Kaunda paid his first visit to Abercorn as Prime Minister and stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Metcalfe. Gavin, who was then District Officer, brought over two guitars from his house and a most relaxed and enjoyable evening ensued during which everyone was impressed with the distinguished guest's mastery of the instrument.

But then, so far as one knows, Dr. Kaunda is the only Commonwealth Prime Minister who plays the guitar.

Apart from fulfilling exacting official duties during an awkward transitional period, Gavin and Caroline Barr will be much missed socially. In a comparatively short term as official host and hostess, they have had a great

deal of inter-racial entertaining to do, both of large parties and of individual guests in leading positions, and these have always been smoothly handled and enjoyable occasions for which much of the credit must go to Caroline's talent for taking a personal rather than an official attitude towards her guests.

Gavin has been invaluable both in the light entertainment field with his guitar and his gay little ballads — often poking fun at the late lamented "P.A." — and in dramatic productions. He is an enthusiastic yachtsman and has been a hard working Commodore of the Yacht Club.

It is, apparently, uncertain whether he will be returning to this station after his leave, but Abercorn people will certainly be pleased to welcome him and his family back again if he is posted here for a further term of duty.

Mr. Iain Hart has arrived with his family to take over the District Secretaryship.

Diverting Locusts With Scented Air

A remarkable new plan for the control of locusts actually in flight is being investigated by scientists at the Locust Research Centre in London.

It is stated in the February issue of *The Rhodesian Farmer* that a demonstration of the idea was given at the Centre on February 10 before Dr. R.B. Sen, Director General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation.

The Centre is provided with large wind chambers in which the flight behaviour of adult locusts (bred in London for the purpose) can be studied. Dr. Sen was shown how these locusts, deliberately starved for some days, flew strongly against a powerful wind towards a perforated panel from which the scent of grass was fed into the air.

The idea is that swarms travelling with the wind may, perhaps, be diverted from cultivated areas towards artificially produced grass odours presumably fed

into the air from airborne or ground sources.

In the same issue of the magazine Dr. J.A. Whellan, who has, of course, often visited Abercorn, describes how colonies of the African Migratory Locust, which breeds on the flood plains of the Niger River in the Mali Republic, appear to have persisted like ordinary grasshoppers in Southern Rhodesia for perhaps as long as 25 years.

The development of vast areas of sugar cane in the Hippo Valley has presented this species with conditions ideal for its increase and hoppers were noticed in January. Some 3,000 acres have been successfully treated.

Mr. Whellan writes: "There is, at present, no sign of the locusts swarming. But if the situation were left this could happen and the threatened area would then be much greater." Active work is proceeding to find the sites of the local colonies from which the hoppers have come.

TRANSFER OF LICENSING FUNCTIONS

As from Monday March 1st, 1965 the Management Board has taken over, at the request of Government, certain licensing functions including registration and licensing of motor vehicles, driving licences, and the collection of revenue in respect of other licences.

Management Board Licensing Hours :-

Monday to Saturday 8.00 a.m. — 12.00 noon.

March 1965. C.K. HYDE

'Varsity Fund Dance

A most successful dance in aid of the University of Zambia fund was held in the T.V.M.I. Hall on February 13. The occasion was the first function of its kind to be held in this hall and thus marks a new departure in Abercorn's social amenities.

The lively "Skyrockets" band from Mr. Godwell Sikazwe's Monte Carlo Bar provided most "danceable" music.

An abundance of snacks was prepared by Mesdames Mubanga, Kanweka, Malujlo and Bowmaker.

The hundred guests arrived very promptly and by 8.30 dancing was going with a swing. Mr. Gavin Barr, who acted as M.C., distributed generous prizes given by local business men for novelty dances, a raffle and American auction.

Skillful displays of ballroom

dancing were given by Jonas and Lilian Mubanga and Bob and Olga Jones which were heartily applauded by onlookers.

Among notable personalities present were Mr. Godwell Sikazwe in his independence robes, Mrs. Chanda in a most attractive evening ensemble, Mrs. Kanweka in a charming white dress which was much admired, Com. and Mrs. FoxPitt, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Mukupa and, in fact, most of the leading personalities of the township.

The bar was in the capable hands of Jimmy Fraser and Ben Bedson and Calvin Sikazwe was responsible for the lay-out of the all.

The evening was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. It produced some £50 for the fund.

J.B.

SEASON'S FIRST GOLF

CONTEST NEXT WEEK

The course is now in very good trim and the Elcectic Competition, designed for the review of all handicaps before the start of the new season, has been fairly well supported but seems to have produced disappointing results for many of the good golfers. Cards can still be handed in up to and including March 15.

The first competition of the

season is the Monthly Medal which will be played on March 20. The competition list will be put on the board, together with the new handicaps as soon as they have been worked out. It is hoped there will be an enthusiastic turn out to get the season off to a good start. The draw will be made on Thursday March 18. Make sure your name is there.

SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP

Since we now have quite a number of keen squash players it was decided that a competition should be held, besides the normal ladder play, and that the cup donated by the late Mr. Gordon Lancaster some years ago should be the annual Squash Trophy.

The final of his competition was played at the club on February 26 between Mark Lloyd and Chris Hyde, a comparative newcomer to the game, which resulted in a win for Mark by three games to one making him the champion for 1965. It was a very good match and showed how experience can tell over fitness and agility.

The squash gallery was full of spectators and afterwards everyone adjourned to the bar lounge where Pix McLoughlin presented the cup saying it was an occasion which could be termed historic as it was the first time a squash championship had been held in Abercorn and she hoped it would not be the last. Delicious snacks appeared as if by magic. The magician turned out to be Pix.

J.M.C.

FOOTBALL NEEDS YOUR HELP

Some hundreds of Abercorn people get real enjoyment out of a good football match — especially the youngsters—and there are scores of young men who thoroughly enjoy taking part in the game.

Yet it is very difficult to arrange a series of regular matches because, although people are pleased and willing both to play and to watch the game, they do not seem to realise that some of them must take the lead in organising, giving a little of their time to committee and other work and really trying to get things going. Also those people who really have a little money to spare (and there are plenty of them nowadays) must help in providing the very modest sums needed for such things as footballs and team jerseys.

It should be a great honour for a lad to be chosen to play in Abercorn's senior team; but who is to choose him if there is no Selection Committee, or if members of such a committee do not come to watch practices and matches so as to find the best players?

Several times over the last few seasons someone with knowledge of the game has agreed to attend practices and give advice and instruction; but when only a few men turn out half an hour late, he has found it impossible to continue his help. The time he agreed to give has gone.

Therefore, if you like to watch or to play football, get in touch with the Abercorn District Football Association and see how you can help — even simply by becoming a member and paying over one of those 2s. 6d. pieces which are due to become valueless anyway fairly soon. Then, as a member, you will be eligible to help in improving both organisation and playing standards so that the matches will steadily become more worth playing in and better worth watching.

The fund raising campaign has already met with considerable success. In addition to numerous small monetary contributions, the sponsors have received a most welcome gift from I.R.L.C.S. of 12 football jerseys, six pairs of shorts and three new footballs with spare bladders.



REGULAR PLUS TETRAMEL

AGENTS:

Central African Road Services

CHILA CHAT

A fine, well-nourished lioness was seen on the main road just past the Yacht Club at about 8.30 p.m. on Friday evening (February 19) by Mrs. Ann Parton when driving to her house further along the road. Mrs Parton slowed down and drove behind it up the Kalambo Falls road for several hundred yards when it turned into the bush. Next morning clear tracks of a lioness and two cubs were found leading up between the Yacht Club and the palms along the track from the lake shore where they had apparently been drinking.

A small packet containing an article of new clothing has been found in The Lake Press Ltd. Office, apparently accidentally left by a customer. The owner may have it on stating what is in the packet and how much was paid for it.

Mels Marbus, who has worked a long spell with the Northern Electricity Supply Co.'s power system here, left by air on March 3 for Broken Hill where he is joining the municipality in a similar capacity. Mels was a willing helper in theatre productions and had much to do with the present quite elaborate stage lighting installation which he frequently operated from the electrician's box high up behind the seating.

"V." and Ben Bishop, formerly in charge of the Central African Road Services depot here, returned to Abercorn at the end of March to take over the Abercorn Arms. As previously reported, they have purchased the freehold site and buildings and hope in due course to make considerable improvements and re-establish full hotel facilities on the site.

Kevin Gould, who succeeded Ben Bishop at the C.A.R.S. depot last year, left with his family at the end of February on his way back to his home country — Australia. Kevin, who

spoke sometimes of his Irish origins, is very musical and has a pleasing light baritone. He made several appearances in musical or dramatic performances here and his easy, unself-conscious way of putting across light folk ballads and similar songs was always appreciated.

"Refreshingly informal" was one comment on an early issue of this publication. But then there are quite a number of people in Abercorn who are just that. For example; when Ted left by air for Ndola the other day I asked him in the proper B.B.C. manner, "And what, precisely, are your plans for the future, Mr. Davies?" (Not forgetting the "precisely", you notice). He replied: "I'm thinking of launching a battleship on Lake Chila, signing on Joe Brown as bo'sun and sinking the damn thing, so we both go down with our ship." Joe, at the time, was knee-deep in mud on the Sumbawanga road and I don't know what he thinks about this one.

It seems that Chilongolwelo was invaded by a party of "Pearly" Kings and Queens at the week-end. I wish I had been there — if only to see Olga in her picture hat and her fox fur, combined with her usual eye-glasses. This must have been quite something, especially as Olga can, if she likes, lay on the proper line of talk as thick as any "My Fair Lady" you care to name — including the Hepburn.

Instructors at the Outward Bound Lake School, looking out over Lake Tanganyika from the terrace of their headquarters, Katula Estate, a couple of weeks ago, saw a remarkable appearance in the storm clouds on the northern horizon. There seemed to be three vertical protuberances connecting the clouds with the water and they at first thought this was an effect of light through openings in the cloud cover. However, training powerful binoculars on the spot, they distinctly saw very con-

siderable turbulence at the base of one of these formations and came to the conclusion that they were looking at quite large waterspouts about 30 miles away near the western shore — not far, in fact, from the Kasaba Bay area.

The last day of February saw the end of one of Abercorn's oldest institutions — the Sub-Accountant at the Boma. Licensing duties have gone to the Town Management Road, tax collection to the Rural District Council, Court fees to the Department of Justice and so on. The Sub-Accountant must have been either the third or the fourth official post established here. Early Commissioners did this work themselves under either the Chartered Company or the Colonial Office. The importance of communications very soon brought a Postmaster, health requirements brought a Medical Officer and only then would a Sub-Accountant be required. Among many one recalls in fairly recent years were Terry Ward — more of a hotelier than a book-keeper by temperament — whose cooking is still remembered by some old stagers and

bered by some old stagers; and Guardsman who made a splendid "dame" in a riotous pantomime one Christmas.

Alec and Amelia Gregor are leaving for Mazabuka in a few days where Alec is taking charge of the Veterinary Research Station in place of Mr. Gordon Shaw who has been appointed Director of the Department. Both have been most active and valuable participants in many local activities, particularly on the entertainment side where Alec's artistic and musical talents have been most helpful both in scene painting and performing.

Sister Patricia's Homecraft organisation, which is now so active in helping the women's clubs which have been formed in the Township, is holding an exhibition of its' activities at the Homecraft Centre (in the old beer hall) on Saturday afternoon between 2 and 4 o'clock. The magnificent cake which has lately been on show as the prize of an extensive raffle now proceeding, is an example of the standard of teaching available to members of the clubs.

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