



# THE OUTPOST

(Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper)

THE REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA POLICE

Published under the authority of the Commissioner of Police

9d. MONTHLY

8/6 per annum (post free) to Rhodesia.

9/- per annum (post free) to the Union of South Africa.

10/- per annum (post free) to the United Kingdom and all other countries

Editor: H. G. Baldwin, Telephone 24571, Salisbury.

For Advertising Tariff, apply the Advertising Manager, P.O. Box 803, Salisbury.

Notes, articles, short stories, verse, sketches and photographs will be received with pleasure and published if possible. They should be addressed to the Editor, THE OUTPOST, P.O. Box 803, Salisbury, and should be posted to reach us by the 5th of each month in the case of written matter, and by the 20th of the preceding month in the case of sketches and photographs.

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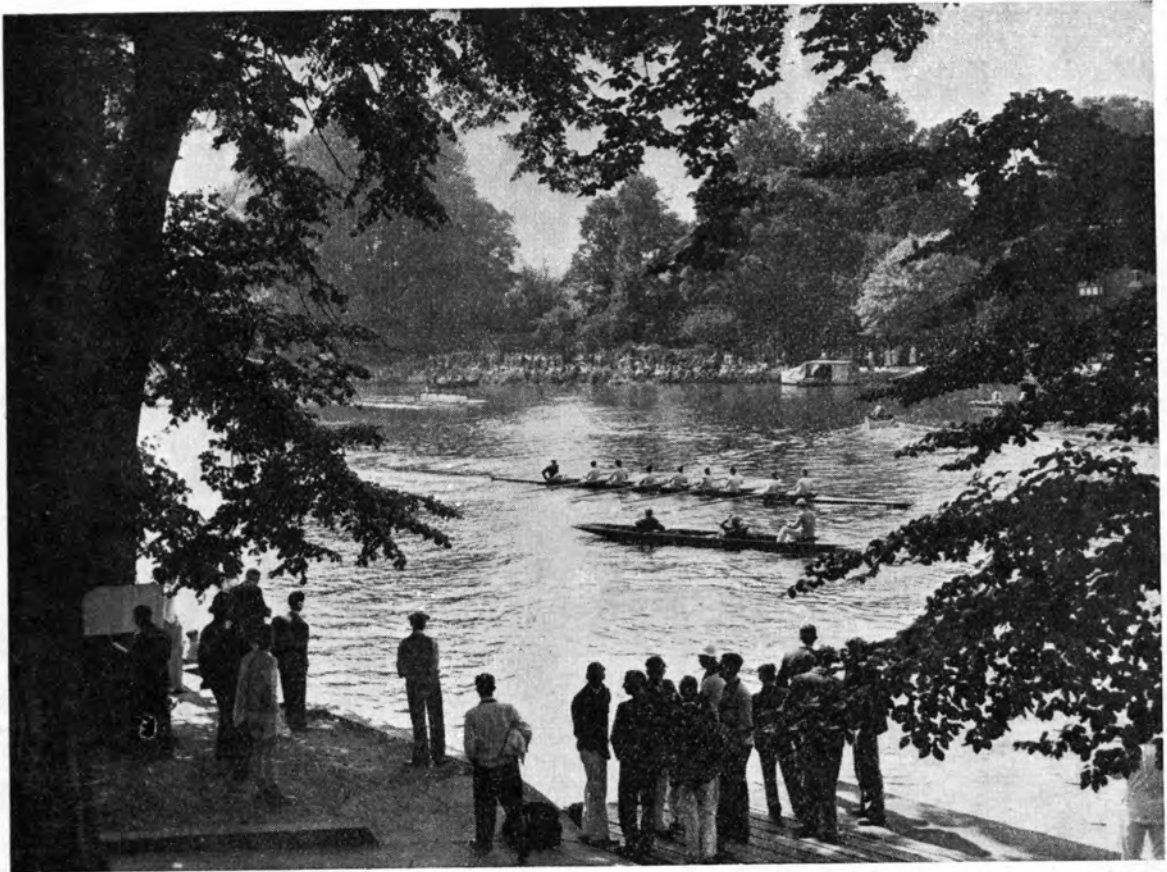
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## SUMMER SPORT



One of the attractions for those on leave in England this summer will be the Henley Regatta.

[Photo: U.K.I.O.]



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# Editor's Notes

One subject that calls for a concentration of effort by most of us every few years is that of Promotion examinations. Some have the good fortune to be blessed with the gift that enables them to take these obstacles in their stride with comparative ease, but to most of us examinations mean long evenings spent in thumbing books that are scarred with amendments that amend amendments, and delving back in an effort to trace some long forgotten orders and instructions. For this there is no alternative, but some help can be obtained from the perusal of past examination papers and with this object we are publishing questions set in the promotion examinations last year. The first papers appear this month and others will follow during the next two months.

All of last year questions are included in this issue, although such a subject as general knowledge is one that cannot be studied. The answers to these questions are either known or not known and no matter what literary masterpieces are offered to the examiner in an attempt to negotiate the real issue by those who are less informed than is considered desirable, the result is either a hit or a miss. This paper, therefore, is included in order to indicate the type of question that may be expected.

The change-over from summer to winter sport that took place this month brought with it a feeling of greater confidence in the ability of the Police to make its mark in the sporting world than in recent years. Three seasons of mediocre Rugby have culminated in the building up of a sound Second League team and the first match of the season against last year's league winners showed that we have the material that is required for the making of a team that should be worthy of promotion to the First League next year. It is a long time since the Corps has been able to field two sides with men to spare at practices and this ensures that the inevitable casualties that occur during a season will not unduly weaken the team.

Playing on the Oval at Depot, the team starts off in new surroundings and we are sure that the young blood we have to represent the Corps to-day will emulate our Rugby history of other days.



The steady flow of new recruits from the land where Soccer is a national game has provided us with an abundance of players and the Corps has once more fielded two strong teams for the coming season. Their performances during the past few years have put them in the front rank of Soccer in the Colony and with teams stronger than ever, we look forward to an even more successful season this year.

The close of the cricket season also gives us cause for some satisfaction. The Police team was promoted to a higher zone towards the end of the season and although their performances were not so outstanding as in the lower zone, they are to be congratulated on their efforts. As in Rugby, Police are slowly but surely retrieving their lost ground in sport in this Colony and a year or two hence may well see them re-established.

Last month we welcomed the re-appearance of two Police magazines in other parts of the Empire. Since then we have received a copy of the second, and as it turns out to be, the last copy of what promised to be another very good publication, *The Dibataq* from Somalia. International conferences have repercussions in many ways and the handing back of Somalia to the Italians under the jurisdiction of the U.N.O. meant that the days of British administration there were ended. At this moment, the handing over is in process, and there will be many serving in the Corps to-day who will recall the establishment of British administration in 1941; some of our ex-members are still in the Somalia Police, including the Commissioner, Mr. D. Cracknell, O.B.E., who less than nine years ago was serving in the B.S.A.P. as a Trooper.

We gratefully acknowledge receipt of the following: The Kenya Police Review; The Nongqai; The Record; The Dibataq; Habari (Uganda); Now South Wales Police News; Victoria Police Magazine; New Zealand Police Journal; Rhodesia Railway Review; The Garda Review; London Calling; The New Rhodesia; The Link.

# Editor's Letter box



Wynberg, Cape Town.  
March 22nd, 1950.

The Editor, The Outpost.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I was very sorry to hear of the death of Sub-Inspector J. Simpson at a comparatively early age. You will no doubt give an account of his service in the next issue of The Outpost. I take this opportunity to pay a tribute to him for the things he accomplished during my time at Police Headquarters.

A good sportsman himself, he was very anxious to see the playing fields at Depot improved. As usual, money for this purpose was scarce and it was commenced with the limited funds available, but a great amount of enthusiasm was there; the result was the excellent grass rugger, soccer and cricket grounds that are now in existence. Deciding that the most suitable soil for the making would be from ant heaps on which couch grass grew freely, he had most of the mounds in the rifle range area removed and after levelling the ground, covered it with this ant-heap soil, no easy task, considering most of it was done by manual labour not unlimited; a borehole was sunk and water laid on.

I remember he spent very many hours outside his normal period of duty in his endeavour improving the playing fields. I think perhaps the Cricket Pitch gave him the greatest satisfaction. He worked on it for many months before he had the pleasure of watching the first match played there and he nursed it along for a couple of years before he was satisfied it would stand up to our climate. I believe I am correct in stating it was the first all-grass pitch in Southern Rhodesia. If there was another it was surely not as fine as ours! We planned to eliminate the need for benches surrounding the fields with a bank, an idea that was carried out after he retired from the Corps.

He was also responsible for laying out the golf course at Depot, and getting it into a condition for playing on, thus providing additional recreation at little cost and at small expense to the players of his, and I hope, the present day.

To those who have built on the good foundations laid, credit is also due. Past, present and future members of the Corps have benefited or will benefit, many of the public enjoyed afternoons on the playing fields as spectators or players, and functions held there have resulted in increasing the Police Benevolent and Regimental Association Funds.

It is because of such men who put service before self that the reputation of the British South Africa Police stands so high amongst the Police Forces of the Empire and Commonwealth.

"If ye seek his monument look around."

Yours truly, J. S. MORRIS,  
Inspector General B.S.A.P. and  
Commandant S.R. Forces (Retired)

Sherwood, 75 Montagu Avenue,  
Salisbury.

March 23rd, 1950.

The Editor, The Outpost.

Dear Mr. Editor,

The death of ex-Sub-Inspector J. G. Simpson at Rusapi on the 18th March, came as a great shock to his old Comrades of the B.S.A. Police, and to all who were privileged to know him.

"Jock," as he was affectionately known, was one of the most colourful characters who has ever donned the Police uniform.

Besides being a splendid horseman, the product of the 11th Hussars, he was an outstanding performer at team games, and will be remembered principally as one of the most accomplished "all rounders" at cricket the Corps has ever known.

The turf wickets and grassed outfields in the Colony to-day are the result of Jock's pioneering efforts, experimenting with soils and grasses specially imported from the Cape at his own expense, and having achieved success and shown the way with the wicket at the Depot cricket ground, cricket clubs throughout the Colony have followed suit, but it is Jock, and Jock alone, we have to thank for the introduction of the turf wicket and grassed outfield which has replaced the stony, dusty horror on which we were compelled to perform in the years preceding and immediately following the termination of the 1914-18 war.

As Jock pioneered the turf wicket in this Colony, what more fitting tribute could be paid to his memory than that the Depot cricket ground—his particular "baby" now so efficiently cared for by Sub-Inspector Trevor Reed—should be named after him?

In all sincerity I commend the idea to the powers that be—"That the Depot turf cricket ground should be, from henceforth, officially known as 'The Simpson Field'."

There is nothing novel in the suggestion. We have named Barrack Room Blocks after ex-Commissioners of Police, and it would surely be a popular move to afford this form of recognition to the memory of this splendid sportsman, who during his long service did so very much for the Corps.

Yours sincerely,

H. M. SURGEY,  
ex-Deputy Commissioner, B.S.A. Police.

Sungei Inas Estate, Kuala Pilah,  
Negri Sembilan, Malaya.  
March 9th, 1950.

The Editor, The Outpost.

Dear Mr. Editor,

It gives me pleasure to enclose a P.O. value 10s.—the annual subscription for the Regimental magazine. I shall be glad if you will post the copies to the above address.

I recently met Trevor Bevan (ex-No. 3790) in Singapore, who passed me some back numbers of The Outpost, which I read with great interest. He is a member of the Colony Police Force, and is doing a great job of work during this time of emergency. Early last year I met Jack Pickup (ex-No. 2713), also of the Police in Singapore, and as we had both served in the Corps about the same time, we had a long chat about "those days."



As you no doubt know, Malaya has been under a state of emergency for the past 20 months or so, with the object of stamping out the gangs of Communist-led thugs who have been doing their best, by murder and arson, to destroy the economic life of this country. They are not having things their own way by any means, as the Security Forces, consisting of Police and Military, are continually on their tails. There have been many casualties on both sides, as well as amongst the civilian population, many planting friends of mine having been foully murdered. However, we do our best to carry on, but I am getting rather tired of carrying a gun around wherever I go, and being escorted by a bodyguard of Special Constables. I am living on a fairly isolated estate on my own at the moment as I have decided that under present conditions my wife and family are better off in England.

I often think of the Gwanda-ites of 1921-1926; Captain Bridger, S/M J. C. Cima, Sgt. Jack Baker, Cpl. Farrier "Jock" Jacobs, Cpl. Baldwin, of West Nicholson, "Blanco" White, of Limpopo, etc., etc. I wonder where they are at present?

With all good wishes to the B.S.A.P.

Yours sincerely,

J. G. O'GRADY, (ex-No. 2395).

Nairobi, Kenya,  
21st March, 1950.

The Editor,  
*The Outpost*.

Dear Sir,

The following was in the *East African Standard*, our local paper, which I thought might be worth printing in *The Outpost* so as to induce some of the local members of the B.S.A. Police to write to me, if they are anywhere in this part of Africa.

#### BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA POLICE

"Moves are on foot to form a branch of the British South Africa Police Regimental Association in Kenya, if sufficient members of the old Force are living in Kenya or other East African territories and within normal reach of Nairobi. Names and addresses of ex-members of the B.S.A.P. should be sent to Captain Stone c/o East African Hotelkeepers' Association, Box 2278, Nairobi, or to Captain M. J. Turner-Dauncey, Box 2374, Nairobi."

As a result of this notice we have collected the following names: Trooper Ross-White, No. 2661 (Box 1736, Nairobi); Trooper H. Stone, No. 1513 (Box 2278, Nairobi); Trooper G. B. Jennings, No. 662 (Box 2267, Nairobi). Trooper Quintin Reid, No. 2652 (Box 662, Nairobi); Corporal Seton-Miller, No. 42 (P.O. Taveta); J. P. Williams (now Captain, M.C.) joined 1906 left 1909; Trooper F. J. Mackin (Box 125, Kampala, Uganda).

There are, of course, a lot more of us hidden in this part of Africa, such as "Squash" Lemon who was somewhere in Katwe area in Uganda, and also Colonel Rice who was last heard of i/c of a camp at Gilgil. But if you could publish these names it might induce others to come to the surface and in the end we will get up a dinner or something. It has been suggested



The burial of the late Sergeant W. Beddard at Salisbury on the 15th March, 1950.

[Photo: Ateller, Ltd.]

that at first we have a Rhodesians' dinner in Nairobi, with the Police, of course, at the head of the table. We are getting more and more Rhodesians coming up here and many of them seem to have got some very nice jobs.

Yours sincerely

H. STONE.

## Obituary

### JOSEPH GORDON SIMPSON

(Regimental No. 2074)

The death of Mr. J. G. (Jock) Simpson occurred suddenly at Rusapi on March 25, 1950.

Mr. Simpson was born at Greystones, near Penrith, Cumberland, on 28th March, 1892, and at the outbreak of the First World War joined the 11th Hussars. He served with his regiment for four and a half years and was awarded the D.C.M. for gallantry.

After demobilisation, he came to Rhodesia and joined the B.S.A. Police on 11th June, 1919. Always a keen sportsman, he represented the Corps at Cricket and Soccer for many years in Salisbury, and his duties as Provost in Depot gave him an outlet for his enthusiasm. The cricket field on which he laid the first turf wicket in Southern Rhodesia, and the golf course were some of the results of his untiring efforts on behalf of Police sport, while his long association with "Cromwell", on which he won the Open Jumping for many years at the Agricultural Shows, made him one of the most popular sporting figures in the Colony.

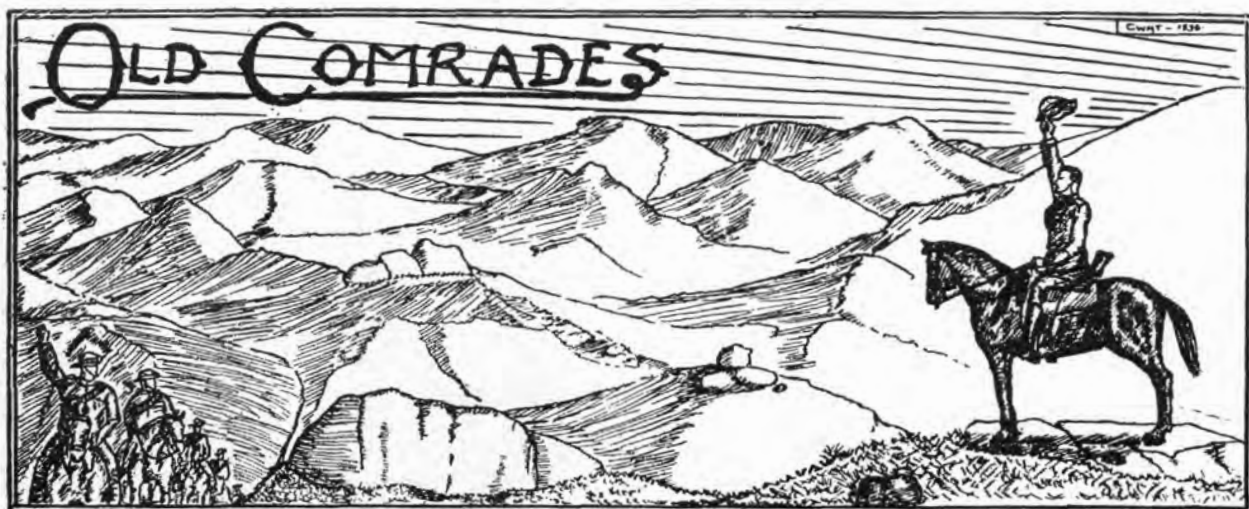
He retired from the Police in 1942 and lived at Rusapi for some years before his death. As Secretary to the Town Management Board he was a well-known and popular figure in the district, being also a member of the Makoni Country Club and Vice-President of the Inyazura Turf Club.

His funeral, with military honours, took place on 26th March, at which Lieut.-Colonel E. Rowley, Officer Commanding Mashonaland Province, attended, representing the Commissioner of Police, while Trumpeters of the B.S.A.P. sounded Last Post and Reveille.

In addition to the many friends who attended the funeral, a number of Africans, by whom he was always greatly respected, were present.

To his widow and daughter the Corps extends its deepest sympathy.





### THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

The Editor has shown me a letter he has received from Mr. H. Stone (ex No. 1513) who is trying to form a Kenya branch of the Regimental Association.

I understand that little is known up there about the objects of the Association so perhaps an extract from the Constitution will help those who are rather hazy about the matter.

#### (2) Objects.

The objects of the Association shall be:—

- (i) benevolence, viz., assistance to any ex-members of the forces mentioned in Clause 3 who are or may have been subscribing members of the Association, their wives and families who may happen to be in need of financial or other assistance; providing that assistance shall not be granted to a non-subscribing member except at the discretion of the Central Committee;
- (ii) to provide a means of social contact between past and serving members.

#### (3) Membership.

- (k) Membership of the Association shall be confined to:—

Any member or ex-member of the British South Africa Police or any member or ex-member of the B.S.A. Police Reserve who has performed police duties over a period not less than 12 months; or

Any ex-member of:

- The Matabeleland Mounted Police;
- The Mashonaland Mounted Police;
- The Bechuanaland Border Police (prior to 1903);
- The British South Africa Company's Police;
- The Southern Rhodesia Constabulary;
- The British South Africa Police Service Column.

This gives an idea of who can join and what the objects of the Association are; fuller details can be obtained on application to the Secretary, B.S.A.P. Regimental Association, P.O. Box 7, Causeway, Salisbury.

#### Cook's Tour of the East

That seems to describe the movements of Paddy Graham since he left Salisbury shortly after the war. After a stay in Hong Kong, he went to Bangkok and I have now heard that he is on his way to Yokohama, in Japan. Apparently Bangkok is a fairly quiet spot

and there is little news. He has sent me, however, the programme of a boxing tournament (Siamese style) which is interesting and amusing. A short history of each contestant is printed below their names and this is a typical extract: "Somporn Kedsongkram: Fighter of Kedsongkram Team, possessed hurtful elbow strike and terrible kick forcibly. Expert style advance ferociously from round to round; preferred to use knee and kick to whip opponents down by knockouts with blood." Paddy says that he would not like to see another contest of this nature.

#### News of Others

Writing from Port Herald, Nyasaland, Morritt M. Walter (ex Nos. 1234 and 1832) says that he was glad to read that "Tanda" Ashley and Mickie Evans are both going strong in Fort Victoria, as he was stationed with them at Chibi in 1911 and 1912, when the district offered lots of shooting. I do not think it has changed

### REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION B.S.A. POLICE

The Annual General Meeting of the Salisbury Branch of the above Association will be held at the B.S.A. Police Depot, Salisbury, at 5 p.m., on Wednesday, 3rd May, 1950.

*All Members of the Association are requested to attend and all ex-Members of the Force and Members of the B.S.A. Police Reserve are welcome.*

much since then, although the district is smaller, and what used to be the shooting area of Chibi is now known as Nuanetsi, still the best station for game in the Colony, I understand. Mr. Walter also recalls ex-Corporal Rochard, mentioned in a recent edition of *The Outpost* as the man who had a dog called "Same" in Bulawayo in 1913.

Mention of the Jamaica Police Magazine in last month's *Outpost* has brought a letter from Major P. Gilmour (No. 3134) of the S.R. Staff Corps, who is an ex-member of that Force and, of course, the B.S.A.P. He is at the Drill Hall, Salisbury (P.O. Box 23).

Ex-Editor E. A. Cordell was in Salisbury a few days ago and he mentioned that whilst in England re-

cently he met ex-Sgt.-Major Ted Breeden at Bourne-mouth. He says he is looking well and sends greetings to his old comrades.

I have just learned that Mr. D. P. P. Cracknell (ex No. 3855) Commissioner of Somalia Police (now handing over to the Italians) received the O.B.E. in the New Year's honours list. All Old Comrades, I am sure, offere their congratulations to him.

J. G. O'Grady (No. 2395) has written from Malaya where he is on a rubber plantation, and the Editor is publishing it in this edition.

#### Annual Meeting

May I draw the attention of the all readers in the Salisbury District to the notice concerning the Annual Meeting of the Regimental Association. These are always occasions when the real business of the evening starts after the official talking has ended and the sun-downer begins immediately after the meeting.

THE CHRONICLER.

## Life Amongst a Million Seals

CHARLES MULVEY, a Canadian ex-barrister who has travelled widely in North-West Canada, recently gave a B.B.C. talk on his experiences on the Pribolofs, a group of islands in the far North Pacific. These islands are the only mating grounds of the great fur-bearing seal herd. They are almost fogbound in summer, and one morning as Mulvey groped along the bare, boulder-strewn shore he heard a deep-throated roar and through the fog saw a giant seal, six feet long and weighing about 700lb., lumbering by. From a safe distance he watched the great creature swing his head to and fro, growling and snarling vindictively and threatening any nearby seals.

In the second week of May hundreds of bull seals come to the islands and each adopts a territory which becomes his harem during the mating season. The best positions, nearest to the water, are the property of the fiercest fighters, and when the fog lifted Mulvey watched many of these awesome territorial battles. A seal would take up a position, another would fancy it and charge with a roaring challenge, to be met by the first seal with teeth bared and powerful neck thrust out. Mulvey described these fights as the most vicious he had ever seen and at times he turned away in horror praying that something might intervene to stop them. But the end comes only with complete victory for the stronger seal.

During the battle period the females have been coming from the South Pacific, where they bask happily during the winter. In May they feel an irresistible urge to go back to mate on the islands where they were born. The sea is dotted for miles with their heads as these lovely little seals, only two and a half to three feet long and weighing about 80lb., come to what Mulvey described as "two months of the most hellish form of domesticity that the female of any speices has ever experienced." As the females swim in the bulls are ranged along the shore to meet them, cooing to attract them. A female approaches the bull of her choice and is picked up as though she were a kitten and carried to the harem. She is left there while her husband goes to collect other wives for, although the young bull seal

takes only one or two, the mature bull may take a hundred.

Bull seals attain maturity at seven but mate from the age of four, when they develop a mane of light yellowish hair. For the two and a half months of the mating season they never eat and seldom sleep. They spend their entire time in their harems and when they leave the islands are emaciated wrecks, compared with the lusty giants they were in mid-May. Young bachelor seals live away from the harems and cautiously make their way to the sea through special lanes between them, for trespassers are torn to pieces. Mulvey spent a great deal of time in these neutral lanes, studying the seals and watching the mothers caring for their babies, for within a very short time of landing the females give birth to the young conceived in the previous year. He watched the young bachelors playing together in the sea with an amiability that leaves them when they become mature and grow into "thugs, wife-beaters and all-round domestic tyrants."

These seals' pelts are unlike any others and are thick, soft and lustrous, with great commercial value. In the middle of the last century, when the herd numbered between three and five million, the seals were slaughtered with hideous ferocity and in fifty years their numbers were reduced to about two hundred and fifty thousand. Now the islands are controlled by the United States, coastguard cutters escort the herd on migration and when it is in residence patrol the surrounding waters. No one is allowed to land on the islands without permission from Washington and no ships are permitted to call. Only a certain number of seals are killed each year and these are all three-year-old bachelors, for old bulls' skins are scarred by fighting and females are kept for breeding.



"Of course, we have had MASSES of rain out our way."



# Station Notes

## DEPOT

Some time ago two photographs were published in *The Outpost* of a Police camp in the Umtali District. One was taken when the quarters were built on bare veld and the other about sixteen years later. The second photograph showed the camp surrounded by beautiful trees and the whole scene was in striking contrast with the earlier photograph.

This month the position is somewhat reversed in Depot. For more years than most of us remember, rows of stately gum trees have divided the camp and its occupants from the outside world of Ninth Street, but alas, they are no more. The height to which the trees had grown had become a danger to the houses on the other side of the road and the P.W.D. or Municipality went into action.

The result is a bare and bleak aspect on the eastern side of the camp behind the haysheds, but that I suppose is inevitable.

And out of this arose a really strange coincidence. The man to whom fell the task of superintending the removal of the trees is the man who planted them over forty years ago! He was a recruit in Depot in 1909 and during one of those periods when certain tasks are "awarded" by the Commandant, he and a few others were given the job of planting trees. Incidentally, he heartily agrees with the removal and thinks they should have gone long ago.

To return to the present. On March 25 the Soccer fraternity challenged the followers of the oval ball to a match of "Foot-the-Balle" as played in 1890. The two teams, arrayed in costume of the period and aided by a noggin of beer, gave a very amusing interpretation of the game. Major Spurling and Lieutenant Brewer, also suitably attired, refereed the game, which was followed by a very serious match between 1st XI and R.A.F. Heany.

The winter sports season opened on April 1 and the Corps acquitted themselves well on both the Rugby and Soccer fields. We hope this foretells of a good season to follow. The hockey team has yet to show its skill.

Within the past month the number of permanent residents in Depot has swelled considerably. Jock Muir has come to understudy Sub-Inspector Woodgate as Small Arms Instructor; John Young, after a short spell in Bulawayo, has joined Pay Office and MacNair, Pratt, Tyrer and Sheppard have arrived to form a display team for this year's Shows. So far, however, they have not displayed themselves on horseback.

For the past few weeks the early morning peace (?) of Depot has been even more horribly disturbed than usual. Another escort is practising for the opening of Parliament on April 17 and the Town Police have made some very caustic comments on being rudely awakened at the unearthly hour of 6 a.m. by the shouting that always accompanies Depot's equestrian activities.



We have heard a rumour—surely unfounded—that a lance was dropped one day on escort practice. It was half confirmed when the writer was stopped in town by a complete stranger who mentioned that he had heard the comments of the gentleman in charge of the escort when one of the unfortunate Troopers dropped his lance—that very morning! He added, however, that the young ladies in the vicinity were probably not sufficiently awake to understand it all.

NDAIVEPO.

## BULAWAYO

Now that you have all seen the photograph of our swimming bath which appeared in last month's *Outpost* the time has come when we must revert to mere monthly notes.

What happens when an irresistible force strikes an immovable object? This problem, which has puzzled the heads of scientists throughout the ages, came near to breaking open the heads of two of our Sub-District Officers the other day. Whether it was the thirst for scientific research or not I cannot say, but the fact remains that they both went to the above-mentioned swimming bath where, in the presence of ladies, mind you, one of them proceeded to dive on to the head of the other. The experiment failed, however, as it was found that their heads were neither irresistible nor immovable. The only conclusion of any scientific value which came to light was that some heads are harder than others as S.D.O. South merely suffered from rather a bad headache whilst S.D.O. North had to adjourn to the hospital and have his sewn up with three neat stitches. We are glad to be able to report that at the time of writing "The Head" appears to be progressing favourably. And there the matter rests at present.

Not to be out-done by "Mutswi" last month on the subject of riot drill, we also decided to see what we could do about it and last week the "Corps de Ballet au Baton" turned out some fifty strong on the parade ground where, before a large and appreciative audience, they thrust, parried, pointed, swiped, yea, and even kicked, at a row of suspended sandbags. At the same time another selected section of the "Corps" no less enthusiastically threw tennis balls at them from a strategic position behind the sandbags. In due course the positions were reversed, so to speak, and the throwers became the "thrown at" whilst they in their turn thrust, parried, kicked, bit, scratched and what have you. This brought the audience to its feet and we took a curtain call. One member of the audience was heard to scream: "Look at Poppa, Mommy! Isn't he playing nicely with that stick!"

The Inter-Garrison Sports, which are to be held in Bulawayo this year, take place on the 15th and 16th of



April; the Corps will be well represented in all branches of the meeting and judging from the form shown at practices by some of our athletes, we should not disgrace ourselves. More about this next month.

Whilst on the subject of sport, we were pleased to hear on the radio last week that Police in Salisbury are fielding two Rugby sides and that the results of their first matches were quite gratifying. We hope to hear great things of them as the season progresses.

Here in Bulawayo we have again entered a Police Soccer team; they played their first match last Saturday against Wanderers and although they lost 5-2, a considerable improvement is expected in the coming weeks.

During the past month we received a visit from the Minister of Justice, who inspected the Station and some of the sub-stations. His arrival was preceded by something in the nature of a false alarm. While the O.C. Province and his colleague of the Urban District were awaiting his arrival outside the front door an impressive-looking Government car drew up in the parking area containing a uniformed driver and a passenger wearing a light summer suit. Compliments were duly paid and acknowledged and the occupants of the car, on getting out, turned out to be — the Prosecutor and Assistant Prosecutor who had come from Court to go through the next day's Court Roll. Curtain.

#### SADDLEBAGS.

#### SALISBURY URBAN

Before we start, we should like to extend a welcome to all the new arrivals at the Station since the last notes. We are especially glad to see the number of sportsmen who have come down from Depot, and who will be keeping the Soccer and Rugby teams up to strength. If you are keen on walking, there's a lot to be said for Salisbury.

The other day, players from the Soccer and Rugby teams put on a show at the Depot, which came to be known as "Foote-the-balle". The Town Station was well represented by players who all enjoyed themselves enormously. A certain amount of doubt was expressed as to how the show would go off, but after a few beers at lunch, everyone was in their element. "Sherry" Sherringham proved to be a very able supporter of the Soccer match—Police versus R.A.F. Heany—which followed.

By the way, anyone who lent a vest for the show, can get the paint out by rinsing same in sulphuric acid. Constable "Jock" Robertson, feeling magnanimous, lent two vests, and is now thinking of bringing a civil action.

Good Heavens! Constable "Teddy" Lucock has done it again—that boy certainly is smart! He took measurements in First Street the other day, and used Inspector MacDonald's favourite steel tape. Unfortunately, a bus went over it, and he is still looking for the pieces.

There are quite a number of crocks walking round the station since football started. Anyway, black eyes can always be put down to rough forward play.

Congratulations to Constable Smithyman on his batting average for the season—good show, "Smithy".

Constable "Jack" Berry and "George" Katz, of the Licence Inspector's office, give us all the latest news about the new station. An extra man turned up for work the other day, so we should be in our new offices fairly soon.

Constable "Pete" Bosley is still down in Serowe. He should have a wonderful line in bush noises when he gets back.

Constable "Tom" Eggleton has been sick lately, but we hope to see him back among us soon. Constable "Jimmy" Riddle is going to have a shot at the "Walter Robin" crossword competition — you're coming on, Jimmy!

Sergeant "Johnnie" Millet and Constable "Laurie" Gearing went down to Beira on escort the other day. Both suffered from a certain amount of indigestion for days after, as a result of their visit to that celebrated place.

Cheers.

POLLOX.

#### UMTALI

The month of March has been a busy one in Umtali.

Our C/R's look like reaching a high level mark and the High Court Session with twenty-nine cases on the roll, including five Europeans, was certainly the longest for many years, if not a record.

Baton Drill and Riot Training for Regulars and Reserves, Musketry and a little First Aid, are a few of the extras we have taken in our stride, and as the month draws to a close we are returning to normal, we hope.

For many years the African Police have taken a prominent place in local soccer, and now the Europeans think it is time they took a hand, or rather a foot, in the matter. D-P May has been elected Captain and Constable Warren as Vice. S/Sgt. Owen is the Secretary, a job he has kindly undertaken, but makes no secret of the fact that if anyone is really dying to do the job he will not take much persuasion to give it up.

The team played their first friendly match on March 25th, and although they gave a good account of themselves in the first half, the second half was not so good and the fitter and better trained side had it much their own way. Many of our players are still hobbling around as a result of this match, but they are sticking to it and with more practice they should be able to hold their own in the local league. Anyway, we wish them the best of luck, lots of goals, and for their own and Inspector Christie's sake, not too many injuries.

The Mess Pig has so far behaved itself and remained in the sty provided, but as it grows it may get other ideas.

Sergeant Jouning is rather a mystery man at the moment. He comes and he goes; we hear of him at Inyanga, we hear of him at Odzi, then Headlands. Just a little sightseeing tour perhaps, or on the other hand he may be playing M.I.5. We just wouldn't know. Hush!

Trooper Wakefield, who is not a naval type, recently had ideas about Land Rovers and thought they might be useful as miniature submarines. We hear that his experiment in the Inyanga district was not quite up to expectations and that the C.M.E.D. had to send out a tug to salvage the would-be Marine Rover.

Constable Geraghty has left us and returned to the City where we believe he is employed in the Pay Office. He said he wanted to get back to Salisbury for Rugger; we believe him, and no doubt she is worth returning for. There is no truth in the rumour that he is to be used as one of the goal posts.

Sergeant Robinson has returned from leave at the Cape. He reports having had a good time and rumour

has it that he nearly—please note the nearly—got a job as First Mate. I am not sure whether it was on one of the Union Castle liners or a False Bay fishing boat; anyway it does not matter, he is now down to it again in Umtali and the lovely smell of the indigenous has no doubt driven away that awful smell of the sea.

Constable Vincent has left on long leave but we have not heard whether he succeeded in getting a passage overseas.

When reading a docket the other day we were surprised to hear that a Mr. X was walking round the world and intended to make his first stop at Nairobi. We do not know how far he had come, but Umtali to Nairobi non-stop is quite a good step.

We recently had news of ex-Sergeant Baldery who now resides in Livingstone and is very happy in his job with the N.R. Law Department.

The Annual Musketry has so far not produced any outstanding scores although shooting conditions on the range have been good.

We are sorry to report that our O/C., Major Thatcher is laid low with some back trouble which is very painful and requires him to remain still. Keeping still is not exactly his strong point. We hope he will soon be quite recovered and if not fit enough to turn out for the Soccer team, at least able to get about his normal routine without any further trouble.

Cheerio.

NGITI.

#### SHABANI

Despite an appeal by Post Office officials and the Editor to post early for Christmas, our contribution for the end of the year did not even reach the typewriter carriage. And without reservation we contribute our non-appearance in the January number to those funny little forms.

One might say that Shabani can now be called a Sub-District Headquarters—one might not, however. No matter what one might call it we have Lieutenant Sobey here, his Sub-District comprising Selukwe, Shabani and Belingwe. Member i/c is Sergeant Weston, recently ex-Gutu and leave. We'll not say "fresh from leave" because the Shabani air played havoc with his afternoon's work for quite a time.

Chief Inspector Plummer left us in October of last year for a spell of leave and resumed duty at Gatooma. We trust that he will enjoy his stay there as much as we and the Townspeople enjoyed his presence here. That left Sergeant Ward in charge for a while until he was transferred to Marandellas. We understand that Roland Park and the Town golf courses were not handed over with the Station.

In the other office can be found Sergeant Moisey worrying over a shortage of A/C.'s and a surplus of troops. He is an also-ran in the matrimonial stakes, having recently returned from leave with a wife. In the same office, ably assisting him in their "spare" moments, are Troopers Avery—now the old hand of the Station—Pugh and Chadwick, and the first Constable we've ever had (we're open to correction), Constable Carter. Our deepest sympathies are extended to Trooper Pugh in his bereavement—he suddenly lost his appendix on Christmas Eve. To this appendix he was firmly attached and he says that he will never be able to replace it, not even from the mammoth selection available in that gargantuan volume—Standing Orders. Trooper Chadwick and Constable Carter were given the opportunity of unpacking their bags here by the transfer of Trooper Wilsher to Belingwe (complete with his brother's laugh). Chadwick did



S.D.O.'s Office, Shabani.

[Photo: Sgt. Moisey.]

not turn up on the day we were expecting him, thereby calling for an entry of "Wot! No Chad?" in the O.B.

The highlight of the month was the marriage of Sergeant Crabbe, an ex-member of this Station, to Sister Woodford, of the Shabanie Mine Hospital staff. Perhaps there are some who were wondering what Sergeant Crabbe was doing. It was only in December that we read he had returned from leave with a wife and the next month there appeared an engagement notice. He apparently satisfied his wife-to-be on this point and evidently concealed his "dark past" when the banns were called. Perhaps pens were poised over paper and two fingers over typewriter keys ready to suggest that Sergeant Crabbe be charged with bigamy directly he took the fatal step. Apparently the writer of the December notes expressed his advance information incorrectly or meant someone else. However, he waited at the Church with no more qualms than a bridegroom normally has. The day having dawned overcast, cleared at the vital moment for the wedding. After having taken the plunge into the sea of matrimony the Crabbes led us to the first port of happiness, The Residency, where the reception was held. The bridegroom is to be congratulated on his excellent speech which we understand he is going to copyright as an improvement to Duty Hints to Bridegrooms (Gwelo Notes, January, 1950). The reception was well attended and soon the bridegroom's partners in crime had jollifications in full swing. The happy couple were given a rousing send-off and perhaps they will tell us of Glenlivet life at a later date. We were pleased to see "Caruro" and Sergeant Weimer from Fort Victoria; at a late hour they got into amazing positions—looking for clues, no doubt. It was a pity that we did not see more from Gwelo.

There being no howlers at Shabani this month we take off our hats to a member of the local C.I.D. When asked to check the Shabani train at Gwelo he replied that he could not find what was wanted but it might have been taken off at Selukwe!

To a Sheriff for forwarding a High Court subpoena for the deceased. Admittedly the deceased appears on the list of witnesses as he made a statement. But when a little note was put on the next subpoena, the doctors, "P.M. report on Buru Elias" that should have rung a bell.

More next time.

CRANDOB.

#### FORT VICTORIA

Our main topic of interest this last month is the close attention given to the annual tennis championships held at our Sports Club. With the exception of one or two details, all of the younger members took





## SEEN IN DEPOT

Front Row: C/Insp. Plummer, Sgt. Stidolph, Sgt. Travers, Insp. Aust, S/Insp. Lyon, C/Insp. Genet.  
Back Row: Sgt. Mason, Tpr. Lowther, Insp. McGovern, Sgt. Gordon, S/Insp. de Lorme.

part, and in some cases they gave some of the club's noted tennis players some very keen games, the most successful being Troopers Sayer and Jarvis. The former was one of the finalists in last year's Police tennis championship tournament. Jarvis fought through to the quarter-finals in the open but was beaten in the semi-final in the handicap event. Sayer went through to the semi-final of the open event, but unfortunately he had to retire halfway through the second set when the score was 2-2, owing to injury. In the handicap event he, too, was beaten in the semi-final, although at one stage it was thought that the handicap event would see an all-Police final.

Our snooker team are still leading the table, although they have met with one reverse since our previous notes. This was when the local team met the Township, whose team had been considerably strengthened by the inclusion of Mr. G. Hilda, a man famous at one time in Johannesburg for his competitive snooker against the South African champion, Mr. Peter Manns. One break of 39 by Mr. Hilda was followed immediately by a break of 48, a really fine performance for a man of his years. The interest in the game in Victoria may be appreciated when it is stated that there are now nine teams in the table.

News has been received during the month from two Old Comrades, Ex No. 3024, Mr. Arthur (Squiffy) Pipe will be back in this country by the time these notes appear in print. It may be remembered that he left Rhodesia for the Old Country in June of last year. However, he seems to prefer Rhodesia after all, and will be living in Salisbury after July. Mr. L. A. (Pronto) Barrett has also sent us news. He still remains warden to a community centre in Chesham, Buckinghamshire, where he finds most of his time, five nights out of seven so he says, attending committee meetings, etc. He is of the opinion that it is nearly as hard these days for the over 30's to get decent employment at home as it is for the over 40's.

Trooper Sutherland is again in the local hospital with malaria. We hope that after his discharge he will be free from this complaint which has been rife here this season.

Visitors during the month have been Sergeant Everett from Umvuma during the High Court sessions and Captain D. M. Batty and Detective-Sergeant K. Leaver from C.I.D., Gwelo.

Sergeant "Jimmy" James also passed through after touring the Union on long leave. He was not looking

too fit when we saw him, but we trust he is well again by the time these notes are read.

Congratulations also to Trooper Sayer, of the S.T.O.C.S., who received a Commissioner's commendation for investigations in a series of stock theft cases which occurred in the Mashaba, Shabani and Selukwe areas.

Congratulations to Harry Scholes, our District Clerk, on his promotion to Staff Second Sergeant. We also offer our sympathy to him on the injuries sustained in a driving accident just after he sat his examination in Salisbury.

Much amusement was caused in camp the other day at the wit shown by one of the camp followers. He approached his employer, a certain Trooper, about the possibility of his getting his month's wages a day or two before the end of the month. When the Trooper said that he had no cash with him, the smiling servant produced the Trooper's cheque book, saying, "Plenty mari paper here, boss."

Trooper Leamon left us on 1st April, with civvy kit packed in preparation for leave in England. We know he will enjoy himself while over there. His place at Gutu is being taken by 2/Sergeant Sowter, who recently returned from four months at Home.

As a parting note, we add that rain is falling steadily in Victoria at the time of writing, putting a refreshing air upon humans as well as nature. Let us hope there is much more in store for us before the rainy season ends.

CARURO.

## GATOOMA

"Pasina Runare" put Gatooma back on "The Outpost" map and with his departure it falls upon another to keep the party going and to prevent Gatooma from once again fading into oblivion. So, heigh-ho, bring on the lemonades!

The main event of the month has been the wedding of Trooper Johnnie Reid and Miss Phyllis Waddell, which took place here on the 25th March. Phyllis looked lovely and Johnny—well you know how grooms look—awful, isn't it? The B.S.A.P. were extremely well represented, especially at the reception. I wonder how the out-stations got on without any European members! Good luck, "Johnny" and "Phil". And thanks, Johnny, for that grand bachelor party.

A few changes have taken place in our staff, namely, the departure of our "sparks", Constable Bryan, and his replacement by Trooper Gardner, who needs no welcome to Gatooma as he has served here before and is well known to all and sundry. Constable Farrell has joined us from Depot and we all hope that he will take us for what we are and really enjoy Gatooma life.

Our O.C., Captain Fitzwilliam, has been sick, but I am pleased to say that he is once again up and among the living.

Our Cricket 1st XI (no, not our last) played an away match at Dalne Mine and everyone concerned had a fine time. Our opponents just managed to win (they beat us by 60-odd runs) and the game will go down in history as the only one in which the last man went in, closed both eyes, and scored heaps of runs—well done, Sergeant "Slogger" Travers.

Trooper Norman has handed over his mess caterer and bar steward headache in exchange for stable parades and duty. Constable Doherty takes over from him—apparently a headache is better than shift work.

Three times a week we see a contingent leaving the camp armed with hockey sticks. We are not yet



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RIOT DRILL TRAINING. The First-Aid Team going into action.

sure whether they chase the ball or the lady members of the hockey section. Personally I think it is the latter, judging by the bruises our contingent returns with—I always thought hockey was a quiet game.

The single quarters echo all day long to the noise of table-tennis balls, and the servants spend more time returning the balls to the players than they do on their ironing duties. But we will master this game!

Do you mind if I insert a little puzzle for the Gatooma fellows? It will help to keep their minds alert.

#### WHO?

Who is the "guest" in the mess who is always served first?

Who is it spends his lunch-times at the baths—out of the water?

Who is the racing cyclist seen pedalling towards Kriek Street every evening—and on a "borrowed" cycle, too?

Who asks for a second "scoff" before starting his first?

Who wants the cash before passing the beer?

Who says "Cats in the Mess" and who says "Cats out of the Mess"?

No answers will be given for fear of my life.

Pip Pip,

T.T.

#### GUTU

We are as dry as ever! The clouds loom pregnant and promising on the horizon; to date they have not fulfilled their promise. The water situation is getting progressively worse.

Notwithstanding this, five new houses are going up in the village. One of them being married quarters of a 2/Sergeant. This is sited near the old orchard, which no doubt some of our more venerable members will remember. These houses are to be fitted with every modern convenience. But publish it not in Gath nor Ascalon, they are going to be fitted with a most acceptable convenience. In fact there will be chains to pull or handles to turn, but heaven knows what they are going to put in the cisterns if our drought continues.

Other than this there is no startling news to be told. The village plods on in its immemorial fashion, as no doubt it will continue to do until we get a hydrogen bomb, or something.

Trooper Leamon goes on leave, to England, on 1st April, and we have seen him busy getting the moths out of his duds, and giving his battered boxes a new coat of paint. We do not yet know who will replace him.

Constable Maskell, is settling down to the bundu life, and by the time this makes print will be on an extended mounted patrol of the Shikwanda Reserve.

He is still muttering about his "demotion" to the District Branch, but in actual fact is as pleased as punch about it. We wish him luck with R.H. Dolfuss and the ticks and turbulence in our most ill-behaved Reserve.

Trooper Dixon made an ignominious return from his mounted patrol on the 26th February. In fact the horse and pack donkeys had to be walked in, and he was taken to Hospital at Fort Victoria. It appears he collected a dose of malaria with a dash of pleurisy. Anyway, he is fit and about now; no flowers by request.

Sergeant Hunter is busy swotting for the Native Customs and Language Examination, and if the amount of swotting he is doing is any criterion, he is bound to pass! We wish him the best of luck.

Well, that's that, having fulfilled my obligations to the Editor, I now remove myself, to watch the clouds and pray for rain.

TRAVELLER.

#### ODZI

Having proved to ourselves that it can be done, another effort to appear in the headlines is made.

Some of you will no doubt remember seeing in a previous number of *The Outpost* a photograph of a horrible little hut, topped by a thatched roof, with the mournful words below reading, "Is this the last outpost." I am pleased to be able to tell all and sundry that we have now a brand new beautiful office block. It took some little time to get used to all the unaccustomed floor and shelf space at our disposal, but it was a very much needed improvement. Many are the remarks made by the visiting locals.

The present station strength is 1/Sergeant John and Troopers Galloway and de Klerk. Unlike some of our neighbouring stations we are fortunate enough to have been left together for some time now.

Trooper Galloway returned from five months' leave in Europe during January, and by the look of him there is little doubt as to what sort of leave time he had.

Second-Sergeant Jouning assisted us for a short while during the absence of Trooper Galloway, and managed to find for himself a little Assault Case (12 counts), which will soon be going to High Court in Salisbury.

We have heard that the Powers that Be intend authorising the rebuilding of the troops' quarters within the next three years. This is another much needed improvement, and it is hoped that the present quarters (very cracked and white-ant eaten) will oblige by standing that much longer.



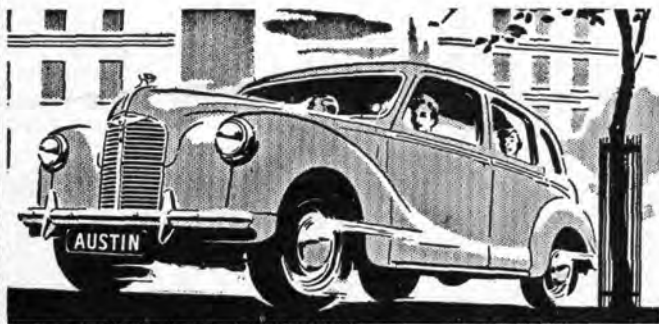
RIOT DRILL TRAINING

The Tear Gas Squad in action.



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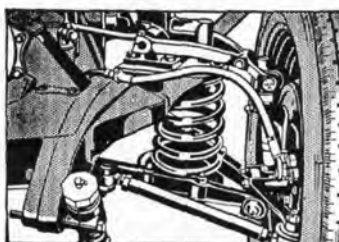
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An R.A.F. radio beam station has been erected about 40 yards from the Charge Office, and we have found them very obliging in regard to taking messages from Z.E.F. 4 every morning. We have been wondering whether we should give our radio man a great shock one day by transmitting back to him.

Before closing, and for the benefit of types who might find themselves here some time in the future, I will jot down some of the attractions. One hotel in the village, one bottle store also in the village, one hotel three miles away, one sports club (with bar) also three miles away.

In conclusion I can only say, "What more can you want?"

#### POLICE RESERVE: SALISBURY

News has been received from Headquarters, Bulawayo that the Salisbury Division are the winners of the Inter-Unit Postal Shoot for the B.S.A. Police Reserve for 1949.

The returns for the various centres are as follows:

Salisbury, 733; Que Que, 709; Gwelo, 693; Bulawayo, 692; Gwanda, 674; Selukwe, 613; Gatooma, 580; Cam and Motor, 483.

The Salisbury team and their individual scores are as follows:—

2/Sgt. E. E. Coleman .....	135
Const. E. H. Riddle .....	130
Const. J. C. K. Campbell .....	127
2/Sgt. E. G. Bardwell .....	119
Const. P. J. Hoffman .....	114
Const. E. H. Pihl .....	108
	<hr/> 733

Sergeant Coleman is to be congratulated on his fine shooting in scoring 135 out of a possible 145.

Recruiting for the Division has been satisfactory but 50 more are required to bring the Division up to strength. The first recruits course of lectures for 1950 commenced on Tuesday, 21st March, and will continue on every Tuesday until completion of the course. The number attending the present course is 41.

The selection of Constable E. H. Riddle for the Bisley team to visit England this year has been received with great satisfaction by the Division.

It is intended to put in a strong team for the local Bisley this year.

Back in 1937 a well-known Bulawayo sportsman and clubman, then living in Salisbury, left his bicycle outside a Salisbury barber's shop. His haircut over, he came out—to find his bicycle gone.

He reported his loss to the Salisbury police, giving the frame number. The police would not promise anything—bicycles were, even then, disappearing at the rate of hundreds a week—but they undertook to do their best.

Thirteen years have gone by, and the owner of the bicycle is now established in Bulawayo.

Last week he received an official chit from the Salisbury lost property office to the effect that his bicycle is now in their possession, and asking for instructions as to its disposal.

The owner does not particularly want his bicycle at this stage—he drives a car now—but he is full of admiration for a police system that can trace his machine after 13 years; remember who lost it; and know without notification the address to which he has moved in Bulawayo.—The Rhodesia Herald.

At an orchestral concert in the provinces, the visiting conductor took the first half of the concert so slowly that it meant the thirsty musicians would finish the performance too late to have a drink at the pub next door. During the interval the leader of the orchestra said to the other players, "Don't you take any notice of the old So-and-So's beat during the second half. Just you follow me." True to their strict discipline the orchestra paid no heed at all to the visiting celebrity and dutifully followed their leader in the Mozart symphony, finishing ten minutes ahead of time. "We didn't half give that symphony a pasting," said the leader afterwards, "but the audience kept us so long with their cheering and clapping that the pub was shut after all when we got there."



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## SOCCKER

The official Soccer season opened on April 1, but before entering into the humdrum competition of the League, or zones as they are now, we managed to arrange one or two friendly matches to allow the teams to settle down and to try out our new players. All appear to be fit, thanks to the combined efforts of Sergeant Johnston with his P.T. and Mr. Levy with his theories and training manual.

The first game was a practice one for the Second XI, who played Raylton Ramblers, a new team to local Soccer, on the Police ground on Sunday March 19. As a trial match for the Second XI it was not a success and Police, although they had most of the play, were lucky to run out the winners by two goals to one. Police goals, scored by Dunn and Alexander, came late in the second half, and throughout the game the Police forwards were too slow off the mark and reluctant to shoot first time at goal. Score: Police 2; Raylton Ramblers 1.

### *Police v. R.A.F.*

The big match was, of course, the one against R.A.F. Heany from Bulawayo. Last year at Bulawayo the Police team, playing with five second team players, beat Heany 3-2 and they were out for revenge. This game was played on the Police ground on Saturday, March 25 following the "Foote-the-balle" game. The game was very fast and ended with Police the winners by 4 goals to 2. Our fitness played an important part in the win and Buchanan and Coop played outstandingly for Police.

In the first few minutes R.A.F. played some very good football and had the Police defence on their toes. After only four minutes' play Police were awarded a free kick but the R.A.F. backs cleared before anything dangerous developed. We were a little slow in settling down but after Buchanan had tried a first time shot which just went over the bar, they seemed to sort themselves out. R.A.F. were first to score when a shot from their centre-forward left Blair with no chance.

From the kick-off Buchanan gave Ryan, playing for the first time at centre-forward, a through pass, but in his excitement he missed with a good drive.

Shortly afterwards Clapham missed for Police, but almost immediately put Ryan through to score a good equaliser, making the score 1-1.

Both sides tried shots at goal but there was no further score until after thirty minutes' play when Clapham scored with a perfect ground shot to put Police one up.

Rawson, playing at outside-left for Police, tried an angle shot but it went wide and from the clearance the R.A.F. centre-forward scored with a beautiful right-footed drive from over 25 yards out, beating Blair, who seemed to be waiting for a pass to the left.

The interval came with the score Police 2; R.A.F. Heany 2.

Immediately after the kick-off Police put on pressure and Rawson sent across a good centre to Ryan who again made no mistake with his shot, to put Police one ahead. The R.A.F. seemed to be playing better football than Police, but their repeated raids were broken up by our defence who were playing well. A free kick to R.A.F. just outside the penalty box saw Blair bring off a fine save.

Some clever football on both sides saw the ball go from end to end and Buchanan tried twice with long drives, only to see the ball go over the bar. Marnoch, after beating two men, put in a fine centre to Ryan who "screwed" the ball into the net with his head to make his third goal. Police, being the fitter team, were now having more of the game and our forwards repeatedly missed first-time shots at the goal. Ryan scored another goal but was ruled off-side. He kept on trying, however, and played a good game.

Final score: Police 4; R.A.F. 2.

We were all very pleased to see our R.A.F. visitors and efforts are being made to stage a relay of what was said to be the best match Salisbury has seen for a long time.

Police team: Blair, Taylor, Johnston; Rowland; Reid; Coop; Marnoch; Clapham; Ryan; Buchanan (Capt.), Rawson.

On Sunday, March 26, Police II entertained Forces II to a friendly match on the home ground. Forces are another newly-formed team in local Soccer. Police were decisive winners by three goals to nil, and had scored their three goals within 20 minutes of the start; they were unlucky not to score more. Hammond, Stevens and Collins played outstanding games for Police.

### *Police v. Postals*

In the First League match of the season Police played Postals on Saturday, April 1. Postals were last season's Cup and League winners, but they are not up to their past standard. It was a game in which we did not see Police at their best and after about half an hour's play the result was not in doubt and consequently the standard of play suffered. Police proved themselves superior in almost every way. At half-time the score



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## RHODESIA RAILWAYS



was Police 4, Postals 0, Police scorers being Buchanan 2, Clapham and Shaughnessy. In the second half Postals scored a quick goal from a break-away by Reason, but Police added a further two goals through Buchanan in reply. Final score: Police 6; Postals 1.

Police team: Blair, Taylor, Johnston; Rowland; Reid; Coop; Marnoch; Clapham; Shaughnessy; Buchanan (Capt.); Ryan.

On Sunday, April 2, the Second XI began the official season with an away match against Gatooma and playing on a small and uneven pitch where ball control was difficult, were beaten by 2 goals to 1. Police forwards, with the exception of Banister, missed many opportunities and would not take chances when offered. Banister, who scored the only goal for Police, and Stevens, were outstanding.

Police team: Rawson, Digges, Tait, Inglis, Stevens, Harris, Hammond, Yeoman, Banister (Capt.), Jannaway, Bester.

Both teams, particularly the Second team, have yet to settle down and the forwards must attain that "have a go" spirit before convincing wins over good teams can be gained. However, congratulations to all those players who have done so well so far, and to our small army of reserves who keep trying and attend practices regularly.

K.N.R.

## RUGBY

First game of the season was played on the Depot Oval against Forces Second XV. The result was a draw, each side scoring a penalty goal. Prentice converted for Forces in the first half and Katz replied for Police in the second half after Ruttle and Naested had failed.

The game was reasonably good for the first match of the season, starting off at a cracking pace and tailing off towards the end. We had the fitter team and with a little luck and unselfishness we could easily have won the game.

We have at last found a good back line and this season the forwards should have no grouse about slogging away and seeing the backs throw away all the good work they have put in as we have seen during the last few seasons. Only two members of last year's team have retained their positions in the backs, "Torso" Rees and Riddle. There are three newcomers to the forwards, Naested at No. 8, Greeff at left flank and Berry left front rank.

There were more movements amongst the backs than we have seen for years, but they usually broke down by Riddle kicking far too much. The drubber kick is very good at times, but kicking on to the full-back continually is useless and more often than not we were driven back instead of making ground. Riddle has a hard runner in Chaston on the left wing and nobody could understand why he refused to let Chaston have a go. Whenever Chaston did get the ball, usually after he had to find it himself, he made a few yards. He is a very difficult man to bring down. Smithyman and Katz combined well, but Katz was inclined to stand a little too far from the scrum with the result that a number of Smithyman's passes were lobbed.

The forwards played a poor game compared with their past achievements. There was no push in the scrum and the loose forwards were inclined to break too fast and not use their weight in support. This was

noticeable in the second half when Forces were playing seven men through an injury. We should have got the ball much more often than we did. Berry at left front rank seldom closed the scrum after Smithyman had put the ball in and we lost all advantage of the loose head. As Humphries hooks with his near foot he must have a man who can swing round fast and assist with the hooking. Humphries hooked more often when Forces had the loose head than when we did.

The line-out work was not good and too many of the forwards stood on their flat feet instead of trying to jump for the ball. Eggleton was sadly missed.

We should go through the season with a strong team, and we are now in the happy position of knowing that every man will have to train hard and play hard to retain his position.

The following represented Police: Reynolds; Rees, O'Shaughnessy, Riddle and Chaston; Katz and Smithyman; Graham, Humphreys, Berry, Todd (Capt.), Ruttle, Swan, Greeff and Naested.

J.B.R.

## Foot-the-Balle

TO me has fallen the job of reporting the match played on Saturday, March 25, between Gentlemen (Rugby) and Players (Soccer). I have decided to report it without the "Olde Tyme" touch, this being more readily understood by this modern generation.

Well, at approximately 2.30 p.m. quite a large crowd had gathered on the Police ground wondering what on earth they were going to see. Indeed they were not the only ones, teams included!

With the Police Band providing fitting music the two teams took the field. The Commissioner kicked off and then had to fight his way out of the converging mass of players (it was the ball they were after) and the game was on. Dressed in costumes of that long dead age with pill-box hats and side-whiskers, the two teams entered into the spirit of things and performed like stage veterans. The two "refpires" on tricycles with bells, hooters and much fist-waving and debating, managed to control the game and apart from Marmaduke losing his pants and having to borrow a pair from a lady spectator, there were no incidents. Of course there was the incident of the fight and the duel with pistols which fortunately misfired, and also the member of the crowd who was mobbed by the players for over-barracking. But I said there were no incidents. What appeared to be a very welcome beer revived everyone at half-time, when photographs were taken of both teams by an equally archaic-looking photographer.

I am told that the Gentlemen won by the odd goal, but then anything was liable to happen and usually did, and even the result is open to argument. A very successful game and congratulations to the organisers and all those who took part.

Gentlemen: Marmaduke; Montmorency; Archibald; Crankshawe; Herbert-Fitzherbert; Cuthbert-Pomery; Cholmoney-Featherstonhaugh; Tubshawe; Gilbert the Filbert; Clarence; Willoughby.

Players: Bert; Syd; Joe; Harry; Spike; Bill; Fred; George; Jack; Jim; Alf.

K.N.R.

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# The Influence of Early Bantu Law on Modern Criminal and Police Procedure

By Detective-Sergeant K. D. LEAVER

"Throughout the web of English criminal law one golden thread is always to be seen, that is it is the duty of the prosecution to prove the prisoner's guilt . . . . No matter what the charge and where the trial, the principle that the prosecution must prove the guilt of the prisoner is part of the common law of England, and no attempt to whittle it down can be entertained."

(Viscount Sankey L. G. in *Woolmington versus Director of Public Prosecutions* (1935 A.C. 462).)

In Britain and most other civilised countries where English law is followed the most ignorant layman is aware and proud of the fact that the onus of proof is on the Crown.

Criminals with long records and even those with little experience of the Courts seldom elect to commit themselves to the making of statements which might incriminate them, until they have heard the Crown case.

Because many of our common law crimes were either not crimes or were practically unknown to Bantu law, it is not surprising that many educated Africans quote the days when a man suspected of being a poisoner was bludgeoned to death in the early light of dawn, his bones being hoisted on a tree at some cross-road to warn others.

The criminal procedure in use in the Colony is, however, in many respects similar to the Bantu conception of Justice; where it differs, we can discern the variations in our daily dealings with Africans.

Perhaps the most vivid example of where the onus of proof has been partially shifted to the accused, by Statutory legislation coinciding with pre-Occupation African thought and practice, is the Stock Theft Act.

The Mashona and the AmaNdebele recognised collective responsibility as our Act does. If spoor was traced to a kraal the searchers could proceed within its confines on presenting the Headman with a goat. Should the thief be found there he was taken for trial, the goat being retained by the Headman. If a spoor disappeared in a certain vicinity the local tribesmen were called upon to make good the stolen cattle.

To be found within a cattle kraal at night raised two irrebuttable presumptions — attempted theft or witchcraft. Needless to say most people so found elected to plead the former, unless, of course, the thief was a professional stock raider. For him there was a remote chance of saving his neck should there be a trial by ordeal for witchcraft.

An African caught in the act of theft could be killed outright, only a fine of cattle in the form of blood money being paid to the Chief. Simple theft on the other hand was compoundable as in Rome. Unchallenged possession of stolen property for a season raised a presumption wholly in favour of the accused. A person dispossessed of anything was expected to immediately vindicate his own colour of right.

An interesting example of how this early procedure has affected our African population to-day in

their relationship with the Police and Courts, is the vast number of Africans who, after having been convicted of theft, arrive at Police offices and Magistrates' Courts on discharge from gaol demanding back the property they stole, or the new articles they bought with the stolen money. They cannot appreciate the fact that the owner is entitled to it instead of themselves after a long spell of unchallenged possession prior to arrest.

Many on being charged with theft will endeavour to illustrate how they have become acquainted with our procedure, at the same time remembering their "long possession" doctrine by stating, "I am only guilty because I have the property in my possession." Few who have possessed stolen property for a considerable time will plead guilty or attempt a reasonable defence, unless, of course, they are hardened criminals.

The fact of the doctrine of recent possession on the other hand, is to the African more a point of law. This fact is seldom relied upon without corroborative evidence by the prosecution to-day, where articles which pass quickly from hand to hand among Africans are concerned; whereas to them, it is in the case of very recent possession, tantamount to being caught in the act.

The Bantu "caught in the act" doctrine is a very strong influence towards a confession even in murder cases. Capture a man shortly after a murder and he invariably confesses. Have much more evidence a year later and arrest him and he will plead his innocence to the last.

Murders solely for gain were hardly known before the Occupation. Impi raids sponsored by a Chief where blood was shed were not classified as murder. Apart, of course from those criminal deeds perpetrated by the malicious murderer, most of our murders can be categorised as follows:—

- (a) Cause—anger or provocation.
- (b) Cause—women.
- (c) Cause—drunkenness.
- (d) Cause—the witchcraft element.

Those classified under (a) to (c) are often reduced in our Courts to culpable homicide and can be examined together.

According to Bantu law there was rarely *mens rea* present when a killing occurred. It was not an essential to be proved. A man provoked must defend himself; if death resulted to one of them the most important question to be decided was how much compensation should be paid to the deceased's family, and, apart from a blood toll of a beast exacted by the Chief for considering the damages, the matter there ended. In an angry affray which resulted in a death, the maxim was "a fair duel" after the old English idea. Again compensation was the issue.

If a woman were caught by her husband committing adultery, he thought more about compensation than he did about killing his rival. The modern form of marriage where a man is encouraged to have one wife only has no doubt stirred up passions which did not exist sixty years ago. A survival of the Bantu outlook is revealed in the Natives Adultery Act where an election

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is offered to the wronged husband. He can either let the Court hear the case as a criminal matter or let it be dealt with civilly as a damageable action. Adultery according to our law has become abrogated by disuse. (Green v. Fitzgerald, 1914 A.D. 88). These species of murder therefore were partly compoundable apart from the Chief's blood fee—usually a beast.

Drunkenness as a cause was not considered serious, for here again there was invariably provocation. It was at the beer drink, as it is to-day, that an axe was seized and the fatal blow struck, followed by remorse. Compensation again, was the penalty.

Apart from our modern cold-blooded murderer who acts for pure gain, caused not by his own customs but by the impact of European civilisation, practically all other murders has as an element, (d) witchcraft.

In the early days the accused would stand trial not for murder, but the more serious offence of witchcraft. The poisoner was deemed "umtagati" or "muoi." Death in the dawn by knobkerries was the punishment, unless the accused was of the Chief's household, when he was entitled to death by the assegai. (See Lobengula's destruction of his rivals—Zonkendaba). The necromancer would also have his kraal destroyed and his family banished or killed.

The essentials to be proved in murder charges and the "golden strand" Viscount Sankey referred to, is therefore very consistent and adaptable to the Bantu conception as defined under (a), (b) and (c), for although the law demands punishment for the killing of a human being, cases falling under these categories are often leniently dealt with.

Perjury hardly amounted to a crime unless witchcraft was involved. A man was entitled to make a witness look ridiculous. If the crime was serious and he was caught out in his lies, ridicule of the Chief's Court was his punishment followed by wholesale assaults from the onlookers. The consistency of false tales told by some Africans is therefore to an extent explainable, to him it is a natural and permitted defence. To go back on his original story would and still does make him look ridiculous. Defamatory statements being a cause for heavy damages illustrates why so many Africans are afraid to testify truthfully to-day of something they were unfortunate enough to witness.

It is further very noteworthy how those Africans least affected by European civilisation—the Vakaranga of Victoria—cling so rigidly to their natural defence, or as we say, tell the best lies.

Rape was practically unknown as a crime. It was only punishable if committed against a Chief's wife. It was thought that a child born to the tribe was an asset: capture of women was recognised. Rape was looked upon only as a more serious form of adultery demanding heavier compensation, but no blood fine was payable to the Chief; it was not criminal. Most of the rape cases we have to deal with to-day have as their basis a hope of compensation, and in town areas a hope of receiving money which was not paid at the time of the alleged offence. It was not unlawful to force a woman against her will as long as compensation was paid, any more than it is unlawful for a woman to-day to lend her body.

It is interesting to observe customs which literally authorised rape. The Mashona *ku tiza* form of marriage was an abduction where a girl was carried away by force from her home by the prospective bridegroom. At the Ndebele wedding dance young men present were permitted to chase girls of their fancy and on catching

them, indulged in forced intercourse in the veld. A Zulu custom permitted forced intercourse when the bride's parents had signified their approval of the bridegroom.

Abortion cases among Africans are so rare because it was, and still is, considered witchcraft to attempt to interfere with the birth of a child.

Many of our common law crimes were therefore not criminal matters according to Bantu law and it is not surprising that the rights and benefits of cross-examination are not fully appreciated by Africans. Although few Africans to-day have experienced trial by a Chief's court they are subconsciously influenced by their old traditions. When an African was arraigned on a murder charge he asked a witness who produced bloodstained clothing proved to be his, "Did you see me wearing this on the day of the murder? Was I seen there by you? Did you see my blood fall on the clothes?" Important facts proved by the prosecution which offered the best opportunities for a defence were sacrificed, his mind being permeated by the "caught in the act" doctrine and lack of evidence in this direction adduced. Even where an owner positively proves his right to a thing recently stolen a good defence is often abandoned by the more modern criminal in favour of "having possessed the thing for years."

Few Africans appreciate the significance of the warned and cautioned statement. It will have been observed from the summarising of specific offences that it was rarely necessary for an African to make a statement. He was either guilty or not guilty. Should he be called upon for an explanation, it would, if he saw there was no hope at all, be the truth. This was not done with a hope of mitigation, but of resignation to his fate, knowing he would be the subject of jeers from the assembly and wishing to be removed from the indignity of standing before them longer than was necessary. There was no question ever of an admission being used against him. Only the Chief and his Counsellors (*umpagati*) could question the man and draw inferences from what he said, which of course was seldom done as the witchdoctor studied popular opinion and advised the Chief.

It is therefore not surprising that many Africans give almost a smile of welcome to the Police Officer who produces and reads out a denial of the crime and an admission of movements over the period concerned after the usual caution, thinking the officer is on their side corroborating them. This may account for the fact that Africans so seldom cross-examine on such statements.

Although our criminal code has introduced so many new crimes to the African system and the procedure seems foreign in many respects to their own, the onus of proof of guilt being placed on the Crown is perhaps a greater legal safeguard to the uneducated African than to more civilised communities.

Although one guilty man in ten may slip through the web of evidence on a technicality, there is little fear of a person being wrongfully convicted, and the essentials to be proved by our law have certain similarities with Bantu belief and tradition.

(For some of the Mashona definitions reference has been made to "The Mashona" by Charles Bullock.)

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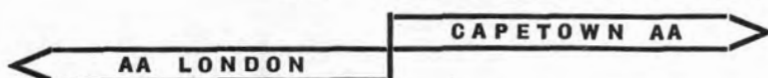
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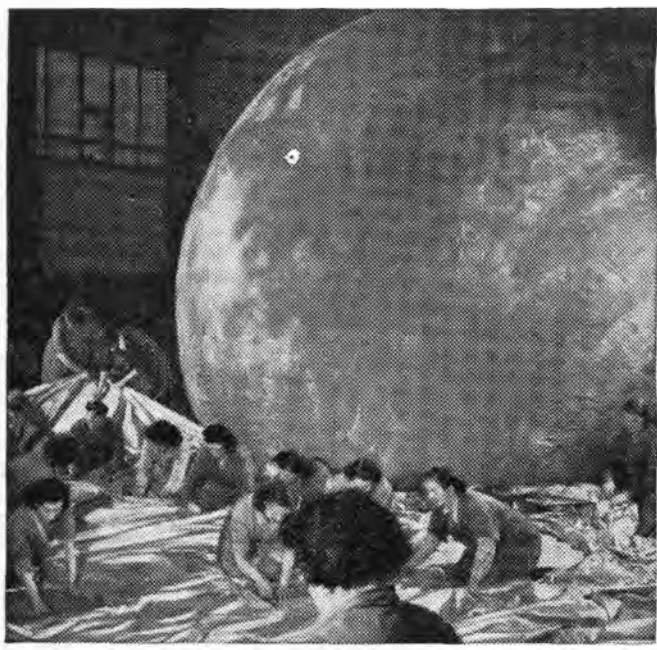
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Women workers making up fabric domes for Portobel Trainers. In the background is an early experimental model. All domes are inflated and tested before going out to training units.



Senior artillery officials from all Commonwealth countries and the United States of America watch a demonstration inside the Portobel during a recent exercise.



Image of a four-engined aircraft traverses wall of the Portobel, while the gun crew (foreground) attempt to register hits. Results are visible to their instructor. On the extreme left is Commander Stevenson, of the Indian Navy, who had come to watch a demonstration.

## NEW DEFENCE AID

### *All-Service Gunnery Trainer Makes Hit*

**T**HE Portobel Trainer, the only portable light anti-aircraft trainer in the world, is exciting the interest of Navy, Army and Air Force training chiefs in a great many countries. In a twenty-five-foot high fabric dome, aircraft roar and dive at gun teams under training.

This British development packs into a three-ton lorry. It is claimed that, with this equipment, a gunner can be made proficient within a fortnight at only a fraction of the cost of actual field training.

The Portobel consists of a half-dome made of proofed fabric with a rubberised inner surface, having an interior diameter at ground level of thirty feet. It is entered by air-lock doors and kept inflated by a small compressor.

Inside, a cinematograph projector using special films of aircraft, boats and other moving targets, projects an image on to a movable mirror which reflects the picture on to the inside surface of the fabric dome. A sound track gives realistic combat noises, including aircraft diving, bombs exploding and the thud of neighbouring batteries.

A gun team of three under training work a dummy gun, the sights of which are projected on to the fabric dome. The team's job is to keep the image of the gunsights within the correct target area as the target moves across the wall. All the movements and "feel" of the training guns are exactly the same as of a real gun. The only thing lacking is recoil.



The Portobel being erected in bad weather. It can be used in high winds and is quite stable. Recently, in Belgium, it withstood a 75 m.p.h. wind.



## Your New Reading

# THE PART THE BRITISH NAVY PLAYED

IT MAY well be that the last war saw the last of the purely naval actions in history; for with the full array of air power and the threat of atomic and hydrogen bombs for the world's uncertain future, the sea battle proper has forever passed.

The more reason, therefore, for such a publication as "Sea Warfare: 1939-1945, A Short History," by Captain John Cresswell (Longmans). Here, an expert who can write (the two things do not always go together) gives us, with full information, with succinctness, yet in balanced survey, the work of the British Navy in the fight against the Axis Powers.

Captain Cresswell has a type of mind which, allied to his expert knowledge and practical experience, ideally fits him for his task. It is said, with truth at times, that the very traditions of the British Navy, long standing and deeply colouring the Senior Service, tend to narrow the view, and cause Naval men to a faintly prejudiced outlook on the future. The author is wholly free of this. He knows that under pressure of war, revolutionary developments are swift; that nothing remains the same for long. His book reflects this outlook, while his eyes remain steadily upon achievement directly due to sea power considered purely as such.

The book is full of stirring reading; notable in this regard are the descriptions of the chase of the Bismark, the astonishing daring that made illustrious in Naval annals our efforts at all costs to hold Malta, the Mediterranean key, and the manner in which the Navy showed that initiative overcomes any preliminary advantage of ships and guns in our onslaught on the Italians. It all makes a great story, and I am sure you will agree with me when you get this book.

One notices that you, like ourselves in Britain, are from time to time critical of your broadcasting service. We here are at present particularly interested, because the B.B.C.'s Charter runs out next year, and in a quiet street in London a special committee is sitting taking evidence covering every aspect of B.B.C. administration, with a view to deciding whether or not the monopoly shall continue. Big interests are at stake in the question. The same publishers, Messrs. Longmans, have just issued under the auspices of the London School of Economics a book very much to the point: "British Broadcasting: A Study in Monopoly," by R. H. Coase. The book is not of the sensational attacking type; on the other hand, it is a presentation of fact so amply documented, and in such sequence, that it makes you think deeply on many and far-reaching aspects of such a monopoly. I imagine that the public in every English-speaking country would be the better for careful perusal of this singular and enlightening book: bland, factual, totally without propaganda hue.

Let us talk of pastimes for a moment; we get enough shop and seriousness. I am thinking of one of the best books I have seen for a long time on the most popular of card games. It is "Teach Yourself Contract Bridge," by J. G. Hartley (English Universities Press). The title sounds elementary; far beneath the attention of the "professors" who read nothing less complex than

books about the various systems, Culbertson and otherwise. Not so. Mr. Hartley, a very great expert, covers in handy compass every aspect of the game, from the elements onwards; and he or she must be a very sure and skilled player who does not benefit from something in this alluring little volume.

By

JOHN COLOPHON

The same in its sphere may be said of "Teach Yourself Modern Dancing," by Bernard Stetson, the renowned expert, in the same series. Every person young enough to be fit, and who has the chance, dances nowadays. The trouble with some of us is that modern dancing has a tendency to be in some respects so complicated that we funk it. That, among other things, is where this book comes in. Fine dancing must be its own reward, said Mr. Knightley; though as it happened he spoke at that moment not wholly disinterestedly. Be that as it may, every dancer will find both instruction and entertainment in these pages.

*Introducing the Theatre* by Ernest Short (Eyre and Spottiswoode) is one of the most entertaining books of its class I have encountered for a long time. The author is a man who has known the English theatre since the days of our grandfathers; and he has a remarkable (if very occasionally, inaccurate) memory. This length of memory proved by the fact that he is shown to have seen Irving's last revival of Richard III; that was in 1896, five years after the occupation of Mashonaland. The present writer, who is no chicken, met Irving (whose famous secretary, Bram Stoker, and a relative of this reviewer, married sisters) in 1904, the year before Irving died on the stage at Bradford. That was nearly 10 years after, and when this reviewer was a youth. The vast panorama of the English stage, with its names now legendary, passes glittering with reminiscence, and many witty stories, under Mr. Short's hand. It is indeed an entertaining book.

The spring fiction, retarded a little maybe by the General Election over here, is now coming in spate. The variety is unusual so far.

At risk of a choke-off for a suggestion of the high-brow (but the book will assuredly vindicate me) I start with mention of *Day of Glory*, by Rene Behaine, translated from the French (Allen and Unwin). It is 10 years since this great artist gave us, through introduction in translation, "The Survivors," and "The Conquest of Life." Here the theme, the history of the Varambaud family and clan, is continued, with Michel and Catherine married: he of the new and prospering middle classes, she of the old and decaying aristocracy. The background is a history of pre-war France, complex, full of colour and subtlety. The telling is superb, the



sweep not unreminiscent of the peerless Balzac himself. A distinguished novel, if ever there was one.

A novel that will have special appeal is *Port Afrique*, by Bernard Victor Dryer (Cassell). The hero, Rip Reardon, returns after war service, to Port Afrique, in French Africa, following the death of his wife, Georgette, said to have committed suicide, but Reardon has cause to think otherwise, and suspects a circle of folk, chief among them his wife's almost "double," a dame with a past. What makes the book, quite authentic in atmosphere, is the relationship between these two; no hackneyed one, and conveyed with great skill. A novel quite out of the ordinary.

*Farewell, Sweet Life*, by Shirley Murrell (Hodder & Stoughton) is an historical novel of the days of the Great Plague of London. I have no marked affection for historical novels; a purely personal taste. But here we have not historical characters, but ordinary folk under exceptional stress or circumstances; drama; and a background which shows that the author has steeped herself in her subject. She lives with her characters. She therefore holds the reader.

Anne Duffield is a writer of the "romantic" school who has earned her reputation by her ability as a first-class story-teller. You will find these qualities to the full in *Beloved Enemy* (Cassell); a love story told against a background of up-to-date events, and a Sweden most brightly sketched in.

*The Waterfall*, by Averil Mackenzie-Grieve (Hutchinson) is, with special stress on recommendation, a book to read, by the author of "The Brood of Time." It is in plot simply four very different people in flight, for very different reasons, in the Borneo jungle; but its telling, characterisation and analysis of humanity, is without doubt masterly; that is the word. *The Village on the Sands*, by Dorothy C. Stapleton (Hutchinson), a first novel, is unusual; the story of a young girl who lived emotionally two lives, that of reality and that of dreams, and its effect on her destiny. Ambitious, but a striking start as novelist.

Five picked thrillers: *Salute To To-morrow*, Jerome Noeholas (Hodder and Stoughton), spy-work, with great vim and pace; *Conspiracy of Silence*, Ewan Butler (Hodder and Stoughton), intrigue against European background, really exciting; *Sweeter for His Going* (Hodder and Stoughton), blackmail with new twist to murder riddle; *A Clue for Clancy* (Hurst and Blackett), Lee Thayer with another Peter Clancy—in top form; *Policeman's Nightmare*, Martin Cumberland (Hurst and Blackett), a tough puzzle for friend Saturnin Dax, tension from start to finish.

And—N.B., PAN-Books have issued in their latest batch at 1s. 6d. that super doctor-author's autobiography and best seller *The Arches of the Years*; a book assuredly to read and keep; 34 impressions since its publication!

## DOMESTIC NOTICES

### BIRTHS

BURNS.—To Trooper and Mrs. Burns, at the Fort Victoria Nursing Home on 24th February, 1950, a son (Philip David Robert).

### MARRIAGE

ANDREW-MOFFAT.—Sergeant Andrew to Miss Joan Moffat, at St. John's Church, Umtali, on 28th January, 1950.



"His Worship wishes to know if you have any objection to this Preliminary Examination being reduced to Ordinary Jurisdiction."

### PLASTIC LUNG TISSUE

A special plastic material is being used by surgeons in the United States to replace live tissue lost when a lung is collapsed in treating tuberculosis patients. The plastic material, now in use at the National Jewish Hospital in Denver, Colorado, fills out the damaged lung to its natural shape.

The plastic is said to be almost as soft as flesh and to weigh about as much as lung tissue. It is porous, thousands of fine, irregular holes, resembling those of real lungs. White in colour, the plastic is odourless, tasteless, non-irritating and permanent.

A violinist was bitterly disappointed with the account of his recital printed in the paper of a small town.

"I told your man three or four times," complained the musician to the owner of the paper, "that the instrument I used was a genuine Stradivarius, and in his story there was not a word about it, not a word."

Whereupon the owner said with a laugh: "That is as it should be. When Mr. Stradivarius gets his fiddles advertised in my paper at ten shillings a line, you come around and let me know."

"Good heavens, how terrible!" cried the professor as he finished reading his daughter's letter.

"Why, whatever is the matter, darling?" asked his wife.

The professor handed her the note. "So she's eloped with that officer," was the wife's calm comment. "Well, I can't say it's a complete surprise."

"But she's spelt 'eloped' with two l's!"

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# The Flying Squad Catches the Bandits . . .

THE DAYS of smash-and-grab thieves in Britain are numbered, thanks to the efficiency of the Flying Squad.

Co-ordination between this unit at Scotland Yard, the London Police Headquarters, and the Metropolitan mobile units which patrol the streets has cut the time-limit for making contact with the car bandit to seconds.



Radio warning of a raid is flashed to all police cars. A priority call goes to the car in the raided area and the chase is on.

[Photo: International Press Agency.]

A radio warning is flashed to all cars but a special priority call goes to the raided area and the chase is on.

At the Hendon Police Motor Training College the police are shown how to tackle the job of catching the bandits calmly. The dramatic chases shown in American films are unknown. In Britain the police tell you there is no need for this if the law is fully mobilised. The rule is "There is no need to ram a bandit's car. Follow him and the car bandit will eventually wreck himself."

Proof of the efficiency of this system is shown by the fact that last year Scotland Yard handled 5,000 priority telephone calls. From that number more than 1,000 arrests were made. The drill preceding the chase is simplicity itself—through the introduction of two-way radio communication.

The call passed to "999" (the danger signal) is re-transmitted to the mobile car in the raided zone in



"There is no need to ram a bandit's car." Student drivers learn how to trap a fugitive at the Hendon Training College. At 40 miles an hour he skids on a corner.

[Photo: International Press Agency.]

## Britain Winning Race against Crime

seconds. From that moment the patrol car sends out a commentary on the chase. Cars in neighbouring zones are tuned-in to give assistance if required.

Many gadgets used for stopping the bandits remain a police secret but one is a ray which interferes with the electrical equipment of the bandit car.

The Metropolitan mobile strength to-day is 1,500 vehicles, which includes 400 motor cycles and 25 commercial vehicles. Total distance covered exceeds 20,000,000 miles a year and accidents are rare.



Police cars lined up at the Hendon Police Motor Training College.

### EXCITING MATCH

A medium-pitched ball at a miners' cricket match at Geelong, Victoria, struck the batsman on the thigh. He threw away his bat, hopped around on one leg, tore off his glove and plucked frantically at his trousers, emptying his pockets as he went. The ball had struck a box of matches in his pocket and set his trousers alight.

### SOLDIERS PLUS

"And there, my boy," said the Sergeant, 1st Class, to his little grandson, "you have the story of your Grand-dad and the Great War."

Grandson: "Yes, Gran'pa, but why did they want all the other soldiers?"

# PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS

## TROOPER AND CONSTABLE to 2/SERGEANT.

The following were the questions set for the 1949 examinations:—

### COMMON LAW

Time: 2½ hours.

- Under the general heading of "Criminal Responsibility," state briefly what you know of the following aspects:—
  - Infancy.
  - Insanity.
  - Necessity and Impossibility.
  - Compulsion.
- Define the following crimes and differentiate between firstly (a) and (b), and secondly (c) and (d).
  - Theft.
  - Theft by False Pretences.
  - Robbery.
  - Extortion.
- Define and differentiate between Arson and Malicious Injury to Property.
  - A native "P," from motives of revenge, sets fire to a hut wherein is sleeping native "Q," who dies from burns received. To what charge or charges would native "P" be liable?
  - "X," a native woman, married by native custom, complains to you that, in a fit of anger, her husband, native "Y," took her box filled with her clothing and personal possessions out of her hut and burnt them. To what charge, if any, would "Y" be liable?
- State what you understand by the term "Criminal Defamation."
  - In the same connection explain the following:
    - Animus Injurandi.
    - Truth and Public Benefit.
- Define the crime of defeating or obstructing the Course of Justice. Give an example and, in so doing, indicate the essential points in the crime.
- State briefly what you know of the law of Incitement to commit a crime, and how it differs from Attempt to commit a crime.
- Define "Assault" and write notes on "Indirect Force" as applied to the crime of Assault.
- "Theft" is stated to be a "continuous offence." What do you understand by this, and what bearing, if any, may it have on venue of trial.
- What do you understand by the crime of "Abduction" and state all the essentials necessary to complete the crime.
- What are the three elements essential to constitute a crime?

### STATUTE LAW

Time: 2½ hours.

Note:—

Questions 1 to 4 inclusive: These questions must be answered.

Questions 5 to 10 inclusive: Any three of these questions may be answered.

- Magistrates Court Act (Cap. 11)—
  - Enumerate the various ways "contempt of court" can be committed by any person.

(b) Under what circumstances, if any, can a newspaper question and comment on a judicial punishment?

- C.P. & E. Act (Cap. 28)—

(a) What do you understand by the term "prescription of offences"?

(b) What crimes can and cannot be "prescribed"?

(c) In the act there is constant reference to the "First Schedule." To what does this "First Schedule" refer?

(d) List 15 of these offences.

- C.P. & E. Act (Cap. 28)—

(a) You have arrested a person without a warrant. What is your correct procedure now?

(b) Under what circumstances may you, legally, shoot at an escaping prisoner whom you have arrested but have not yet taken before a court?

- Cruelty to Animals Act (Cap. 34)—

In certain circumstances it may be necessary to destroy an animal whose continued existence would be inhuman.

Write out fully your powers and procedure to legalise the carrying out of this.

- Magistrates Court Act (Cap. 11)—

(a) As you are aware it is the general rule that all trials must be held in open court. State when a Magistrate may hold cases "in camera."

(b) Must Court always be held in a Court room? If not, under what circumstances may a Magistrate change the place of hearing of any case?

- Native Passes Act (Cap. 77)—

(a) When may a native lawfully enter upon the property of another person?

(b) What duty is placed upon Officers i/c of Gaols in respect of natives discharged on completion of their sentences?

- Licence and Stamp Act (Cap. 128)—

(a) What is required of a person carrying on a business requiring a licence, in respect of his books and records?

(b) Who may examine these books and records?

- Licence and Stamp Act (Cap. 128)—

Who is held personally responsible for the observation of the law in respect of any business licensed under this Act?

- Licence and Stamp Act (Cap. 128)—

(a) What is the definition of "butcher" under this Act?

(b) Who are exempt from holding Butchers Licences?

- Cattle Cleansing Act (Cap. 182)—

(a) What are the offences that can be committed by persons towards inspectors appointed under the Act?

(b) Define tick-infested cattle and non-tick-free cattle.

### POLICE DUTIES

Time: 2½ hours.

Note:—

Questions 1 to 4 inclusive: These questions must be answered.

Questions 5 to 10 inclusive: Any three of these questions may be answered.



1. What are Standing Orders in regard to:—
  - (a) Searching of prisoners.
  - (b) Prisoners communicating with friends.
  - (c) Custody of detention cell keys.
  - (d) Drunk prisoners.
  - (e) Refractory prisoners.
2. A native in possession of certain articles is detained on suspicion of having committed a theft. As a result of investigations some of the property found in his possession is proved to be stolen and he is sent for trial. Describe the entries that would be made in station records and documents that would be prepared for court.
3. State what you know regarding instructions for the care and custody of exhibits taken possession of by Police.
4. There are four recognised methods for securing the presence of an accused person at court. Describe each and state in what circumstances each should be used.
5. An accident between two motor cars is reported to have occurred in a Town. You are sent to investigate and on arrival at the scene of the accident find both cars seriously damaged and one of the passengers seriously injured. State what your procedure would be and what points you would pay particular attention to.
6. (a) What action would you take in connection with footprints which you find in the course of investigations into a case which you consider may have evidential value?  
(b) Whilst investigating a case you find finger prints which you think may be of use. How would you deal with them?
7. (a) What instructions would you give to a junior member whom you were sending to serve a summons on a European?  
(b) You are member in charge of a station at Salisbury and receive a summons signed by the Clerk of Court at Gwelo for service on a European resident in your area to appear at Gwelo at a Preparatory Examination on a charge of Attempted Murder. What would you do? State your reasons.
8. State what the procedure is on finding a dead body. How would you establish identification of the deceased person?
9. What are the duties of a member in charge District Police Section?
10. What are the duties of a Charge Office Sergeant?
4. What instructions are laid down in Standing Orders in regard to Camp Followers?
5. What daily rations would you issue to the various kinds of Police animals on your Station?
6. What steps would you take to safeguard your Station or sub-Station from damage by fire?
7. To whom and under what circumstances may ammunition be sold by Police?

### GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Time: 1½ hours.

Note:—

Questions 1 to 3 inclusive: These questions must be answered.

Questions 4 to 7 inclusive: Any two of these questions may be answered.

1. (a) Why is 12th September a well known date in the Colony's history. What happened on that date? In what year did this happening take place?  
(b) With what events are the following names associated? (Answer any four):—
  - (i) Sir Leander Starr Jameson.
  - (ii) Rudd, Thompson and Maguire.
  - (iii) Lobengula.
  - (iv) Capt. R. Nesbitt, V.C.
  - (v) Major Allan Wilson.
  - (vi) Selous.
  - (vii) Blatherwick.
  - (viii) Rhodes.
- (c) Which is the oldest Town in Southern Rhodesia?
- (d) By whom was the Colony administered up to the granting of Responsible Government in 1923?
2. (a) How many members are there in the Legislative Assembly of Southern Rhodesia?  
(b) What are the Political Parties represented therein?  
(c) Who are the Cabinet Ministers and what are their portfolios?  
(d) Which Minister is responsible for the B.S.A. Police?  
(e) Who is the Leader of the Opposition?
3. Several notable happenings have taken place in Southern Rhodesia during 1948. Take any one happening which comes to mind and discuss its bearing on the welfare of the Colony. (Answer not to be longer than one page).
4. How many Police districts are there in Southern Rhodesia and what are they?
5. (a) Name the Ports of Entry into the Colony.  
(b) What is the Port of Entry into Northern Rhodesia by rail from this Colony?
6. Who are the Members of the Police Advisory Board?
7. What Territories border the Colony? Which is the Capital Town of each Territory?

### INTERIOR ECONOMY

Time: 1½ hours.

Note:—

Questions 1 to 3 inclusive: These questions must be answered.

Questions 4 to 7 inclusive: Any two of these questions may be answered.

1. Under what conditions and on what scale would you issue rations to:—
  - (a) African Police escorting prisoners on a train journey?
  - (b) African prisoners being escorted by train?
2. What classes of movable assets are held on police stations and how and where are they recorded?
3. What special instructions are laid down in Standing Orders in regard to security of arms and ammunition on a station?

### MECHANICAL TRANSPORT

Time: 1 hour.

Note:—

Questions 1 to 3 inclusive: These questions must be answered.

Questions 4 to 7 inclusive: Any two of these questions may be answered.

1. Detail your daily task check for B.S.A. motor cycles in regard to:—
  - (a) Compression.

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- (b) Cylinders.
- (c) Gearbox.
- (d) Lamps and horn.
- (e) Oil and Oiling system.
2. Detail your daily task check for B.S.A. motor cycles in regard to:—
  - (a) Fuel System.
  - (b) Magneto or Magdyno.
  - (c) Spark Plugs.
  - (d) Battery.
  - (e) Steering.
3. Detail your daily task check for B.S.A. motor cycles in regard to:—
  - (a) Brakes.
  - (b) Wheels.
  - (c) Tyres.
  - (d) Transmission.
  - (e) Frame.
4. What are the instructions governing:—
  - (a) Transporting of motor cycles by motor truck.
  - (b) Connecting motor cycle lighting system direct to the generator through lack of a battery.
5. Give the correct pressures for motor cycle tyres in the following circumstances:—

Tyre Size—

  - 350 x 19, no pillion passenger.
  - 350 x 19, with pillion passenger.
  - 375 x 19, with pillion passenger.
  - 400 x 18, no pillion passenger.
  - 400 x 18, with pillion passenger.
6. Your motor cycle becomes completely submerged when crossing a river and refuses to start thereafter. What steps, completely unaided, would you take to put the machine into commission?
7. What are the instructions governing running in of a motor cycle after overhaul?

## ESSAY

Time 1 hour.

Both European and African Police are exercised in drill on Recruits Course of Training and during later service in the Force.

Discuss the value of this and its effect on African members of the Force.

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT AND VETERINARY  
(District Branch Only)

Time: 1½ hours.

Note:—

Questions 1, 2 and 3 must be answered.

Any two of 4, 5, 6 and 7 may be answered.

1. Enumerate the six axioms in good saddle fitting.
2. What are the essential points to note when loading a pack horse?
3. Describe the symptoms and treatment for the following:—
  - (a) Strangles.
  - (b) Colic.
  - (c) Thrush.
  - (d) Mange.
4. What are the following for a fit horse:—
  - (a) Pulse rate?
  - (b) Breathing rate?
  - (c) Temperature?
5. Name three types of saddle blanket folds and describe one, in detail.
6. Enumerate the guiding principles of feeding horses.
7. What are the characteristics of a good bran and its value as a food?

Farmer: "Did you get that crate of chickens I sent you?"

Customer: "Yes, but you hadn't packed 'em properly, and after searching the neighbourhood I found only twleve."

Farmer: "Well, you didn't do too badly. I only sent eight."



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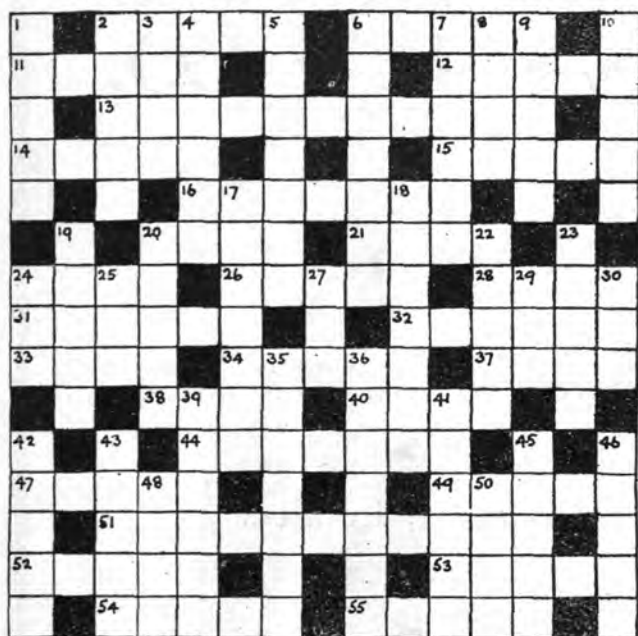
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## OUTPOST CROSSWORD



## CLUES

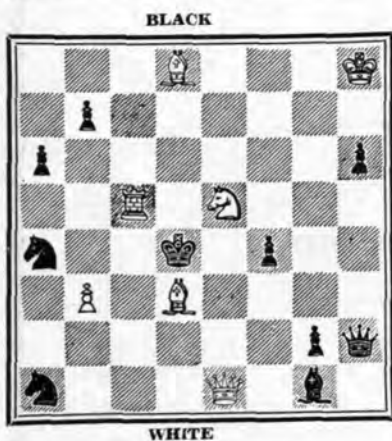
## Across

2. He who asked what it was would not stay for an answer.  
 6. Marks time.  
 11. Champion of the Greeks.  
 12. Brief Authorised Version in shelter.  
 13. Inter pitmen.  
 14. Mole.  
 15. Sounds like a taxi, but it can't get a move on!  
 16. Fashionable knowledge for egg production?  
 20. Seek in the wrong way.  
 21. Spanish article lying to the south-east.  
 24. A 10.  
 26. Mankind in Anno Domini.  
 28. Confirm.  
 31. Result of aiming high?
32. I've followed the end to get chicory.  
 33. Is in upside down.  
 34. Greek pigeon?  
 37. 51 between ciphers makes a savoury dish.  
 38. Burial place of William.  
 40. Must be blacked out though already rather low.  
 44. Pay back in a postscript.  
 47. "Farewell, the plumed —, and the big wars."  
 49. See 20.  
 51. Offer of terms.  
 52. Somewhat pleasing.  
 53. A near thing.  
 54. Transport for Santa Claus.  
 55. Jerks.

## Down

1. A bet laid south.  
 2. Quaver.  
 3. The politician has a part in the play.  
 4. What the guest will do early.  
 5. Home, sir?  
 6. "Light —s; and the crow  
 Makes wing to the rooky wood."  
 7. Broken lances.  
 8. It has an old road.  
 9. Watts hymns him as the employer of the unemployed.  
 10. Aquamarine, perhaps.  
 17. Scene of the flight of Alan Breck and David Balfour.  
 18. I'm not so young as I was.  
 19. Luke is no longer cold.  
 20. Not a direct hit in a London district.  
 22. Enrich.  
 23. I'd come after 54.  
 24. Canterbury pilgrim.  
 25. Was once vouchsafed speech when beaten.
27. "Under the shady roof  
 Of branching —  
 star-proof."  
 29. Sickening part of 28.  
 30. Child of the Zodiac who "taught that whatever comes or does not come we men must not be afraid."  
 35. Oppressive.  
 36. Equality achieved with little change.  
 39. Place side by side.  
 41. In one sense, James Macpherson.  
 42. As well as going up and down, one takes them.  
 43. The poet consoles us, if these were dupes, "fears may be liars."  
 45. Character in "Sanders of the River" (not necessarily appealing to the dog).  
 46. Raced arboreally.  
 48. Lip service.  
 50. Stopper from Eire.

(Solution on page 39)

OUTPOST  
CHESS  
PROBLEM

No. 74.

White mates in  
3 moves.Key move on  
Page 39

## TOO MUCH

Leaving a half-completed income-tax return on the dining-room table, W. F. Davis, of Malden, Massachusetts, walked into the bathroom, picked up a razor and fatally slashed his wrist.

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## News at the Breakfast Table

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# OUTPOST CROSSWORD

## SOLUTION

Across		Down	
2. Truth.	32. Endive.	1. Abets.	24. Nun.
6. Ticks.	33. Nisi.	2. Trill.	25. Ass.
11. Byron.	34. Homer.	3. Romp.	27. Elm.
12. Leave.	37. Olio.	4. Unpack.	29. Ail.
13. Impertinent.	38. Caen.	5. Heroism.	30. Leo.
14. Talpa.	40. Glow.	6. Thicken.	35. Onerous.
15. Ataxy.	44. Prepays.	7. Cleans.	36. Equality.
16. Chicken.	47. Troop.	8. Kent.	39. Appose.
20. Ekes.	49. Score.	9. Satan.	41. Ossian.
21. Else.	51. Proposition.	10. Beryl.	42. Steps.
24. Neat.	52. Pleas.	17. Heather.	43. Hopes.
26. Amend.	53. Arena.	18. Elderly.	45. Bones.
28. Nail.	54. Sleds.	19. Tepid.	46. Cedar.
31. Upshot.	55. Yanks.	20. Ethic.	48. Oral.
		22. Endow.	50. Cork.
		23. Livid.	

### KEY MOVE TO OUTPOST CHESS PROBLEM No. 74.

1. B—Q Kt 5, K x R; 2. Kt—Q 3 ch. etc.  
 If 1 . . . , P x B; 2. Q—Q2 ch. etc.  
 If 1 . . . , Kt x R; 2. Kt—B3 ch. etc.  
 If 1 . . . , P—B6; 2. Q—Kt4 ch. etc.  
 If 1 . . . , Q—R4; 2. Q x B ch. etc.  
 If 1 . . . , Kt—Kt3; 2. Q—B3 ch. etc.  
 If 1 . . . , any other; 2. Kt—B6 ch. etc.

Of all the gifts which God made to man, the gift of laughter-making is one of the rarest, the subtlest, and the most precious. Any fool, any tyrant, can make men and women weep. But it takes genius to make them laugh.—Beverley Nichols.

The mother was buying a fountain pen for her daughter as a going away to school present.

"It's to be a surprise, I suppose?" observed the clerk.

"I'll say it is," said the mother. "She's expecting a small car."

"I resent him saying there's a fool in every family."

"Why?"

"He knows I'm an only child."

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# Prunella and the Beast

TROOPER Pytchley-Pym was an ambitious youth, with unbounded confidence in his own abilities. These qualities made him a keen, if not a particularly competent, policeman.

The arrival of the February issue of *The Outpost* at our small out-station recently, aroused more than usual interest from Trooper P-P.

"I say, Sarge!" he exclaimed excitedly, "have you seen this? The old rag is actually offering two prizes of Five Guineas each, every three months, for contributions. Let's see: one for an authentic and serious article on any aspect of police work in any part of Africa and the other for a fictional article or short story with a police interest. By Jove! I'll enter for them both."

I read the notice with interest. H'm, one day I might try to write up that very peculiar case of the Curse of Hlabantwe and, perhaps, earn for myself a fiver and two half-crowns. Such procrastination, however, was not in the make-up of my junior Trooper who, absent-mindedly, entered "£5 5s." on the cover of a Rape docket, as the value of the stolen property, before taking his leave of the office, bearing a sizeable wad of Southern Rhodesia Government foolscap with him.

Yesterday he informed me that he had completed his two masterpieces of immortal prose and would I care to read them? I said I would and was reverently handed two neatly clipped manuscripts.

Over a sundowner I began to read Pytchley-Pym's literary efforts. I had not got very far before I chuckled aloud. The young ass had started off with Page One of the "authentic serious" article, but Page Two was the carbon copy of the "fictional article or short story." And so, throughout both manuscripts, each page was alternately fact and fiction.

I will not reproduce this extraordinary document in its entirety, but I will endeavour to reduce it to a precis. To make it easier for the reader, the fiction excerpts are printed in italics, the extracts from the factual article being in ordinary type. The dots at the end of a sentence indicate the bottom of one page and dots before a sentence represent the top of the following page in the manuscript.

The Pytchley-Pym papers, then, went something like this:—

## "THE INTER-ACTION OF CRIMINAL LAW AND TRIBAL CUSTOM AMONG THE DOLBAHANTA OF BRITISH SOMALILAND"

Among the nomadic tribes of British Somaliland, personal wealth is measured largely in camels. It is not surprising, therefore that a great deal of the litigation in that territory concerns these animals.

It is a salutary experience for the young police officer to endeavour to trace the ownership of stolen camels through the fog of perjury, history and genealogy in which the truth is hidden.

The accused in one case which I was investigating was a trader of the Dolbahanta tribe, named Ali Haji Ismael, whom I knew as a thorough scoundrel . . . . . so I shot him at three paces, clean through the forehead."

"Did you?" gasped the girl, her starry eyes fixed upon the young Trooper in hero-worship.

By  
"SARGE"



"Oh, it was nothing," he replied carelessly. "It was the buffalo or me. One soon learns to look after oneself on these long, lonely patrols, hundreds of miles from civilisation. They are lonely, you know. One gets to thinking of things and—er—of girls like you, Miss Winterbottom. I say, may I call you Prunella?"

The girl looked coyly away. At last she whispered, "Yes—Cedric—if you like. My real friends call me 'Chilly'."

His arm stole around her waist. Gently he bent and kissed . . . . .

. . . . . the evil-smelling mouth of a she-camel. I ordered them to remove the beast. Even after examining its teeth, which I was practically compelled to do by the indignant insistence of the witness, I still had no idea of its age.

The evidence went on interminably. Ali Haji Ismael was palpably lying and only by the exercise of great self-restraint did I prevent myself from kicking him hard on the . . . . .

. . . . . Winterbottom—Prunella—I mean, Chilly," he stammered.

Blushing, she murmured, "Oh, Cedric, I couldn't do that. We have only known each other for a week."

"But, darling," he pleaded passionately, "what does time matter when we love each other? You know I love everything about you—your hair, your eyes, your lovely mouth, your . . . . .

. . . . . splay feet and your humped back. "Take her away and let her be milked," I ordered, hating all she-camels more and more as the investigation proceeded.

The complainant then produced a second cousin of his father's step-uncle, who testified on the Koran that the camel in question was part of the *yarad* (dowry or bride-price) which his father had given to Ali Haji Ismael's maternal uncle by a second wife on the occasion of his, the witness's marriage to the woman Aruwela, who had given evidence earlier.

While I was endeavouring to work out this involved piece of genealogy, I recalled that the female witness, Aruwela, had stated that she remembered the arrival of the camel at her father's *magalah* (village), because it was just before the birth of her second child. I referred back to her statement. Yes, it was recorded that the camel had arrived at the end of Ramadan and the baby had been born after . . . . .

. . . . . a further two and a half years of waiting. You see, darling, I am not allowed to marry before that, in the Police. And it is too long. Now, if your father would take me into partnership in the farm, we could be married practically right away."

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"But, Cedric, I don't know that I want to be married quite so soon. A girl doesn't really want to get married . . . . .

. . . . . until her third child is born," deposed Aruwela's mother, a wrinkled crone. "We need the camel's milk for the new baby that is coming. And that," she finished triumphantly, "is why we still have the camel."

I was not convinced by the old woman's statement that a camel with the brand of another tribe upon it was found in Ali Haji Ismael's magalah, because his grandmother-in-law had advised against reporting the presence of the camel until Aruwela's third child was born.

It could, however, be in accord with tribal custom. In this connection, Professor Uxor, in his chapter on Birth ("The Pattern of Rer Hagah Social Sanctions," at page 1798) writes: "The happy coincidence of the birth of a child at a time when the tribe's she-camels are in full milk is, among the Dolbahanta rer Hagah rer Adan clan, an augury of good fortune. This augury is fortified by a daily massage of the baby's navel with . . . .

. . . . . red-hot pokers. They really are marvellous this year. I don't know when I've seen so many blooming in the veld before," Mrs. Winterbottom was saying to the Native Commissioner's wife, as Cedric walked towards them.

"Good afternoon," he greeted the two ladies. Then, to Prunella's mother: "Is Miss Winterbottom at home, please?"

The girl, hearing his deep, manly voice, came flying on the feet of love towards him but, remembering that they had not yet told her parents, checked and contrived a more sedate pace.

The Trooper received a somewhat grudging assent from his beloved's mother to show her daughter the new horse which had just arrived at the Camp and on which he had ridden over to the farm. As the young couple walked towards the back of the house, Cedric remarked, "You know, I like your mother. In her time she must have been . . . . .

. . . . . mated with a low-bred, ugly burden-camel," complained Ali Haji Ismael. "And now he claims my beautiful, fleet riding-camel as his! May Allah forgive the scoundrel!"

I had reached a deadlock and, wearily, I dismissed them all until to-morrow.

The syce (groom) had "Sultan," my splendid Somali stallion, saddled and ready for me, and I rode out in the comparative cool of the evening, hoping to throw off the cares of the day. But I was not to escape so easily.

At the main wells, a mile or so away, some hundreds of camels were being watered, to the accompaniment of the incredible din of chanting and yelling which goes with this activity in Somaliland. I sat in the saddle and watched. Suddenly, from the side farthest away from me, there came a great commotion. The happy chanting changed to cries of fear. Camels and their owners scattered in all directions and I saw that the cause of the panic was a fine young she-camel, charging madly here and there, squealing with that unmistakable, vicious anger which meant that she had gone *musth* and was dangerous.

My horse quivered under me but I had him under firm control. The camel stood, turning her head scornfully from side to side on the field of victory. Then I recognised her. It was the subject of the day's weary investigation. She turned and looked directly at me

and I could swear that she almost gave me a nod of friendly recognition before she plunged her face into the slimy water of one of the shallow depressions in the muddy ground . . . . .

. . . . . and finished off with a dusting of powder on her nose and a dab of perfume behind each tiny ear. Prunella surveyed herself in the long mirror. Satisfied with the picture she presented, she threw a short evening cloak over her shoulders and went out on to the verandah where Cedric, looking very handsome in tails, was chatting amicably with her father over a drink.

"Darling!" he exclaimed. "You look absolutely marvellous. Doesn't she, sir?" he appealed to Mr. Winterbottom.

"Ay, she's a fine girl, though I say it myself," the older man admitted. "And I'm right glad she has found a man like you to . . . . .

. . . . . put a twitch on her mouth and hobble her feet is the only thing to be done, Sahib. The *musth* will pass in three days' time," my head camel-man said.

"It is good," I agreed, and returned thoughtfully to my bungalow. The incident at the wells that afternoon had given me an idea of how this extremely involved case might be speedily brought to a successful conclusion.

I went to my bookshelf. Professor Uxor's note on the Rer Hagah birth custom had to be borne in mind. Applying it to this investigation, it was obvious that the accused would rely, with apparent justification, even if the case resolved itself into a civil action, on the defence of *impossibilium nulla obligatio est*. This I thought I could upset. I confess to a feeling of jubilation when, an hour or so later, I found what I wanted in Grimley's "Dolbahanta Lore and Custom" (page 237 et seq).

Almost trembling with the importance of my discovery, I looked through . . . . .

. . . . . the keyhole. With the door locked, Cedric turned to his young bride and, holding her gently murmured: "At last, my sweet. Our honeymoon. And a partnership in your father's farm to go back to. Isn't it wonderful?" And clicked off the bedside lamp.

SARGE.

I'll tell you a Chinese story. A rich merchant in Canton went every night to the theatre because he had fallen in love with the star singer. Finally he married her. The next morning was the first time he had seen her in daylight. He stared at her in amazement. "Sing," he cried, "Sing, quick!"—Lian-Shin Yang in a B.B.C. Overseas programme.



"Well, not exactly 'split' yet, but distinctly cracked."

## *Culled from Force Orders*

### COMMENDATION

The Commissioner has much pleasure in granting a commendation to No. 3983, Trooper Sayer, Va. D., for painstaking investigation and tenacity of purpose displayed in the investigation of Mashaba C.R.'s 42/11/49, 7/12/49 and 9/2/50—Stock Theft.

### PROMOTIONS

No. 3915, S/L/2/Sgt. James, Depot, to S/2/Sgt., 1.4.50; No. 3967, S/L/2/Sgt. Johnson, Depot, to S/2/Sgt., 1.4.50; No. 3984, Trooper Scholes, Va. D., to S/2/Sgt., 1.4.50.

### ATTESTATIONS

For Duty Branch for three years, and posted to Depot on dates as stated:—

15.3.50: No. 4578, Const. Barry Walter Stamp; 16.3.50: No. 4579, Const. William Henry Bateman; No. 4580, Const. Andrew Aitken Boyd; No. 4581, Const. James Gordon Butler; No. 4582, Const. John William Jannaway; No. 4583, Const. William Gerard Leen; No. 4584, Const. Ronald Charles Milner; No. 4585, Const. Harold Christopher George Raitt; No. 4586, Const. Gilbert Samuel Selley. 23.3.50: No. 4587, Const. Gerald Harry Powell. 25.3.50: No. 4588, Const. Gerald William Morgan. 27.3.50: No. 4589, Const. Roy Jennings; No. 4590, Const. Brian David Lovell; No. 4591, Const. Jeremiah Joseph Meehan; No. 4592, Const. John Allan Stewart; No. 4593, Const. John Alfred Thompson.

### DISCHARGES

No. 3043, D/Insp. Simpson, C.I.D., Salisbury, Retirement on pension, 31.3.50; No. 3604, Const. Simmonds, Salisbury Urban, Retirement on gratuity,

31.3.50; No. 4142, Trooper Butcher, Salisbury D., Time expired, 10.3.50; No. 4181, Trooper Newman, Bulawayo D., Time expired, 16.3.50; No. 3057, 2/Sgt. O'Reilly, Salisbury Urban, Retirement on pension, 25.3.50.

### LEAVE PENDING DISCHARGE

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### POLICE RESERVE

#### PROMOTION

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#### DISCHARGES

No. 2386, Const. Hunter, Byo. O.R., 4.4.50; No. 2192, Const. Palmer, West Nicholson, S.N.L.A., 8.3.50; No. 2280, Const. Street, Umtali, S.N.L.A., 15.3.50; No. 2281, Const. Sturgess, Umtali, S.N.L.A., 15.3.50; No. 1105, Const. Downing, Salisbury, S.N.L.A., 20.3.50; No. 1128, 2/Sgt. Slater, Shabani, S.N.L.A., 1.3.50; No. 2507, Const. Calnan, Shabani, S.N.L.A., 6.3.50; No. 2488, Const. Oddy, Que Que, S.N.L.A., 21.3.50.

### ATTESTATIONS

No. 2818, Const. M. van Niekerk, Gwelo, 1.3.50; No. 2819, Const. J. H. Paterson, M.C., Salisbury, 7.3.50; No. 2820, Const. J. Prentis, Salisbury, 9.3.50; No. 2821, Const. S. R. Percy, Salisbury, 10.3.50; No. 2822, Const. R. H. A. Farquharson, Salisbury, 13.3.50; No. 2823, Const. D. W. Waddingham, Salisbury, 14.3.50; No. 2824, Const. J. H. Bewick, Salisbury, 16.3.50; No. 2825, Const. C. E. D. Bloxham, Bulawayo, 25.3.50; No. 2826, Const. E. C. W. Blake, Salisbury, 25.3.50; No. 2827, Const. N. V. Dean, Salisbury, 25.3.50; No. 2828, Const. F. J. Jackman, Salisbury, 25.3.50.

