Issued by the Executive Committee of the Anniversary Celebrations.

### MATABELELAND

1933

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OF THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS of the OCCUPATION

BULAWAYO. DECEMBER, 1935. Printed and Published by The Rhodeslan Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd.

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1893 — MATABELELAND — 1933



Photograph by Van Dyk.

A special photograph of His Majesty King George V received by the Executive Committee of the Matabeleland Fortieth Anniversary Celebrations.

## ROYAL GREETINGS TO MATABELELAND

From His Majesty the King to the people of Matabeleland on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the occupation:

"I WISH TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE THANKS TO THE PEOPLE OF BULAWAYO AND SURVIVING MEMBERS OF THE COLUMN WHICH OCCUPIED MATABELELAND IN 1893 FOR THEIR LOYAL MESSAGE. "THE QUEEN AND I SEND OUR CORDIAL GREETING TO THOSE WHO ARE ASSEMBLED TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THAT OCCUPATION, AND OUR BEST WISHES FOR THEIR FUTURE PROSPERITY AND HAPPINESS." —GEORGE R.I.

## The Roll Call on the Fortieth Anniversary



## PIONEERS SWAP YARNS AT THE OFFICIAL RE-UNION

#### NORTH'S GREETING.

Mr. Fynn then read out a number of letters and telegrams which had been received from Pioneers and wellwishers in different parts of the world. The Governor of Northern Rhodesia, Sir Ronald Storrs, K.C.M.G., sent the following message, addressed to the secretary of the Celebrations Committee:

Dear Sir,-On this fortieth anniversary of the historic occupation of Matabeleland, I take the opportunity of associating most cordially my Government and myself with the celebrations for which you and your Committee are responsible. I beg you to accept my hearty congratulations upon an event the significance of which has been, is and will continue increasingly to remain, a prime factor in the development of South Central Africa. take advantage of the attendance of our honoured pioneer delegate, Mr. H. T. Harrington, M.B.E., J.P., who has kindly undertaken to convey to you personally my good wishes for the success of your organisation and the happiness and prosperity of The Rhodesias."

#### CONGRATULATIONS.

Other messages were as follows :--" The Council and Fellows of the Royal Empire Society send greetings and congratulations to His Excellency and all Fellows resident in Matabeleland on completion of forty years glorious progress and best wishes for long life of veteran Pio. neers on the occasion of their reunion and official welcome to Bulawayo." " President and Directors of British South Africa Company send cordial and friendly greetings to those assembled for the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Occupation of Matabeleland. The sturdy spirit of adventure and mutual fellowship which was exemplified in those days should ever be remembered and honoured by present and future generations of Rhodesians."

"Comrades, friends, congratulations, greetings, hamba gashly." This telegram from Doctor Thomas Stewart, of the Salisbury Column, now living in Glasgow, raised a good laugh, which was renewed when Mr. Fynn read the next message, from Captain Smuts of Caledon:

"Heartiest congratulations to comrades regret means will not permit attendance try and secure my farm."

#### VERY BEST WISHES.

From Crause Boardman, of Barkly East: "Ancient Pioneer sends heartiest greetings old comrades deeply regret absence but commemorating in spirit heroic days ninety-three"

From Sir Melville Heyman the following: " Please convey my very best wishes to the surviving Pioneers and my extreme regret not being able to attend the 40th Anniversary Celebrations through ill-health. Neither Lady Heyman, nor I, will be able to avail ourselves of your kind invitation, much as we would wish to. I would have particularly liked to have been present, as I think I could have given some interesting incidents in connection with the Occupation, which very few now living are aware of. All my best wishes for a successful celebration and remembrances to those of the Occupation Expeditions who still survive. 'Bless God's own Country,' as Rhodes said to me."

A tourist from Basutoland, Mr. Stephens, who recently visited Rhodesia and addressed a meeting of the Automobile Association in Bulawayo, telegraphed : "Best wishes success celebrations good luck to Rhodesia and its charming and hospitable people." were in hospital. He thought they would appreciate visits from their old somrades.

The following telegram from Mr. H. T. Low, of Bulawayo, who is on his way back from England, was received by radio from the Dunbar Castle: "Rhodesians Dunbar Castle at sundown assembled will drink to happy celebration anniversary."

#### "D'YOU REMEMBER?

On all sides the veterans were shaking hands, or smiting each other on the shoulder. One caught such phrases as "God spare my days, 1 haven't scen you for 39 years!"--"Well, well, if it isn't old So-and-So!" --"I know your face as well as I know my own, but I'm dashed if I can remember your name."--"Why, of course, we were together in the B.B.P. Do you remember the joke we played on old Whatisname?"--and so on.

Refreshments and orchestral music enlivened the proceedings, and there were signs everywhere that the anniversary celebrations were being entered into with much enthusiasm.

To the pioneers themselves, the most interesting part of the reunion must have been the swapping of yarns. One group of men seated in the shade of a big tree passed some amusing moments in exchanging "lion" stories, others discussed sport, farming, mining, or domestic events.

An interesting visitor from Cape

#### FROM RAND PIONEERS.

"Our President (James Gray) and members of the Rand Pioneers (Incorporated) send a message of goodwill and brotherhood, and congratulate you on having reached the 40th milestone in the history of Matabeleland. In 40 short years a generation has arisen. The men, and we must not forget the women, who went forward in the persistent and plucky attitude displayed, with courage, industry and enterprise, laid the foundation of that outpost of the British Empire, have cause to be proud of the part they took in the building of a community which to-day is wellordered and cultured."

"They will assemble with the golden facts of 40 years making a great array, surrounded by the captains of industry, commerce, science and agriculture, and to do honour to the man whose genius inspired all the young men of his time, and who now sleeps in the solemn grandeur of the Matopos. "We, as a Pioneering body, greet you well and shall be with you in the spirit during your festivities-may you have a glorious time." From Sir Fraser Russell at Maseru: "Wife and I send best wishes for success of celebration. May Pioneer re-union be most happy."

#### IN EMPIRE'S DIADEM.

Mr. Vere Stent wrote from Haakdoorn in the Northern Transvaal: "I am much obliged to the committee for their so very kind invitation to attend the fortieth anniversary celebrations of the Occupation of Bulawayo, and I am more than sorry I cannot accept it. Pioneers are nearly always poor men, and Bulawayo's a long way off. Still, I shall be with you in heart and spirit and-as witness the Occupation Souvenir-in print. I'm very proud of having heiped to add Rhodesia to the British Empire. It is something of which one may well be proud. Our baby Dominion, few as to its population. though far flung as to its territory, if one of the smallest, is one of the brightest jewels in the diadem of that Empire which General Smuts has so properly described as 'the greatest power for good in the world to-day.'

"One feels that down through the ringing grooves of change, no matter what shadows may gather round us in the future, the radiance of that jewel will never be dimmed by ingratitude or treacherous disloyalty; that Rhodesia, in the spirit of that Great Heart, its Founder, who sleeps in the Matopos, will find fulfilment of its splendid destiny for ever within that mighty domain to which his whole life was devoted, above which floats the flag of the Great Union and over which reigns the King-Emperor of the British Peoples. This is my sure and certain hope, my earnest prayer." Messages were also received from Clinton Gilfillan, Bloemhof, John Norris, Umtali, and others. Mr. Fynn mentioned that Charles Mosenthal and "Bulala" Taylor had both intended

to be present, but unfortunately they

Town was Mr. L. E. Mageean, who served in the B.B.P. in 1893, was transferred to the B.S.A.P., fought in the Rebellion, the Jameson Raid, the Boer War, and the Great War. In a rugby match at Raylton, Bulawayo, in the early days, he created something of a sensation. At half-time the Colonials were leading by 31 points to nil against the Home-borns , and someone shouted: "A hundred to one on the Colonials!"

Mr. "Tottie" Hay immediately wagered a sovereign, shouted himself so hoarse that he could not speak for a week afterwards, and collected £100 when Mageean (who was one of the Home-born halves) dropped a goal in the last minute of the game to win the match for his side.

The story was related to a representative of The Bulawayo Chronicle by Mr. Hay yesterday, Mr. Mageean modestly adding that it was merely a "lucky" goal that did the trick.

#### FOR THE FILMS.

Before the pioneers dispersed, a number of cinematograph pictures and still photographs were taken, some excellent opportunities for interesting photographs being provided by the signing of the roll. The ex-Premier of Southern Rhodesia, the Hon. H. U. Moffat, C.M.G., was among the many pioneers who left their signatures on the roll of members of the 1893 Column, which was decorated with conventional representations of the rose, the thistle and the shamrock, a sketch of Cecil Rhodes, and reproductions of historic medals.

Among those who attended the reunion gathering were three Cabinet

Ministers—the Minister of Finance (the Hon. J. H. Smit), the Minister of Agriculture (the Hon. C. S. Jobling), and the Minister of Commerce (the Hon. R. D. Gilchrist)—and a member of Parliament, Mr. remond Fletcher, as well as severa doing ar Councillors of Bulawayo.

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# CARNIVAL JOYS FOR THE CHILDREN.

#### HISTORY IN CLEVER COSTUMES IN A PARADE AT THE DRILL HALL.

#### (By the Lady Correspondent.)

THE children of Bulawayo held car-nival in the Drill Hall on Wednival in the Drill Hall on Wednesday afternoon and celebrated the town's 40th Anniversary in a very cheerful atmosphere. There must have been about 2,000 children present.

The Drill Hall looked particularly attractive. The walls have recently been painted, the lower balf silver grev and the upper white; the balcony rails are grey too, and the whole made an effective background for the multicoloured pennants which formed the decorations.

By 3 o'clock a long procession of children in every imaginable fancy dress had formed, and seated on tiers of benches round the hall there was a large number of children in ordinary clothes, who watched the parade of fancy costumes.

#### CLEVER DESIGNS.

The costumes showed that many small heads and some older ones had been thinking very hard for sometime with the result that there was an excellent variety of well-thought-out costumes. There were many that could be described. The judges' selection was a good one.

Spirits," were well done. The miniature Mephistopheles undoubtedly deserved a prize. The two costumes representing Rhodesian products were very decorative. The girl's was Lemos and the boy's Gloria Flour.

A pretty costume that won a special prize was made of ninon and stencilled with flowers, the Zimbabwe bird and other symbols to represent Rhodesia.

Other costumes were noticed in the procession. The Spirit of Gold, dressed in golden organdi and carried on a stretcher by two prospectors, was an original idea. Lord Nelson and Lady Hamilton passed arm in arm. There were a number of colourful Red Indian costumes. An 18th century group of a courtier and three ladies was pretty. Another attractive costume was a small yellow chicken. Others were an Indian rajah and ranee, a highway man. Little Bo Peep, Little Boy Blue and the White Rabbit, all walked hand in hand in the procession.

#### A MERRY SCENE.

Lady Rodwell, accompanied by Miss Dorothea Rodwell, arrived early in the afternoon, and when the judging had been finished she presented the prizes. On the platform with her was the Mayoress, Mrs. W. Maver. When the procession of fancy costumes and the prize distribution were over carnival begun. Whistles and squeakers almost drowned the music that was played by the radiogram, while confetti covered the floor and carnival streamers trailed on the ground or hung from the flag ropes. The helpers who gave ice creams were kept busy and there seemed to be a raid on the cool drinks. Once thirst was quenched the cakes and sweets bec, me equally popular. A shower of balloons from the gal-. lery was the final touch, and the children needed no encouragement to

be merry. They made a picture of spontaneous enjoyment as they ran about in their fancy costumes.

All this was brought about through the excellent organisation of Mr. A. G. Cowling, assisted by Mr. B B. Bowley, Mr. Harry Issels, Mr. A. S. Neall and Capt. Eric Day, and the Drill Hall staff. A number of women helped with the refreshments, among whom were Mrs. G. G. Kempster, Mrs. F. C. Dugmore, Mrs. Donald MacGillivray and Mrs. T. E. Taylor, each with their band of helpers. The Boy Scouts spent a night blowing up nearly 2,000 balloons.

The judges were Mrs. H. H. Cole and Mrs. Sloman, Mrs. S. Steggall, Mr. A. S. Neall and Mr. J. Swain, Mrs. H. D. Armstrong, Mrs. A. D. Campbell, Mrs. M. Wodehouse, Miss A. W. Scott, Mrs. H. J. Sutherby, Mrs. Shepherd, Mrs. W. Maver, Mrs. H. G. Livingston, Mr. E. Jenkins, Miss Burnett and Miss Margaret Low.

#### THE PRIZE-WINNERS.

The following was the prize list:

The most original boy: Frank de Beer (parrot).

The most original girl: Gloria Lyell (bride and nurse of 1893). The most comical boy: C. Thurtell

(a "Chip off the Old Block.")

The parrot was a splendid bird in his green and yellow feathers with a red mad and chest and the last touch was his walk.

The two little ladies of 1893 were charming to look at, one in a demure blouse and skirt and the other in a flowered evening frock with green skirt frills.

The most original girl's costume was a bride of 1893 in front while the back of the costume was a nurse's. She represented one of the first women to curse in Bulawayo and to be married here.

The two most comical, "A Chip off the Old Block" and "Departed

The most comical girl: Ethne Riley ("Departed Spirits.")

The best 1893 girl: Denise Wilson and Dorothy Thorne.

The best 1893 boy: Cyril Knight. Best 1973 girl: Edith Hall.

Special boy's prize: Lindsay Gilchrist ("Mephistopheles.")

Best costume representing Rhodesian products: (girl) Joan Collins (Lemos).

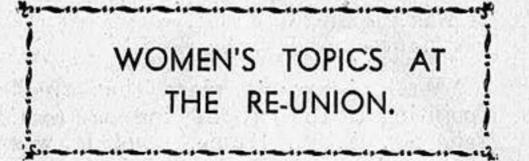
Best costume representing Rhodesian products (boy), John Nelson (Gloria Flour).

Special prize: (Girl), Barbara Harris (Rhodesia).

## ON HOUSEKEEPING IN THE 'NINETIES.

#### (By the Lady Correspondent.)

**CORTY** years slipped away when the pioneers met for re-union at the Palace Hotel on Wednesday. The lawns and flower-beds of the Palm Court and a playing fountain made the surroundings delightful for the everchanging groups. From all sides there were exclamations of recogni-Many had not met for years. tion. Some had met 40 years ago and not. since. But recognition was quick and delighted, showing that 40 years 16 not such a great space of time in lives full of activity. As one woman was heard to remark : "It doesn't seem like 40 years ago, it just seems now." Certainly as one looked at the men and women who laid the foundations of Bhodesia as it is to-day it was difficuit to think of them as feeling the passing of time at all. The fresh faces and upright bearing of many ot the women were striking as one tried to reconstruct the hardships of their lives in the early days. One marvelled, listening to tales of housekeeping when such necessities as sugar, boer meal and mealie meal fetched prices which would put them in the de luxe class to-day, and when vegetables and fruit were almost unobtainable



As the pioneers sat and had tea to the music of an orchestra, many of them must have thought with amusement of the difference in surroundings 40 years ago, before the coming of the railways brought luxury and comfort within reach of Bulawayo The contrast of now and then is always interesting, but particularly so when great changes come within a lifetime and those who knew the old days also know the new It was this which

seemed to give the gathering yesterday morning a unique character and even greater interest than if an anniversary of a greater number of years was being celebrated.

Rhodesia's hold on those who pass any time in the country is always being emphasised, but if anyone doubted it it was sufficient to hear the pioneers speak of the country to realise that this hold was no fiction. Many of them had left at different times never to return, as they thought, but somehow they had always come back. As one said: "Once you have been a Rhodesian you can never be anything else."

This week will be for the pioneers

one of pleasure piled upon pleasure, but perhaps the official reunion on Wednesday will be marked by all who were there, not only the pioneers, as one of the most delightful and successful of all the functions arranged. It re called without any heavy ceremony but in a picturesque wo; he doing and daring of 40 years

# PIONEERS GATHER AT THE INDABA TREE

## "Sundown" Guests of the Governor and Lady Rodwell

"BULAWAYO was a very much superior place 40 years ago."

"Oh, yes, the good old days, those were the days; it was a man's life then."

"Yes, I said to myself, 'What a lot of barbers' shops in the town to-day,' as we passed the decorated poles at the street corners."

Such were snatches of the conversation that one heard at the "Sundowner" party given by the Governor and Lady Rodwell to the men of the 1893 Column and their wives at Government House on Wednesday night.

The Pioneers and their wives, with the members of the Celebrations Committee, made up a gathering of about 250 people that gathered on the historic site of Lobengula's Royal Kraal, Gubulawayo, in circumstances that must have formed a very striking contrast to those in which they found this site in 1893, when it was nothing but a smoking rain.



They returned to the main gathering still arguing about the indaba tree; and shortly afterward Mr. A. G. Hay called for three cheers for Sir Cecil and Lady Rodwell, which were heartily given, with musical honours, and the party broke up.

Miss Dorothea and Miss Cecilia Rodwell moved freely among the Pioneers, and assisted greatly in the entertainment of the guests.



## NOT LEAST OF THEIR SERVICES.

The celebrations have officially started and the week will be given up to memories. What memories must have been aroused among the men who gathered together yesterday to sign their names in fadeless ink! What memories must have been aroused as they sat, the guests of His Excellency and Lady Rodwell, within a stone's throw of the tree under which, when first they came to what is now Bulawayo, King Lobengula dispensed a justice which, rough and ready though it was, was particularly effective. What memories must have been aroused among those men as they sat in the Palace Theatre and saw the scene depicting a bivouac on the road to Salisbury and the scene which depicted the indaba in the Matopos (two scenes of several Rhodesian ones in the play "Pioneers" which are particularly effective). Memories! Memories of a land ruled by barbarians. Memories of deeds of heroism; memories of days of comradeship and sacrifice. Memories of days of discomfort-of dirt, of hunger and of thirst. Memories and com. parisons. To some who have not been in Bulawayo for many years the comparisons must have been as interesting as the memories. Forty years have brought changes in the town, but not in the admiration with which the people regard those men whose early work made possible the building up of Bulawayo and Matabeleland. Distinguished officials and townspeople offered a welcome to the pioneers, and if we may be allowed to do so we should like to join in that welcome on behalf of the people. Those of us who have not the memories to look back on feel that the pioneers who have gathered here this week do us honour. We desire to do them honour, but they serve us now as they served us forty years ago, for they provide for us an inspiration to carry on in the spirit in which the land was added to the Empire. We welcome them not merely for what they did in '93, but for what they are doing in '33-giving us a reminder that much may be achieved if there exists the will to achieve. That will not be counted as the least of their services to a land which they have already served with distinction and credit.-Leading article in The Bulawayo Chronicle, November 2, 1933.

#### VETERANS GREETED.

The Governor and Lady Rodwell received their guests in the drawingroom of Government House, after which the crowd filed out on to the verandah, which was lit up with the rays of the setting sun. As they came up the guests were announced in turn by Capt. B. V. Cherry, M.C., A.D.C.

"I am glad you got here all right," said the Governor, when Mr. Tex Long, the man who trekked 1,500 miles round the Kalahari, came up.

"Ah, the oldest member of the family!" His Excellency said, when Mr. J. B. Scott, aged 84, the oldest Pioneer taking part in the celebrations was announced.

"You are looking well on it," observed Lady Rodwell, as she shook hands with Mr. Scott.

"You sit down here for a minute," said the Governor to him, "and then we will go out together."

There was an animated scene on the verandah of Government House afterwards.

"Forty years ago, there were thousands of huts here," Mr. Scott told a representative of The Bulawayo Chronicle. "They were all burnt by Loben before we came in."

#### A MODERN INDABA.

"The indaba tree?" said the veteran. "oh, that was cut down years ago."

Seeing that there is a tree preserved in the grounds of Government House which is reputed to have been Lobengula's indaba tree, the representative of The Bulawayo Chronicle asked Mr. "Matabele" Wilson what he had to say to that, and the result was an animated discussion among the Pioneers. Finally a little crowd of them went over to have a look at it, and hold an indaba there. [Photograph by R. F. Windram. THE GOVERNOR GREETS THE OLDEST OF HIS GUESTS.

James Scott, who had his baptism of fire in the American Civil War and is now aged 84.

the one. "If I can only get my bearings I will know," he said. "There used to be a heap of rubbish outside the king's kraal—ah, there it is. Yes, over there was the entrance to the king's house. The king's house stood on the site of the present Government House, but was slewed round a bit. There used to be a heap of horns over there, and the wagon shed was over there, and the goat kraal was just where this tree stands.

"I knew it years before 1893, when it was the Royal Kraal, where all the big dances used to be held."

"Well, I can't place that tree" (pointing to the existing indaba tree); said Mr. A. W. Hume, "and I was camped here for weeks and weeks. I think the indaba tree was at the back of the present Government House." Mr. "Matabele" Wilson, however, said that this indaba tree was in the right place, anyway, whether it was the original tree or not.

Mr. "Mote" "Wilson said he thought t tree looked like Just then another Pioneer came up to him with Tex Long, and said "Matabele, have you got a discovery notice? We want to peg off that bit of quartz there," pointing to an outcrop in the middle of the garden path.

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# PICTURESQUE CELEBRATIONS AT THE SWIMMING BATH.

#### COLOURED LIGHTS AND BUNTING AND A RECORD ATTENDANCE OF 4,000.

The swimming carnival in connection with the Anniversary Celebrations was held in ideal circumstances in the presence of the Governor (Sir Cecil Rodwell, K.C.M.G.) and Lady Rodwell in the Municipal Swimming Bath on Wednesday night.

In the Governor's party at the swimming bath were the Misses Cecilia Rodwell and Dorothea Rodwell, Col. T. E. Robins, D.S.O., and Mrs. Robins, Mr. and Mrs. Garth Trace, Mr. C. P. Forder (private secretary) and Capt. B. V. Cherry, M.C., A.D.C. Among others present were Mr. T. C. Fynn, the Civil Commissioner and chairman of the Celebrations Committee, and Mrs. Fynn, and members of the committee.

Rank upon rank of spectators, totalling nearly 4,000, sat under gay bunting with a background of coloured lights, and applauded the novelty events which opened an entertaining programme.

presented in turn to Lady Rodwell, Mrs. Mayer, the wife of the Mayor, and Mrs. C. M. Harris, the wife of the Deputy-Mayor.

The bathing beauty parade, in which there were about a dozen entrants, resulted in Miss F. MacDonald being declared the winner and Miss H. Garside runner-up.

The judges were Mrs. Maver and Mrs. Edgar Jenkins.

During the evening Lady Rodwell presented to Mr. Gibbs, the Bath Superintendent, a Life Membership Certificate of the National Life Saving Association. This is in recognition of his many years of service in the interests of the National Life Saving Association and swimming generally throughout the Colony. The honour is much prized because it is unusual for the Society to award honorary life membership, and the presentation must be taken as a recognition of unique services in the interests of the Society.

which covered him from head to toe, from the highest springboard.

After the interval the bath superintendent, Mr. R. Y. Gibbs, gave an exhibition of trick swimming.

In introducing Lady Rodwell, who presented the prizes, Mr. Fynn said that the carnival had been probably the most successful function ever held at the bath.

#### RESULTS.

Balloon bursting competition (open): Ladies, Miss Joyce Boswell; men, Mr. A. Curtain.

Spot swim (open) :: Ladies, Mise Dorothea Rodwell; men, Mr. Glasgow.

Inter-town ladies' team race (teams of four), Salisbury v. Bulawayo: Bulawayo, 1; Salisbury, 2. Time: 2 mins. 15 3-5secs.

Bulawayo won handsomely.

Three bouquets floated near the shallow end of the Bath in the form of a triangle, and, shortly after the arrival of the Governor and party, Mr. R. Y. Gibbs (the Bath Superintendent) swam out and brought them to the edge, where they were taken possession of by his little daughter, Noreen, and

The first half of the programme included a display of diving by Mr. J. R. Robertson, Rhodesian diving champion, Miss Helga Henricks and Miss Wallace. The event concluded spectacularly with Mr. Maltas, of Salisbury, diving in a blazing costume,

Lifebuoy race (open): B. T. Att well, 1; D. Morrison, 2.

Inter-town men's team race (teams of six), Sailsbury v. Bulawayo: Salisbury, 1; Bulawayo, 2. Time: 2mins. 53 3-5secs.

Inter-town mixed team race (teams of six): Salisbury, 1; Bulawayo, 2. Time, 3min. 5 4-5secs.

Polo: Bulawayo 8, Salisbury 5.

# GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND.

THE Executive Committee of the Fortieth Anniversary Celebrations Fortieth Anniversary Celebrations gratefully acknowledge donations to the fund from the following:

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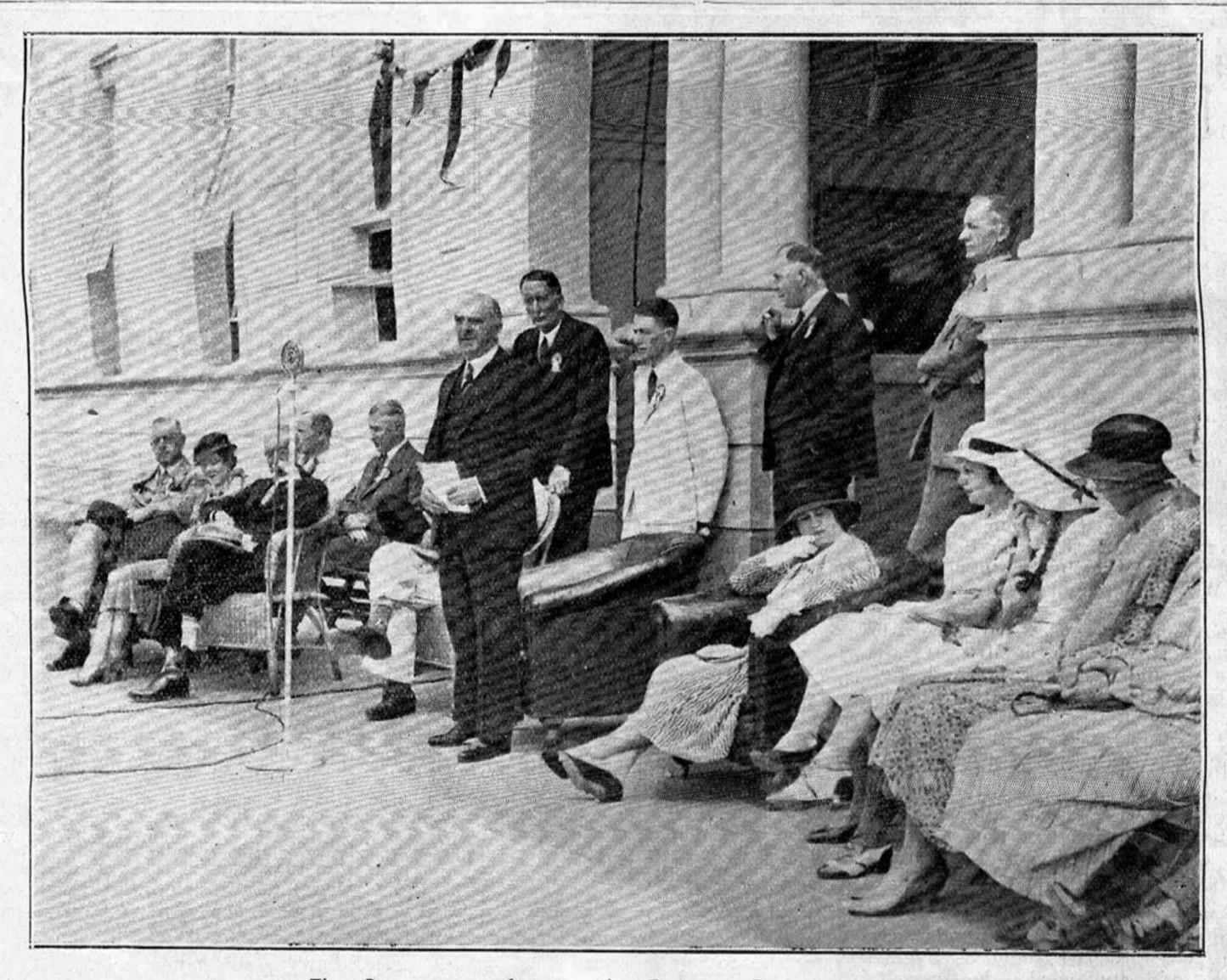
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Ltd., £5 5s.; Osborn's Bakery. £5 5s.; Hubert Davies and Co., Ltd., £5 5s.; Congo-Rhodesian Ranching Co., Ltd., £5 5s.; South African Breweries, Ltd., £5 5s.; Lennon, Ltd., £5 5s.: Ohlssons Cape Breweries, Ltd., £5 5s.; African Explosives and Industries. Ltd., £5 5s. Shell Company of Rhodesia, Ltd., £5 5s.; J. Cowden and Son, £5 5s.; F. Issels and Son, £5 5s.; Premier Portland Cement Co. (Rho.), Ltd., £5 5s.; Smart and Copley, Ltd., £5 5s.: W. Horton Fletcher, £5 5s.; Stewarts and Lloyds of S.A., Ltd., £5 5s.; Palace Hotel, £5 5s.; Johnson and Fletcher, Ltd., £5 5s.; E. W. Tarry and Co., Ltd., £5; S. S. Grossberg, £3 3s.; Ellenbogen and Co., £3 3s.; D. A. Blumberg, £3 3s.; K. R. Vashee and Co., £3 3s.; Copthall Stores. £3 3s.; T. Forbes and Son, £3 3s.; Keay, Young and Co., £2 2s.; I. Sariff, £2 2s.; M. Treger, £2 2s.; H. B. Ellenbogen, £2 2s.; Fraser and Chalmers (S.A.), Ltd., £2 2s.; the Dundee Butchery, £2 2s.; Fox and Bookless, £2 2s.; Rhodesia and Rand Livestock Co., £2 2s.; Wightman and Co., Ltd., £2 2s.; Independent and Standard Butchery, Ltd., £2 2s.; Sale and Solomon, £2 2s.; F. E. Harris, £2 2s.; John Austin, £2 2s; H. B. Thomas, £2 2s.; Dayalji and Co., £1 16.; R. Raizon, £1 1s.; William Bain and Co., £1; the Rhodesia Railways, Ltd., £25; H. S. Henderson, V.C., £10; Rhodesia Milling Co., Ltd., £5 5s.; Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd., £5 5s.; Cuthbert and Co., Ltd., £5 5s.; Texas Cc. (S.A.), Ltd., £5 5s.; Duly and Company, £5 5s.; Rhodesian Export and Cold Storage Co., Ltd., £5 5s.; H. H. Phillips, £5; Meikles (Byo.), Ltd., £5.; McCullagh and Bothwell, £3 3s.; "Early Settler," £3; Buluwayo Board of Executors and Trust Co., Ltd., £2 2s.; Harry Hopkins and Co., £2 2s.; Clack and Co., £2 2s.; H. F. Gleadow, £1 1s.; Kimpton's, £1 1s.; W. C. MacDonald and Co., £1 1s.; Puzey and Payne, £1 1s.; K. Byron Moore, £1 1s.; Royal Exchange Assurance, £5; W. Maver, £10; Sir Abe Bailey, £52 10s.; G. and P.G.M. Co., £10; African Con. Theatres, Ltd., £5 5s.; Barelay's Bank, £5 5s.; Standard Bank, £5 5s.; Fred Coe, £2; Llewellyn Davies, £1 1s.; Sir Edmund Davies, £10; Frivolities, Ltd., £3 3s.

1893 - MATABELELAND - 1933



The Governor performing the Opening Ceremony.

[Photograph by E. A. Payne.

# HISTORICAL MUSEUM FOR RHODESIA.

#### PRESERVING OUR ROMANCE AND TRADITION.

THE value of a permanent national historical museum in Southern Rhodesia and the need for a history of Rhodesia were the two points emphasised at the official opening of the Exhibition of Rhodesiana, which was performed by the Governor of Southern Rhodesia, Sir Cecil Rodwell, K.C.M.G., before a large gathering on Thursday morning.

"I consider that the compilation of a history of Rhodesia, sooner or later, is essential to the preservation of Rhodesia's romance and Rhodesia's tradition," said the Governor.

The ceremony took place in front of the Rhodesian Museum, in a wing of which the exhibition is housed, and several hundred people were accommodated on chairs in the middle of the street. A microphone and amplifier was provided for the speakers.

The decision to take initial steps for the formation of a permanent Historical Museum was made at an informal luncheon later in the day, when a provisional committee was appointed.

#### AT THE OPENING.

ON the platform were the Governor and Lady Rodwell, who were ac companied by Miss Cecilia Rodwell and Miss Dorothea Rodwell, and Mr. C. P. Forder, secretary to the Governor; the Mayor and Mayoress of Bulawayo, Mr. and Mrs. W. Maver; Mr. H. G. Issels, vice-chairman of the Celebrations Committee; Mr. H. R. Raikes, principal of the University of the Witwatersrand; Miss R. A. Raikes; Mr. J. G. Gubbins; the Minister of Internal Affairs, the Hon. S. M. Lanigan O'Keeffe; Mr. G. M. Isaac, chairman of the Museum Committee; and Mr. D. Niven, F.L.A., the Librarian of the Bulawayo Public Library, Mrs. T. C. Fynn, Mr. E. C. Alderson.

Mr. T. C. Fynn, chairman of the Executive Committee, explained how the exhibition had come into being. He expressed the thanks of the committee to Mr. G. M. Isaacs and the Museum Committee for providing accommodation for the exhibition, and paid a tribute to Mr. V. W. Hiller, the hon. curator, who arranged the exhibits.

He also paid a special tribute to Mr. J. G. Gubbins and Mr. H. R. Raikes, principal of the University of the Witwatersrand, for their co-operation, and on behalf of the committee welcomed them to Bulawayo.

#### FROM GROOTE SCHUUR.

He also thanked the B.S.A. Co. for the Nordenfeld gun; Sir Drummond Chaplin for his sympathy and support; and General Hertzog, Prime Minister of the Union, for sending up two very interesting exhibits from Groote Schuur.

To the Rev. Neville Jones, who assisted in the work of arranging the exhibition, he referred as "a tower of strength," and he also thanked Mr. H. C. K. Fynn, who helped Mr. Hiller.

Best wishes for the success of the celebrations were conveyed to the committee in a letter from Mr. D. M. Hulley, hon. secretary of the Historical Research Committee of the Northern Transvaal Provincial Lodge No. 4 of the Sons of England Society.

"We feel," the letter stated, "that the establishment by you of a historical museum for Rhodesia is a wise step. We will be obliged if you can send to us for our collection a set of programmes, etc., of your celebrations."

"I warmly congratuthe Governor. late Mr. Hiller and his sub-committee upon the result of their labours, in which they have been so largely assisted by Mr. J. G. Gubbins and by the University of the Witwatersrand, whose representative we heartily welcome here this morning.

"We are also very glad indeed to see Mr. Gubbins here; I sincerely trust that the appreciation evidenced of his interest in this work and of his presence here this morning will be a reward to him for all his labours and an encouragement to him to pursue this work. For Mr. Gubbins is engaged upon a work of national importance, a work that will earn the gratitude of posterity, not only in but .throughout Southern Rhodesia Africa."

Sir Cecil Rodwell quoted the passage in Mr. Hiller's preface to the catalogue, in which the hope was expressed that a national historical museum would be formed, and suggested, by the way, that all those who visited the exhibition should make a point of acquiring a catalogue, not only because it contributed so much to the understanding of the exhibition, but because it was in itself a most interesting souvenir.

"I trust that this ceremony to-day," he said, "and the informal discussions which no doubt will follow may prove to be the beginning of an organised campaign for the collection and preservation of such material. Many of those who took an active part in the happenings of those early days are passing away year by year. Among their possessions must be many letters, diaries and objects the value of which, perhaps, is not fully appreciated now, but which might be of im-

#### GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

"It was indeed a happy inspiration to hold an exhibition in connection with this week's celebrations," said

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# HISTORICAL MUSEUM OPENED: APPOINTMENT OF THE

mense value to the historian in another 40 years' time, for the sidelights which they throw upon the happenings and controversies of those early days. I trust my words may reach some of those who are in possession of such material, and that they will think twice before consigning any of it to the rubbish heap.

#### FOR A HISTORY,

"Lastly, it is not too much to hope that this assembly here to-day and the discussions which will follow, may lead to a movement with a view to the compilation of a history of Rhodesia. We have many books on the life of Mr. Rhodes, some of them very good, some of them moderate; we have accounts by various excellent writers of phases in the history of Rhodesia, and episodes; we have descriptions of adventures associated with the early days; but we have nothing as yet in the shape of a history of Rhodesia, and sooner or later we must have one. It would not be difficult to name halfa-dozen men and women of letters to whom such a task would appeal, and there is a fascinating field awaiting them.

"I consider that the compilation of a history of Rhodesia, sooner or later, is essential to the preservation of Rhodesia's romance and Rhodesia's tradition."

In conclusion, the Governor reminded them that the exhibition would be open this evening from 7 to 10 o'clock.

because thirty generations 10 strong, brave men have worked with brain and hand to make it so. Nothing great ever came to men in their sleep. The fields, now so clean and neatly fenced, were once morasses or forests of scrub, or were littered with boulder stones. Our laws, our literature, our constitution, our empire, were built together out of materials equally unpromising. We, when we were born, came into possession of a fair inheritance. We are bound to remember from whom it came, and not to think that because we have got it we have only ourselves to thank for it. You may test the real worth of any people by the feelings which they entertain for their forefathers. With the Romans reverence for ancestors was part of the national religion. It was something like a religion here not long ago, and when the nineteenth century has sufficiently admired itself for its steam engines and electric telegraphs, something of the same feeling, we will hope, may revive.

"You may test the real worth of any people by the feelings which they entertain for their foretathers," Mr. Gubbins quoted.

"Therefore," he continued, "I feel it is your duty and the duty of all of us, to try to record as much as we can of the past. And you have such an exceptional opportunity in Rhodesia. You are a young nation, and so you can trace the whole of your development, the beginnings of trade, education-in fact, you might make a wonderful microcosm of a nation in the making. I envy the work which you have in front of you, and I do hope we shall be allowed to co-operate with you in this work." The official ceremony concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Governor and Lady Rodwell, with which Mr. Fynn coupled the name of Mr. J. G. Gubbins. Headed by the Governor's party, the crowd then filed into the Museum to see the exhibition.

#### IN TWO PARTS.

1.

Mr. Gubbins suggested that this proposed historical museum might be divided into two parts. The first part, the care of archives, would be solely the concern of the Government. He had been told by Mr. Niven of the difficulty experienced in trying to make the Government of Southern Rhodesia realise the enormous importance of the care of their archives; but from what he had seen of the members of the present Government he had no doubt that they were going to undertake this necessary responsibility truly. It was for the Government to initiate the movement; but when they came to the real romantic history of the people it was for the people themselves to take part. If they were going to make a really great thing of this muscum every section of the population would have to co-operate.

"Your historical museum should be of such a type," he said, "that everybody who comes into it that has done any work for Rhodesia will feel that he has a place there."

The co-operation not only of the Government, but of religious bodies, of commercial and other bodies, was essential. They had their agricultural history, and they might bring in the question of when the first domestic plants were brought into the Colony. Such a work was not only going to be valuable to themselves but to the whole world.

Further, it was absolutely necessary to bring in something of, the history and personality of their neighbours. He suggested by way of warning that it would be infinitely wiser to make it one scheme and secure the combination and co-operation of all the various communities instead of splitting it up into a number of interests. They should make a point of bringing in practically every organised body in the country, including municipalities, of other towns. For instance, they should have a very strong section for Mashonaland, and a section for Barotseland.

#### MR. J. G. GUBBINS.

Mr. Gubbins expressed the thanks of the University of the Witwatersrand, the Johannesburg City Council, and himself, for the complimentary things that had been said, and assured them that anything that either of these two bodies or he could do to assist would be done.

"I sincerely trust that the historical museum you speak of will very soon be a thing of fact," he said.

In Johannesburg they were engaged on the same movement, and there was to be a special Rhodesian section to that museum.

"I hope that you, in your turn, when you start your historical museum will also remember your neighbours," he said, "and so connect up South Atrica as one great family, living their separate lives, but yet one great whole. And when I speak of South Africa, I think one cannot really bind oneself to any one boundary; I think we must really regard South Africa as what is Bantu Africa; and I think it is our duty to study the whole subject."

"At this point Mr. Gubbins read out a passage from the English historian, James Anthony Froude, on sentiment, and its place in national life:

We speak contemptuously of sentiment, and yet the noblest part of our existence is based on senti-Patriotism is sentiment. ment. Conscience is sentiment. Honour, shame, reverence, love of beauty, love of goodness, every high aspiration which we entertain, all are All are unpractical sentiment. according to the profit and loss philosophy. Yet without them man is but an animal, lower not higher than his fellow-creatures, as his desires are most insatiable. When I say that this question is a question of sentiment, I mean that it touches the quick of our national being. A nation, it is said, which does not respect its past will have no future which will deserve respect. Great Britain is what it is to-day

#### FIRST STEPS TAKEN.

With enthusiastic unanimity a movement to establish a permanent national historical museum for S. Rhodesia was launched at a representative informal luncheon gathering at the Palace Hotel later in the day, which was attended by the Governor, and a provisional committee was appointed, with the Governor as hon, president.

The realisation of this aim, which has been in the minds of many patriotic Rhodesians for some time, has come about as a sequel to the exhibition of Rhodesiana which was organised for the Fortieth Anniversary celebrations.

Among those present at the luncheon were Mr. H. R. Raikes, principal of the University of the Witwatersrand, and Mr. J. G. Gubbins. Mr. Gubbins was first called upon by Mr. T. C. Fynn to speak.

"I feel you are on the eve of an extraordinarily important and interesting adventure," he said. "The preservation of your history is going to be of enormous value to yourselves, and what is infinitely more crucial, it is going to give your children something to think about. "All the children in the Union hate history; and the whole truth of the matter is that we do not present history to our children in the form in which it should be presented. It misses all the personality, the romance, and the feeling and sentiment, which real history would inspire."

"You must include everybody and get everybody working for the common end," he said.

In conclusion, he congratulated the committee on the valuable work they had done so far, and expressed the hope that those in Johannesburg would be allowed to co-operate.

#### THE RESOLUTION.

The following resolution, proposed by the Rev. Neville Jones, was carried unanimously without further comment.

"That this informal gathering of those deeply interested in the history of Rhodesia expresses its convinced opinion that steps ought to be taken immediately to form a national collection of books, manuscripts and other objects connected with the early history of the country, which should be constantly developed by the inclusion of all such additional matter as shall bequeath to posterity an adequate amount of material from which to study the beginnings, growth, and development of our country. It has in view of the establishment of national archives, which will link up with other similar institutions throughout the world and play its part in coordinating the cultural development of our country with that of the rest of South Africa. "Further, that, with this end in view, a provisional committee be appointed to take immediate steps to bring the substance of this resolution before the public, in the hope that,

(Continued on page 18.)

## Famous Collector Impressed with Rhodesiana.

"CPLENDID, excellent." were the comments of Mr. J. G. Gubbins, the well-known collector of Africana, when he had had a look round the exhibition of Rhodesiana now on view in Bulawayo, after his arrival on Wednesday.

"It is awfully well set out," he told a representative of The Bulawayo Chronicle. "I am enormously struck with Mr. Hiller's work, especially in relation to the development of the Press. It shows that you can pick up the threads of the history of all your activities in a way that no other country, practically speaking. can. You have unique possibilities in front of you

"I think this exhibition is a tremendous credit to everybody concerned. If it stimulates Rhodesia to found a real historical museum, its value 's going to be absolutely incalculable, because it will not only give Rhodesians an opportunity of seeing the wonderful work done by those who built up the country, but it is going to help to create a tradition.

#### TRADITION.

It is escential to bring tradition into a country. Tradition is a living thing; and it is really the most valuable thing you can have in a country, especially if the tradition is developed not in opposition to that of other people, but, as it were, in co-operation with them. For instance, here you are not only showing Rhodesian things, but you are showing things to do with other parts of Africa. The more South Africa gets to understand different parts of its own history, the stronger the country will become. You want to take all the traditions 01 South Africa and orchestrate thembring them together and then you will like the other fellow much better, because you understand him much better. For instance, in the historical museum we are getting up in Johanes. burg there is to be a special Rho desian section. I think everyone hopes you are going to do the same thing, focussing, of course, on Rhodesia, but showing its relationship with the rest of South Africa at the same time."

#### DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.

Mr. H. R. Raikes, principal of the University of the Witwatersrand, who arrived in Bulawayo by car on Wednesday with his sister,

Miss R. A. Raikes, told a representative of The Chronicle in an interview that his object m main coming was to see the exhibition of Rhodesiana. "It is a very fine collection," he observed as he took a stroll round the exhibition shortly after he arrived. brought Raikes



Mr. Mr. H. R. Raikes.

with him some additional items for the exhibition from the University collection, which he did not wish to send by train. Included in the parcel was a pencil sketch of Cecil Rhodes as a young man, by the Duchess of Rutland.

dren," he said, "and it can be made so fascinating. If children could only be brought to an exhibition like this, and shown that all these people were really alive, and are not just dead dates in books, they would understand their country much better, an enjoy their history lessons. Then their history will be of some use to them." Mr. Gubbins formerly practised as an advocate in the Union, but recently he has been living on his farm at Ottoshoop, in the Transvaal. The first thing that stimulated his interest in the collection of Africana and led to the work that has now made him famous in this field is curiously enough associated with Southern Rhodesia. It was the finding, at a place called Missionaries Post, about eight miles from his own farm, of a memorial slab buried in the grave of the first white woman to die in the Transvaal, who was the wife of an American missionary among the Matabele, before Mzilikazi fled north of the Limpopo.

inscription (published in the exhibition catalogue) reads as follows:

"Beneath this lies interred Jane, wife of Rev. A. F. Wilson, M.D., Missy. of ye Am. Bd. to ye Matabele. Her spirit was called away to join ye assembly of ye just in Heaven, soon after she commenced her toils in this land. Her flesh sleeps till ye resurrection. when it will rise to testify ye benevolent desires of her husband and those connected with him to impart ye blessing of ye Gospel to ye natives in Africa. Reader, remember thy time, inke hers, may be short Work while thou hast life for Christ"

After making this find Mr. Gubbins became interested and found all the first Livingstone mission stations. He then started the big library of Africana, which has become so well known. After a while it became too big for him, and here the University of the Witwatersrand came in.

"It was through the support of the University of the Witwatersrand that I was able to continue," he said.

Now the scheme has grown too big even for the University; and the City Council of Johannesburg is taking it

up. The Council is proposing to provide accommodation for a real historical museum in the new Johannesburg Library Mr. Gubbins said that this proposal was likely to start developing very soon.

#### TEACHING HISTORY.

Mr. Gubbins dwelt on the importance of such a museum from the point of view of teaching history in the schools.

"History is spoilt for school chil

#### A STRANGE INSCRIPTION.

This interesting relic, a small square of pipestone, with the inscription cat on it with a penknife, is at present to be seen among the exhibition of Rhodesiana now on view in Bulawayo. The

#### A LITTLE PRESENT.

This is the second visit Mr. Gubbins has paid to Bulawayo. The first was in 1904, when he came up to see Col. Chester Master, a cousin, who was then Resident Commissioner at Salisbury This time he has come for the celebrations, because, he said: "I am enormously interested in Rhodesian history, both for itself, and for its relation to general South African tradition.

Mr. Gubbins brought with him what he described as "a little present "or the committee," which is a gift to Bulawayo. It is a beautiful old colour print, dated, 1824, by W. J. Huggins, depicting two sailing ships in Table Bay, and bears the following inscription:

"To His Excellency the Right Hon. Lord Charles Henry Somerset, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Cape of Good Hope, this picture is most respectfully dedicated by his most obedient and humble servant, W. H. Huggins."

#### HISTORICAL MUSEUM OPENED :- (Continued).

provided the proposal is favourably received, a permanent committee may be formed.'

"If I am any judge of atmosphere," said Mr. Jones, "I feel that there is no resolution that I have ever been called upon to submit which is likely to greater unanimity than this secure one."

Mr. Jones said that it so happened that on this day he celebrated his coming of age in Rhodesia, but after seeing the exhibition of Rhodesiana which they had collected for this occasion he could safely say that he now felt much more proud to be a Rhodesian than he had ever been before.

"It has made me realise what an

owners the possession of this material, because we realise that had it not been for them it would not have been preserved for us at all," he said, "we feel that much of it should never have been allowed to leave this coun-And it never would have left try. the country if we had had any sense of our responsibilities in this matter in the past, and had an organised society in existence.

Mr. Jones paid a tribute to those people who had done service in this connection in the past, mentioning the names of Mr. Gubbins, Mr. Hiller, Mr. Niven, and the Hon. Lionel Cripps, C.M.G. To them they owed a debt of immeasureable gratitude.

whereby the cultural development of this country may have become possible. We must encourage among our own people the growth of the historical sense, which is an essential item in all cultural development. In the degree in which our knowledge of existing institutions is increased and developed to just that degree is the spirit of true patriotism developed and nurtured. And we must make provision for retaining in our hands the essential material, while co-operating with other centres in the distribution of such valuable material as they may need, and we may be able to spare."

The following were appointed to the provisional committee with power to co-opt.: The Hon. R. D. Gilchrist, Minister of Commerce; Mr. T. C. Fynn, Mr. F. P. Mennell, the Hon. Lionel Cripps, the Rev. Neville Jones, Mr. V. W. Hiller, Mr. W. A. Carnegie, Mr. D. Niven, Col. T. E. Robins, Sir James McDonald, Mr. F. Eyles, Librarian, Salisbury. Mr. E. C. Alderson (Supt., Publicity Bureau) was co-opted at a later date.

immense wealth of cultural material is at our disposal," he said.

"They wanted to make the most or this unique opportunity they had had, and many of them would feel very sore at heart when all this wonderful collection that they had gathered was broken up and returned to the various owners.

"While we do not grudge to the

"History is always being written, he said. "It is a mistake to imagine that because the pioneer period has gone that history has stopped in the making; it can never be so. We have certainly let opportunities slip; and we do not realise things that are taking place around us at the moment. But in 40 years' time people will look back to us and they will expect that we shall have provided some means