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Home > Search Results > The Singapore Free Press and Mercantile Advertiser (1884-1942) > 21 June 1930 > Page 10 > SINGAPORE FREE PRESS. SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1930. EAST AFRICAN PROBLEMS.



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The Singapore Free Press and Mercantile Advertiser, 21 June 1930, Page 10

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Scroll to Top

Add to Citation

Previous Article

Next Article

Previous Page

Next Page

SINGAPORE FREE PRESS.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1930.

EAST AFRICAN PROBLEMS.

The announcement of the Government policy in regard to East Africa brings to an end the first stage of a very long drawn out controversy, but it is emphatically only the first, perhaps even only the preliminary, stage. Two important reports upon the state of affairs in Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda, those of the Hilton Young Commission and the Wilson Commission have been made and issued. Of those reports it may be said that whilst there were differences of opinion there seemed to be considerable ground for agreement especially in the matter that all three countries agreed that some closer union was desirable. The problem seemed to divide itself more or less into three chief divisions, the first the general native policy; the second the general economic policy; the

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Table of Contents

< Previous Page 10 Next >

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES. FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES. FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT. Relatives and friends are hereby


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MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS MEET.

View Full Table of Contents







third the general political policy. It is possible that out of these, although it may seem remarkable, there was more agreement as regards the third than as regards either the first or the second. With reference to the native policy it has to be remembered that there are in these areas some twelve million peoples with marked elements of sound tribal organisation but in a backward state of advancement considered from a modern point of view. The evil of divorcing native populations from hereditary and traditional association with the land has been exemplified in other parts of Africa and there is a general desire now on the part of the Imperial Government to try and avoid this, but at the same time there is an economic pull upon these natives in the shape of labour opportunities provided by industrial undertakings which if not counteracted or ameliorated




threatens to withdraw them for so long from reservations or other traditional associations, as to endanger the continuance of such associations. It has been very soundly argued that the whole future of prosperity and peace in Africa depends upon the laying down and understanding of a definite native policy based upon the principle of the interests of the native being paramount. That principle has been accepted and is being upheld by the British Government but the possibility of extending it over not only British East Africa but also other British settlements and the Union is very far from hopeful and a policy followed in one part is bound to cause great difficulties when its effects react upon other parts.




As far as the political problem is concerned this is affected by the





presence of a number of ASIATICS, mainly Indians, who, as far as can be judged, are less ready to consider the claims of the natives than are the Europeans. However that may be political development cannot be hastened for the simple reason that the pace must be set by those chiefly concerned, namely the native, since if it is set by either the Europeans or the Asiatics it will almost certainly lead a political domination which, inspired by industrial aims will almost certainly be inimical to the true interests of the Africans.






As regards the other division, that of economics, it would seem that the greatest difficulty is likely to arise in respect to the reaction of any policy upon the natives in regard to labour regulations, and the customs and it may be found in practice very difficult to harmonise the differing outlooks of the three states on these matters. The cabled news gives no information as to what services are to be transferred to the combined Council but they will presumably at least include customs, posts and possibly the civil service.




The organization looks at a distance to be too elaborate considering the tentative character, or perhaps we should say experimental character, the departure must have. It is however impossible to be dogmatic at this distance and with the little information available. We cannot help feeling however that it might have been better for a time to depend upon a man rather than upon machinery. That is to say, assuming a man with the ability to conceive a policy of development of the three territories, of trusteeship of the African and of protection of the Asiatics' future, could be found,





that he should have been appointed not as an officer with defined powers and a council of assistance, but rather as an officer with nebulous powers, with no fixed council but with a position superior as at present, to the individual Governors. He would be in short a "counsellor" and his task would be to maintain constant touch with all phases of the problems of the three territories and to exercise an unofficial influence towards such a reconciliation of policies as would tend in time to lead to that more definite organization which is now to be established straight away. It may be admitted that to carry out so ill-defined, if clearly understood, a mission, would require a man of unusual tact, ability and courage, but five or ten years such observation of the problems concerned coupled with insensible guiding during that time towards harmony upon the understood basis of the future of the African being the issue of prime importance, might ensure much sounder building than the present scheme. But the right man would have to be found, though indeed he will have to be found under the present plans.




Mr. A. D. York has been appointed to act as a Magistrate in Penang.

Owners of firearms are reminded that all licences expire on June 30th.

Mr. A. Grant Mackie, who is now at Port Said, is shortly to return to Malaya.

Mr. J. V. Cowgill will succeed Mr. E. A. Dickson as District Officer, Kinta, when he returns from Home leave.—M.M.

The condition of Mr. St. John Robertson who fell out of a window in the E. and O. Hotel, Penang is still very serious.



Mrs. Collingwood-Phillips, of Sungai Ramal Estate, Kajang, has recently undergone a serious operation at the European Hospital Kuala

Lumpur.

Mr. H. Dove, of Messrs. Huttenbach, Lazarus and Sons, Ltd., Penang, is in Kuala Lumpur on a business visit.

Mr G. Aste, who fell ill while playing lawn tennis at Ipoh on Sunday afternoon, has now returned to Penang.

Mr. H. G. Turner, A.D.O. Sitiawan, has been appointed to be a Collector of Land Revenue, a Coroner and a Police Magistrate, Penang.

The Scottish Company S.V.C. under Major D. G. MacLeod will attend a parade service at the Presbyterian Church to-morrow at 5.30 p.m.

Revisions of regulations respecting foreign orders and medals applicable to persons in the service of the Crown are published in the Gazette.

The meeting of the Engineering Association of Malaya which was to have been held in Kuala Lumpur on June 21 and 22 has been postponed to July 12 and 13.

At a meeting of the Kuala Lumpur Sanitary Board a site for a new Town Hall was approved. It is on the ground lying between the Selangor Club, the Empire Hotel and Club Road.—M.M.

The following officers of the Volunteer Force are promoted to be Captains: Lieuts. B. E. Ablitt; C. A. Scott, A. Gordon, H. N. Jarman, A. P. Goldman, A. J. B. Carruthers, W. T. Cherry, S. Y. Yong.

Two F.M.S. Officers, Messrs. E. Jago and C. R. Howitt, who are returning from leave by the Rajputna, have been loaned to the Colony. The former will be stationed in Penang and the latter in Singapore.—M.M.

On May 26th two flying boats S. 1149 and S. 1419 (Squadron Leader Livock) and Flight Lt. Nicholetts and Flying Officer Grierson arrived during the course of a cruise to Miri and British North Borneo.—Sarawak Gazette.

The Ipoh Police detective force brought off a creditable coup on Monday night as the result of which four of a gang of five robbers were apprehended in the heart of Ipoh town in the very act of committing a robbery.

The prizes kindly awarded by Mr. R. Jumbhoy, J.P., to the deserving pupils of the Indian Association night school, will be distributed by the President, Dr. K. Raghunathan, J.P., at the Association premises on Tuesday, at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

Dr. S. A. O'Keefe, retired assistant surgeon, is seventy-five to-day, says the Pinang Gazette of Wednesday. Dr. O'Keefe joined the Government Service in 1878 and retired in 1905 at the age of fifty. He continues to enjoy the best of health.

Mr. A. G. Wilson, of Harper, Gilfillan and Co., Ltd., Seremban, has been transferred to Teluk Anson. Mr. S. G. Tyte, from the Port Dickson branch of the firm, will succeed him and Mrs. T. D. McNair will take Mr. S. G. Tyte's place at Port Dickson.

The Muslim Mahajana Sabha, Penang, is calling a special general meeting for to-day at the Sabha premises in Transfer Road, to discuss what step can be taken to prevent the use of holy verses from the Koran in trade mark chops by Muslim merchants.


A very pleasant function took place at Sungei Way on Sunday evening, when the European staff of Sungei Way Dredging, Ltd., gave a farewell "At Home" to Mr. L. R. Kerridge, the Manager, who is leaving for Home on six months' leave.

The Sarawak Government Gazette states that the Tuan Muda has delegated the powers of District Court Magistrate to Messrs G. R. H. Arundell, J. J. Hill, A. MacPherson, R. L. Danbeny, W. P. N. L. Ditmas, D. C. Hudden, E. H. Elam, J. O. Gilbert, P. Murray-Scott and J. R. Combe.


Recent appointments in the Sarawak Government Service include the following: Mr. J. C. H. Barcroft, Cadet, to do duty at Simanggang, Mr. W. H. C. C. Morice, Cadet, to do duty at Limbang, Miss G. E. Collinson to be Matron, Child Welfare Branch, Health Department.

The police yesterday took into custody Mr. M. Caulfield, an Australian, at a café in Tejo-road, (says the Bangkok Times of June 9). There is an extradition warrant out against him for alleged embezzlement of \$3,300 in Pahang, and the Bangkok police were asked to apprehend him, on its being learnt that he had come to Bangkok.

A traffic case in which a Malay boy was killed at Kubu Road, Malacca, by a Perak car alleged to have been driven by Low Seng Eng, employed as a clerk by Messrs. Guthrie and Company, Ltd., Kuala Lumpur, was heard in the Malacca Police Court on Friday. After a lengthy hearing the accused was committed to take his trial at the forthcoming Malacca Assizes, on a charge of causing death by a rash act.—M.M.



On Sunday night, a policeman came across a Chinese about 35 years of age lying on the side of the roadway on Circular Road, Kuala Lumpur. The policeman thought the man was drunk but on examining him found that he was dead, with a wound on the back of his head. He was removed to the hospital mortuary and police investigations revealed that the deceased was a carpenter and was last seen walking along Pudu Road earlier in the day. It is believed that he was knocked down by a motor car.—
M.M.



For the week ended May 31 the Settlement police at Shanghai made 271 arrests. Of this number 78 persons were positively identified as previous offenders, or as having been participants in the crime for which they were apprehended. The campaign against armed robbers was continued, the result being that 25 of this particular type of law-breaker were arrested. Of these, four were identified through finger prints. Ten pickpockets were arrested. Ten pickpockets were identified, and sentenced to gaol terms. The score of the police with purse snatchers was almost as excellent. Nineteen were arrested, 12 were identified, and 17 convicted in the Special District Court. The outstanding crime of the week was the shooting of two foreigners and two Chinese by a gang of Chinese robbers operating on a launch. They obtained a payroll of \$27,000. The Police have made 11 arrests.

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