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## CONTENTS

### EDITORIAL.

- Word Importation into Bantu Language ... .. by R. A. SNOXALL.
- Gordon's Farthest South in Uganda in 1876 ... .. by H. B. THOMAS, O.B.E.  
*(Reprinted with permission from "Empire  
Survey Review" No. 17, Vol. III).*
- World Mineral Production and Uganda's Contribution ... .. by K. A. DAVIES.
- The Uganda Native War Memorial Recreation  
Ground, Kampala ... .. by H. H. WOOD.

### NOTES

- Ducks Eating Groundnuts ... .. by W. J. EGGELING.
- "Etuku".....A Problem Propounded ... .. by J. F. SHILLITO.
- The Dry Crossing of the Nile Near Nimule ... .. by E. J. WAYLAND.
- Hippo Hunting by Night ... .. by JOCK JARDINE.

### BOOK NOTICES.

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# THE UGANDA SOCIETY.

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## NOTICES.

1. The attention of members is once again drawn to the new address of the Society to which all correspondence to its officials should be directed. The new address is:-

The Uganda Society  
Private Post Bag,  
Kampala,  
Uganda.

2. There has been a change in the business management of the Society which has now been relinquished by the Uganda Printing and Publishing Company, Ltd. and has been taken over by Messrs. Bell and Co. of Nairobi in the person of Mr. R. W. A. Cooper.

3. Mr. W. N. R. Lee of Makerere College has kindly assumed the duties of Honorary Treasurer.

4. Members are reminded that with this number Volume V will be completed, and subscriptions are therefore due for the forthcoming year. A Bankers' Order Form will be found elsewhere in this issue and if you have not already chosen this most satisfactory method of paying your subscription, you are urged to do so without delay.

5. On Thursday, March 3rd, under the auspices of the Uganda Society at the Kampala Club and with the President of the Society Mr. Ralph Hone, M.C., K.C., in the chair, Colonel J. L. Sleeman, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., M.V.O., Chief Commissioner St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas, delivered a most interesting lecture to a very well attended meeting on the history and work of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

6. We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of our reciprocating contemporaries as well as copies of the following:-

A History of Uganda Land and Surveys,  
*By* H. B. Thomas, O.B.E.

Nubische Studien in Sudan,  
*By* Professor Herman Almkvist.

Religion and Divination of the Logbara Tribe of North-Uganda,  
*By* the Reverend Father Egidio Ramponi, F.S.C.

## EDITORIAL.



March, 1938.

It is with somewhat of the feelings of a fond parent sending a child out into the world that we have said farewell to the instalments of Captain Pitman's "Guide to the Snakes of Uganda"; we wish the book all success and we realise what a loss to the household the departure of this invaluable child will be. It is therefore a most heartfelt appeal for contributions which we now launch, and although we have no intention of providing regular issues of the Journal with over 100 pages of reading matter, it will we hope be realised that in order to preserve even our previous average of 60 or 70 pages in each number we are urgently in need of contributions. News reaches us from several quarters of articles "on the stocks", of mountains having been climbed, of historical events which have been allowed to pass unchronicled, of natural phenomena which perhaps will not be repeated in our lifetime—in short the material which we are anxious to clip firmly into the Editorial file.

A younger child in our last issue has also been sent out into the cruel world, we refer to the new cover of the Journal, and we are naturally anxious to hear what impressions it has made. Constructive criticisms will be welcomed, as to whether members prefer sepia ink to black, as to whether the inking should be heavier or should be left as at present, or whether the tone should be darker.

We are afraid that it is not possible to report any further development with regard to the premises offered to the Society and it would be unwise to move into the building in its present condition. Meanwhile the problem of housing the Society's growing library becomes more and more acute, and since it is not possible always to have copies of our contemporaries immediately bound it is extremely difficult to guard against deterioration.

Owing to the greater space available in this number a return has been made to the inclusion of notices and members are referred to these as there are several announcements of importance.

Finally we take this opportunity of thanking for his past services Mr. C. G. Moody, our keen and careful Honourary Treasurer who has resigned office prior to his departure on leave.

# Word Importation into Bantu Language with Particular Reference to Ganda.

By R. A. SNOXALL.

(WITH AN APPENDIX OF WORDS OF FOREIGN ORIGIN IMPORTED INTO THE LANGUAGE).

Possibly the term 'word importation' suggests too conscious a process for something which is widespread in any live and growing language and 'word assimilation' might perhaps be preferable. Most English students of French have probably been warned at school that although the word 'portmanteau' looks so unmistakably French, yet it must not be used on the other side of the Channel, and they are taught that its French equivalent is 'valise,' which is of course also used in English. The former word 'portmanteau' is a good example of a word which has died in its original language whilst surviving in the language which borrowed it. Many examples could be given of word borrowing and word assimilation in European languages. What for example are Sir Toby Belch's 'Kickshawses' in "Twelfth Night" other than 'quelques choses'?

The common French verb 'fifocloquer' is nothing more than a condensation of the English 'to have five o'clock tea,' and a 'smoking' is the equivalent of the English 'dinner jacket' via another line of thought and another line of usefulness for the garment.

If then it has been essential in various European languages to borrow or to coin words for the expression of new ideas, it will be readily realised that with the tremendous change in their whole life which the Bantu have experienced owing to the impact of European civilisation, such a process has been found indispensable in their languages.

Under what heading will it be most convenient to group the cases of word assimilation?

In the case of Ganda we must first take cognisance of such importations and adaptations as have taken place from languages other than European, these will particularly consist of the assimilation of Swahili or Swahili-Arabic words into the language. This is a process which had naturally been going on before the advent of the European to Uganda, and in the first instance, when the Arabic words were 'Bantu-ized' into Swahili probably before the arrival of even the Portuguese in East Africa.

Secondly we shall consider cases where a Swahili or other foreign influence has displaced a perfectly good Bantu equivalent, a tendency which is the least commendable of all the processes which we can observe in operation.

Thirdly the adaptation of foreign words and their conversion to appropriate Bantu forms where the original word would be phonologically impossible in the language.

Fourthly, the most interesting case, where the initial syllable of a foreign word is identical with or extremely similar to the class prefix of a Bantu noun.

Fifthly the extension of Bantuized foreign words to the various functions and forms of Bantu idiom.

Sixthly and lastly, the cases in which Bantu words have acquired new and specialised meanings through foreign influence from the necessity felt for differentiating between something which is Bantu and something which is foreign in significance.

In actual practice it is difficult to subdivide into water-tight compartments and instances will be numerous where examples will fall naturally under two or even more of these categories.

\* In the case of words which have found their way into the language through Arabic and Swahili will be found such a bewildering number that no attempt can be made at this point to give an exhaustive list, and many words which in the Southern Bantu languages have come in from European sources were in Ganda incorporated in the language at a much earlier date from Swahili owing to the greater antiquity of the Arab influence.

Some examples are :-

	Ganda.		Origin.		Meaning.
	ekitabo	Swahili	(Arabic)	kitabū	Book.
Nyoro.	amakara		(Bantu)	makaa	charcoal.
Ganda and Nyoro	(Omu-) nabbi		(Arabic)	nabii	prophet.
	ekyeti		(Indian)	cheti	chit, card.
	enkarata		(Arabic)	karata	playing cards.
	e'kanzu		(Bantu)	kanzu	long white garment.
	kyai		(Arabic)	chai (from Indian)	tea
	Omukafiri		"	Kafiri	Infidel.
		(found also in the form Kaffir in S. Africa)			
	e·kutiya or e·guniya		(Arabic)	gunia	gunny bag.
	e·jola		"	jura or gora	length of calico.

\* Vide Appendix for full list.

Ganda.	Origin.	Meaning.
e·zabu	„ dhahabu	gold
okuwandika	(Bantu) kuandika	to write
emmeza	meza (from Portuguese)	table
e·basa	(Arabic) bahasha	envelope
e·baluwa	„ barua	letter
olubawo	(Bantu) ubau	plank, board
e·balaza	(Arabic) baraza	verandah, court.
e·basitola	basitola	pistol
	(possibly from German)	
e·bati (amabati)	(Arabic) bati	tin, block tin, now corrugated iron.
omubikira	(Arabic) bikira	virgin
biringanya	(Indian via Swahili)	brinjal, egg-plant.
e·bomba	bomba	pump
	(from German)	
e·kyupa	(Bantu) chupa	bottle
e·dau (amadau)	(Arabic) dau	dhow
ennimu	(Bantu) dimu	lime
e·dini	(Arabic) dini	religion
·dobi	(Indian) dobi	washerman
e·duka	(Arabic) duka	shop
omuyembe	(Indian via Swahili) embe	mango
embalasi	(Arabic) frasi	horse
omufule·je	(Arabic) fereji	ditch
e·firimbi	(Swahili) filimbi (flute)	whistle
e·foroza	(Arabic) forodha	custom-horse
engalawa	(Bantu) galawa	outrigger canoe.
e·gali	(Indian via Swahili) gari (magari)	bicycle or cart.
omuwogo	(Bantu) hogo, mahogo	cassava
Nyoro omubu	„ imbu	mosquito
kawa	(Arabic) kahawa	coffee
e·kalamu	„ kalamu	pen
ewema	„ khema	tent
engato	(Bantu) kyatu	sandal, shoe.

Ganda.	Origin.	Meaning.	
ekibiriti	(Arabic)	kiberiti (sulphur)	a box of matches.
enkufira	"	kofia	cap
e·kufulu	"	kufuli	padlock
malaika	"	malaika	angel
omulongoti	(Bantu)	milingote	mast
omugati	"	mkate	bread
omusumawa	(Arabic)	mshumaa	candle
omusumali	"	msumari	iron nail
omutayimbwa	(Bantu)	mtaimbo	iron crowbar.
engano	"	ngano	wheat
e·pasi	(Hindu)	pasi	clothes iron.
eranda	(Arabic)	randa	plane
	(Bantu- ized )		
eratiri	(Arabic)	ratli	a pound (weight)
e·sawa	"	saa	hour
sabuni	"	sabuni	soap
e·sanduko	"	sanduku	box
e·simu	"	simu	telephone, telegraph, telegram.
e·sufuluya	"	sufuria	a metal cooking pot.
sukali	"	sukari	sugar
e·tala	"	taa	lamp
za·buli	"	zabuli	psalm.

Many words in the foregoing list are very obviously of Arabic origin via Swahili, and it is not extraordinary that the great majority of them should be so derived, since the more progressive Arabs supplied words for Bantuization where a Bantu equivalent did not exist, in the same way as the Southern Bantu tribes had recourse to the languages of the Europeans when the necessary word to express the new idea was non-existent in their languages.

It should be noted that the stress on the penultimate syllable tends to be retained in Ganda with these words of Swahili origin, although this stress so common to Bantu languages is not a usual feature of the language.

Fortunately for the future of Ganda, instances are not as yet numerous of the importation of foreign words to the exclusion of genuine and equally good native equivalents, though examples can be cited to show that such displacement has already begun.

Young Baganda may frequently be heard nowadays greeting each other with "Jambo 'sebo?" where the curt Swahili greeting is tending to displace the longer form of Ganda greeting.

The cross-roads on which so commonly the shops of Indian traders are found, are becoming known as 'sitensini' from the English 'station', though the older form 'amasanganzira' still exists. It is probable that some attempt is being made here to show a distinction between the mere cross-roads and others where shops are to be found, but unfortunately in the minds of the growing generation such a useful distinction seems absent. 'E-kona' is another case where a word introduced from English 'corner' has supplanted the existing 'ensonda'.

'Ba-masters' is becoming a common term in place of 'abayigiriza', and can only be commended on the grounds that a difference in sex is shown by its use, however since in the majority of cases no need is felt in Bantu languages for such a distinction, it may be doubted whether the language is being enriched by the inclusion of such a word. 'Benseni' for 'basin' is another word of occasional usefulness.

However although the process of importation of foreign words to the displacement of Ganda equivalents may not have proceeded far, European lines of thought are becoming more and more obvious in modern Ganda speech. I very much doubt whether much of the conversation to be heard in a foot-ball crowd in Kampala would be intelligible to a peasant from some distant corner of Buganda. Thus admiration for the play of a very strong side can be expressed by the words *Balina omupira munene!* which when literally translated mean nothing more than "They have a big ball!" but which we might render "Ah! they play a real good game!" I have even heard "tabôra" used as an attempted phonetic equivalent of "F'tball" but I hope its use will not spread too widely.

I must confess that I was most confused the first time I was asked, *Ogenda ku tabora 'sebo?* At the same time I was immensely relieved when I found that the journey I was expected to make was only to the local football ground and not a few hundred miles to Tabora in Tanganyika.

Examples are numerous of words in the third category with which we have to deal i.e. the adaptation of foreign words and their attempted conversion into appropriate Bantu form. The proper treatment of such words is a problem which has greatly exercised the Inter Territorial Language (Swahili) Committee, which now attempts to evolve suitable forms which are afforded the maximum of publicity in the Committee's bulletin and various other Swahili publications as a prelude to their incorporation within the language if they are found acceptable. Since the period offered for their consideration is usually one or two years, it may be urged that such a time limit is insufficient, and a better expedient might prove to be the printing of such words phonetically with the foreign equivalent in brackets over an agreed transition period of five years. At the expiration of the five year period a suitable Bantu equivalent might have appeared. Of course there is no need to legislate for words of this type which are already firmly established.

A few examples of such words are:-

Ganda.	English.	French.
bulangeti	blanket	
lipoti	report	
e'girasi	drinking glass, glass generally	
omutatuta	interpreter	
* taba	tobacco	tabac
* nanasi (also Swahili)	pineapple	ananas
basikoti	waistcoat	
emmeri and akameri	mail, hence ship, small boat	
Gavana	Governor	
† tepu	typewriter	
Duluka, Yokana, Daudi	Dorcas, John, David and many other adapted names.	
erementi or kerementi	helmet	
benseni	basin	

As an example of the confusion arising in the native mind from the English spelling, let me describe an answer which was written down for me by a Muganda Scout anxious to obtain his "Pathfinder's" badge.

He had been asked to describe the chief trade routes connecting Uganda with the outer world and decided that the "s. s. Clement Hill" was a venerable enough Lake Victoria steamer to call for a special description, but in order to show that he knew better than to spell the name "Clement" as a Muganda generally would ("Kerementi"), he gave the full name of the ship as the "s s. Helmet Hill."

Our fourth category gives rise to some most interesting and ingenious examples of word assimilation, and is probably the most logical and the most durable of all the processes which may be observed. Thus from the Arabic via Swahili we get the word 'risasi'—'lead' which to the Baganda bore the unmistakable 'li-' of the li-ma prefix of the noun class and therefore became, with its initial vowel, 'erisasi' singular, and 'amasasi' plural and has now settled into the typical form 'e'sasi,' plural 'amasasi.'

In the same way 'bilauri'—'a glass, tumbler', was welcomed, but was naturally suspected of being in a plural form and became 'ekirawuli' with its plural 'ebirawuli.' This word might equally well be included in the 6th class of words since it provides an instance of a distinct change of meaning, for 'ekirawuli' now means 'a lamp chimney' and 'e'girasi' means 'a tumbler.'

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\* Indicates word sufficiently well established to stand.

† An ingenious and handy equivalent.

The word 'galubindi', is similar since in its original form in Swahili 'darubini' it could not fit into the Ganda prefix system, and so took on the form 'galubindi' without however retaining its original meaning, for 'darubini' meant 'a telescope' but 'galubindi' means usually 'spectacles.' From the English 'medal' to the Ganda 'omudali' the transition is easy, for the initial syllable of the English resembles the class prefix 'mu' of the Ganda, which naturally, is reinforced by its initial vowel, and the plural becomes 'emidali.' But even more interesting is the form 'akadali' which was used to describe the small "Tailwagger's" badge which my dog used to wear on his collar. The connection between 'obusikuti' and 'biscuit' may similarly be followed, but 'obusikuti' is plural and therefore 'a biscuit' becomes 'akasikuti.'

It is by such a process that the ultimate forms of the words in transition in the third category may be evolved and 'lipoti' on the analogy of 'risasi' may develop its plural form 'amapoti' as 'bulangeti' may equally well settle into 'akalangeti' in its basic singular form.

The difference implied by the two categories 4 and 5 is that words occurring in 4 are nouns and those in 5 may be other parts of speech, although "the extension of the words to the various functions and forms of Bantu idiom" applies equally in both cases, e.g. from "Omusikautu" (Boy Scout) we get "Obusikautu" (Scouting).

I can quote no such interesting examples as those discovered by Professor Lestrade, where in Venda from 'brandy' we get the noun 'vhurani' and the verb 'rana' which is inflected in the ordinary way and has the particular meaning of 'to be drunk on European liquor.' One is tempted to suggest that such an essential difference does not arise in the case of Ganda.

Another example of such inflection is to be found from the Afrikaans 'goeie naand'—'good evening', which in Xhosa becomes 'ronanti' or 'ronanta' and means 'to have a good evening' and forms its causative 'ronantisa', 'to wish someone a good evening.'

Swahili certainly has 'kupasi' meaning 'to pass an examination' and 'amepasi' is therefore 'he has passed' and 'atapasi', 'he will pass' etc. Canon Broomfield in Bulletin No. 5 of the Inter-Territorial Language Committee has shown what would be the natural evolutions of the verb 'kuvota' in Swahili but examples are rare in Ganda and actually the only instance of such a process which I have heard is 'amaze okupasi' or 'ayinza okupasi', i.e. 'he has passed' or 'he can pass', and I have never heard any other form than the infinitive. It is true that I did once hear the verb 'okusivilaizi' 'to civilize' in the interpretation of an English speech into Ganda at a Budo Speech Day, but the smiles of those of the audience who understood suggested that they regarded such a word as a very daring and undesirable innovation and hardly as a serious attempt.

The sixth category is fairly rich in examples in Ganda of words adapted principally from Swahili in which the meaning has changed completely or has assumed a particular significance, e.g. :-

Swahili			Ganda	
pesa (ma-)	pice,	small coins.	pesa (ama-),	a button.
darubini	=	telescope.	galubindi,	spectacles.
filimbi	=	flute.	e·firimbi,	a whistle (European)
bei	=	price.	e·beyi,	price (of cotton).
safari	=	a journey, travel.	safali	a journey. (i. e. undertaken by a Euro- pean on a large scale or by a chief, but implying a degree of importance and much lug- gage).
*gari (ma-)	=	cart, vehicle.	egali	bicycle. (nasal class)
Serikali	=	the Government	Omuserikale	an employee of the Government in its uni- form, hence now a policeman.
chandarua		e tandaluwa		hood of motor car, <i>not</i> mos- quito net.

Ganda is fairly rich in interesting forms of word evolution, where recognised existing words have been given a specialised meaning to convey some new line of thought. The following are examples: -

<i>omulabirizi</i>	= "a bishop," from the verb <i>okulabirira</i> = to look after.
<i>okugatuhula</i>	= to separate or divorce. A reversive form of <i>okuga·ta</i> = to join and hence now used with the evolved meaning of "to spell."
<i>okuyawula</i>	= to differentiate and so now used for the Arithmetical term "to subtract."
<i>akajugo</i>	= <i>ekijugo</i> was the holder of a spear-head and <i>akajugo</i> now means a "pen-holder."
<i>ekibina</i>	= "a crowd or gathering" and is now used for "a class of a school."
<i>ekijenga</i>	= "an umbrella" or rather "a plantain leaf used as an umbrella," but " <i>manvuli</i> " from the Swahili " <i>mwavuli</i> " is a European umbrella.
<i>ekinywabwino</i>	= "that which drinks ink," hence now "blotting-paper."
<i>ekisibo</i>	= "a fasting time" from <i>okusiba</i> = to fasten.
<i>ekiwu·jo</i>	= "a fan for blowing up a fire," and hence both owing to its shape and its method of use, "a tennis racquet."
<i>olusoma</i>	= "a school term" from " <i>okusoma</i> " (to read).

\* It is interesting to note that the change of meaning has been followed by a change of noun class,

The noun having been formed from the verb is placed in the lu-n class conveying "length".

*endabirwamu* = "a thing which is seen in" hence "a mirror".

*omuserikale*

*wa kanzu* = "a plain clothes detective," because the *omuserikale* (policeman) in plain clothes usually wears the *kanzu* imported by the Arabs, which is the least obtrusive garment he can wear for detective duties.

*ekifananyi* = "a picture" from *okufanana* = to be like.

*okufuwa Kapere* = "to blow the fall-in". Lord Lugard's native name was "Kapere" (Captain), and to the notes of the military bugle-call of "Fall-in" were set the Ganda words :-

"*Kapere—Kapere—azimbye enyumba e Kampala*" =  
"Kapere—Kapere—has built a house at Kampala".

The house of course referred to Lugard's Fort now the site of the Kampala museum.

It is easy to see that from the connection of Lugard and soldiers the "falling-in" in a smart military manner came to be known by his name.

Under these categories are given a few examples from a much more exhaustive list (which will be found as an appendix), and it is comparatively simple to separate the various processes which commend themselves to the native mind when word importation is deemed necessary but the phonetic laws responsible for the ultimate Bantu form of the word are not so simple.

Why should 'powder' for example become 'ponda' and 'baking-powder' 'bikini bonda'?

In this case it appears that the English diphthong 'ow' since it does not exist in the language is first replaced by the vowel, and secondly that the voiced dental 'd' following this sound necessitates its nasalisation. By this process the natural and common combination of sounds is produced as in '*londa*' 'choose' and '*tonda*' 'fashion or create'. This intrusion of a nasal is moreover a common feature of the language, and is found in the recognised Ganda word '*newakuba·de*' = 'neither', which as often as not is spelt as '*newankuba·de*', when the grammar rules of the language suggest that such a form is definitely incorrect.\* Other phonetic changes can be accounted for by the following peculiarities of Ganda :—

- (a) Ganda has no 'h' which is replaced by 'w' or dropped, e.g. *Kawa* = Coffee for *Kahawa* and *omuwogo* for *mhogo* = Cassava, and at the beginning of a word is replaced generally by 'k', e.g. *helmet* = *kerementi* and Swahili *Hodi* = *Kodi*.
- (b) There is no 'sh' sound in Ganda which is rendered by plain 's' thus *shona* to sew becomes '*sona*' and *mshumaa* = *omusumawa* (candle).

\* The word *Kalitunsi* = eucalyptus provides another example. There are many others in the Appendix.

- (c) There is no 'dh' sound in Ganda and for it is substituted a 'z' e.g. *fedha* becomes *feza* etc. (=Silver or money).
- (d) Similarly the unvoiced equivalent 'th' does not exist and for this as we should expect is substituted 's' e.g. *thumuni* becomes *simoni*=a 50 cent piece.
- (e) Two vowel sounds in juxtaposition cannot occur in Ganda so that *saa*=hour or clock becomes *sawa*, *ndoo*=*ndolo* (bucket) and *choo* (earth closet) becomes *ekyoloni* where the *ni* of the locative by a confusion of thought is retained.
- (f) *Choo* provides a further example of a phonetic difficulty in Ganda for the sound 'ch' is always palatalised into *ky* (c) and so *chai*=*tea* becomes *kyai* and *chupa*=*bottle*, *kyupa* etc.

Such are the processes which are going on 'under our very ears', many of which show most commendable resource, and all of which indicate the ease with which many apparently disconcerting words and ideas in foreign languages are becoming 'Bantuized'. In what ways if any can the European help in this assimilation of European thought to Bantu idiom?

He can help by studying closely the modern form of the native language and by endeavouring to understand the process of thought by which the imported words which have been noted, and very many more which in a varying degree must be familiar to Europeans, have been incorporated into the language.

By consultation with the native leaders of public thought he must prepare lists of such words as have already been standardised in the language, as well as of those for which no suitable equivalents exist, and for which some Bantu equivalent or some other treatment is necessary.

In the course of such work he will soon discover that there is much assistance which a European, who appreciates the native idiom, can give, in full explanations of the European ideas, in a consideration of which unassisted, the native may miss important implications, and by endeavouring to stimulate the native to a search into his own vocabulary as well as into those of his friends and elders in an endeavour to find a suitable equivalent in the native language. Should such an equivalent be impossible to find, steps must be taken to give as much publicity as possible to an adequate explanation of the foreign term both in its foreign spelling and its phonetic equivalent. Such a term may thereafter, as I have suggested, be used in print in its phonetic form with its actual equivalent, in a bracket after it for an agreed transition period which I suggest should be five years.

A growth of some such keenness on energetic assistance in the fascinating processes which are going on to-day would rapidly result in some standardisation by co-operation with the printing presses of these necessary foreign forms which have crept into the language, and would promote improved understanding between European and native and result in an increased literature in the language. Is it too sanguine a hope that such a move might also bring into being one standard orthography for what is after all the one language of the Baganda?

## APPENDIX.

## Some Words Imported into Ganda.

The orthography used is that of Blackledge. It must be remembered that since the collection of his words further changes have taken place.

Word.	Meaning.	Probable Origin
alimansi	diamond...	Swahili-Arabic.
amerikani (malikane)	unbleached calico (also paraffin)	Swahili.
bafuta	bleached calico	Swahili-Arabic.
basitola	pistol	German-Swahili.
e'bendera	flag	Swahili-Arabic.
beti	pouch of leather; brick mould.	-do-
ebinzali	curry powder	-do-
e'bomba	cycle pump	Swahili from German.
obukâli and adjective-kâli	anger	Swahili (kali)
obuganga	gun powder	
Obukristayo (and derivatives Omukristayo etc)	Christianity	English.
bulangeti	blanket	English.
Obulabirizi	office of a bishop; diocese	Particularised-Ganda
Bulaya	Europe	Swahili.
bulungi	bugle, trumpet	English.
bululu	blue	English.
obuna·bi	prophecy	Swahili-Arabic.
busûti	Arab robe	
Bwakatonda	Godhead, Divinity	Evolved and particularised.
ebweta	box, casket	Swahili-from Portuguese.
bwino	ink	-do-
e·chupa (now also ekyupa)	bottle	Swahili.
edakika	minute	Arabic (Swahili).
e·debe (amalebe)	petrol tin	Swahili-Arabic.
e·dini	religion	Swahili-Arabic.
e·doti (erotî)	four yards of cloth.	Swahili-Indian.
e·dubu	bear	Swahili.
e·dûka (ama-)	shop	Swahili-Arabic.
e·binika	kettle	Swahili-Arabic. (birika)

Word.	Meaning.	Probable Origin.
ebiringanya	brinjal, egg-apple	Swahili-Tamil.
fataki	gun-cap	
efeza	silver	Swahili-Arabic.
efirimbi	whistle	Swahili (flute).
firipi	hammer of a gun	
foloma	block for fez	Swahili-Arabic.
frasila or furasila (falasira)	weight of 32 or 36 lbs.	Swahili-Arabic.
efulano	vest	English, flannel.
futi	foot measure	English.
egali	bicycle	Swahili-from
e'gali	cart vehicle	Indian.
galubindi	spectacles, telescope, microscope, field-glass	Swahili-Arabic. telescope.
e'godoli	large mat or carpet	Swahili godoro.
Gavumenti	Government	English.
irizi	Prayer beads of Mohammedans, prophylacteries.	Swahili Arabic.
jowa (perhaps jora)	woollen material, flannel	Swahili-Arabic.
juzi (adverb)	day before yesterday, the other day	Swahili.
kaladali	mustard	Swahili-Arabic.
ekalamu	pencil, pen	Swahili-Arabic.
kalani	clerk	Swahili-Arabic.
kalata	playing cards	Swahili-Arabic.
kalifuwa	scent (Is it 'karafuu?')	
kalitusi (now kalitunsi)	Eucalyptus tree	English.
kamulali	chillies	
kangala	intoxicant made of jaggerie and millet.	Swahili.
kaniki	dark blue cotton cloth	
ekanisa	church	Swahili.
ekanzu	kanzu	Swahili-Arabic.
kapa	cat	(paka) -do-
kawa	coffee	(kahawa) Swahili-Arabic.
ekengere	bell of cycle or electric bell	Swahili
ekibiriti	sulphur, matches	Swahili-Arabic.
ekijiko	spoon	Swahili.
ekikapo	matting bag	Swahili.
ekikoi (now ekikoyi)	loin cloth	Swahili-Indian.
ekikompe	cup, mug	Swahili.
ekirabo	club, drinking-shop	English-(club)
ekirawuli	lamp glass (bilauri)	Swahili-Arabic.
ekirembe	turban	Swahili.
ekitambala	towel, duster, handkerchief	Swahili.
kitani	linen (white)	Swahili-English.
ekitiyo	spade	unknown.
ekizibawo (now basikoti)	waistcoat	Swahili-Arabic.

Word.	Meaning.	Probable Origin.
kodi	May I come in ?	Swahili-Arabic.
kolokoni	prison	-do-
e-kuti	powder flask	unknown.
kyai	tea	Swahili-Indian.
ekyasi (cf. esasi)	cartridge	Swahili-Arabic.
ekyeti	chit, note	-do-
ekyoloni	latrine	(choo) -do-
lerwe (zirerwe)	railway	English.
leso (lesu)	coloured cloth worn by women.	Swahili.
limawo (ennimawa, ennimu)	lemon	Swahili-Portuguese.
liri	silk	Swahili.
nguo (olugoye, engoye)	cloth, clothes	Swahili
olupanka	sword, rim of cycle wheel (panga)	Swahili.
olupapula	piece of paper, page	English.
olutambi	lamp wick (utamvi)	Swahili.
amafuta	oil, butter	Swahili.
emairo	mile, estate	English.
makansi	scissors	Swahili-Arabic.
malaika	angel	-do-
* emalekebu (emerikebu)	ship	-do-
mali	possessions wealth	-do-
emanu	manna	English.
emanzamu (manzambu)	cartridge belt	Swahili-Arabic
masu-bawa (ama-)	Mohammedan prayer beads	-do-
maya	ostrich	Swahili.
embalasi	horse	Swahili-Arabic.
emmeri and hence akameri	steamer	Swahili-English.
emeza	table	Swahili-Portuguese.
minsani	mission	English.
minzane	scales	Swahili-Arabic.
Misiri	Egypt	-do-
empano	wedge	-do-
empata (e'pata)	hinge	-do-
empeta	ring	... (pete) -do-
Mpwanyi	coast (Mombasa)	(pwani) Swahili.
omubikira	virgin, nun	Swahili-Arabic.
omubinikiro	funnel	... (birika) -do-
omucungwa	orange	Swahili.
Omudaki	German	-do-
omudumu	gun-barrel, jug	-do-
omufalisi	mattress	English.
omufuleje	gutter, water pipe	Swahili-Arabic.
omufundi	fundi (workman)	Swahili.
omugati	bread	(mkate) -do-

\* NOTE :- Recognised as foreign word and not ama-which would be the ordinary class prefix,

Word.	Meaning.	Probable Origin.
omugini ... ..	rest house, inn ... ..	
omukafiri ... ..	heathen ... ..	Swahili-Arabic.
omukandala ... ..	belt, girdle ... ..	Swahili.
omukebe ... ..	tin, can ... .. (mkebe)	-do-
omukombo ... ..	rafter, roof principal ... ..	-do-
omulimawa ... ..	lemon tree ... ..	Portuguese.
omulongoti ... ..	mast, flagstaff (mlingote)	Swahili.
omunala ... ..	survey beacon, tower, flagstaff (mnara)	-do- Swahili-Arab.
emundu ... ..	gun, rifle ... ..	
omupera ... ..	guava tree ... ..	Swahili.
omupunga ... ..	rice ... ..	Swahili.
omupapali ... ..	pawpaw tree (papai)	Swahili.
omusala ... ..	pay, wages (mshahara)	Swahili-Arab.
omusalaba ... ..	the cross, crucifix ... ..	-do-
omuserikale ... ..	policeman ... (serikali)	Swahili.
omusingi ... ..	foundation ... ..	Swahili.
omusitali ... ..	ruled line (mstari)	Swahili-Arabic.
omusomali ... ..	iron nail ... (msumari)	-do-
omusomawa ... ..	candle ... (mshumaa)	-do-
omusonyi ... ..	tailor ... (mshoni)	Swahili.
omusukano ... ..	carpenter's brace ... ..	-do-
omusumeno ... ..	saw ... ..	-do-
omutaimbwa ... ..	crow bar ... (mtaimbo)	Swahili-Arabic.
omutini ... ..	fig tree ... ..	Swahili.
omutumba ... ..	load of cloth ... ..	-do-
omuwogo ... ..	cassava ... (mhogo)	-do-
emuyamba (mwamba) ... ..	file ... ..	-do-
omuyembe ... ..	mango tree (mwembe)	Swahili-Arabic.
omuzabibu ... ..	vine ... ..	-do-
omuzeituni ... ..	olive tree ... ..	-do-
omuzigiti ... ..	mosque ... ..	-do-
omuzinga ... ..	canon, large gun ... ..	Swahili.
omwamvuli (now manvuli) ... ..	umbrella ... (mwavuli)	-do-
endobo ... ..	bucket (ndoo)	-do-
engamira (and ngamiya) ... ..	camel ... (ngamia)	-do-
enguwo ... ..	loin cloth (unguo-nguo)	-do-
Engiri ... ..	Gospel ... (Injili from Greek through Arabic)	-do-
enkasi ... ..	paddle, oar ... (kasia)	-do-
enkutu ... ..	loin-cloth ... ..	
ensululu ... ..	pick-axe ... ..	-do-
entalabusi ... ..	tarboosh ... ..	Swahili-Arabic.
enukuta ... ..	letter of alphabet ... ..	-do-
enusu ... ..	half ... ..	-do-
envinyo (e-vini) ... ..	wine ... ..	Swahili-Portuguese.
enyumbu ... ..	mule ... ..	Swahili.

Word.	Meaning.	Probable Origin.
e·pera	guava	English.
e·pesa	button	Swahili-Arabic.
okupima	weigh, measure	Swahili.
e·pipa	barrel, keg	-do-
piripiri	pepper	-do-
okupokera	pay wages to (pokea)	-do-
posho (eposo)	rations, food money	-do-
puwa	steel	Swahili-Arabic.
era·du	lightning, thunderbolt	-do-
eranda	plane	-do-
erangi	colour, dye, paint	-do-
eratiri	pound, (weight)	-do-
erobo	quarter	-do-
erulu	pearl (lulu)	-do-
erupiya	rupee, money.	-do-
esabawa	target, mark (shebaha)	-do-
okukuba sebawa	practise at target	-do-
esabiti	Sunday, a week (Protestant)	English.
sabuni	soap	Swahili-Portuguese.
safali	journey, caravan of porters	Swahili-Arabic.
e·sasi (amasasi)	lead, solder, bullet	-do-
e·sawa	hour, watch, clock	-do-
esowani	plate, dish	-do-
sementi (seimiti)	cement	English.
sepewo	hat, helmet	French (chapeau)
eserugi	snow (theluji)	Swahili-Arabic.
serumbeti	European drum, band	English (trumpet)
sikukulu (sukukulu)	Christmas Day (Blackledge)	Swahili.
e·simu	telegraph, telephone	Swahili-Arabic.
(okukuba e·simu)	to phone, to telegraph	-do-
esiripi	leather belt	Swahili
solowa	fireworks (Blackledge)	
okusona	sew, stitch	Swahili
esufuliya (sufuluya)	metal cooking-pot, saucepan.	Swahili-Arabic.
sukali	sugar	Swahili-English
esuka	cloth worn over the shoulder (by men) or under the arm-pits (by women)	Swahili-Arabic.
esula	chapter	Swahili-Arabic.
tāba (or taba)	tobacco	French.
etabaza (commonly etawaza)	lamp	
etala	lantern	Swahili-Arabic.
etandaluwa	awning, outer covering of tent.	Swahili.
e·tegula	tile	French Catholic Fathers via Latin

Word.	Meaning	Probable Origin.
e·temba	rectangular house	unknown.
e·teteyi	apron	-do-
e·tikiti	ticket	English.
e·tofali (amatofali)	brick	Swahili-Arabic.
e·tundubali	tarpaulin, ground sheet	Swahili-Indian.
walifu	the alphabet	Swahili-Arabic.
okuwandika	write, enroll	Swahili.
ewēma	tent	Swahili-Arabic.
ewūma	fork	Swahili
yegu	influenza	English (ague)
yekalu	temple	Swahili-Arabic.
ezābu	gold	-do-
ezabuli	psalm	-do-
ezamu	watch, sentry-go, turn	-do-
ezabaki	mercury	-do-

Note:- Of great interest is the Budo slang word 'gama' (a drinking mug) where it appears that metathesis has operated in order to bring the word into the language, and 'maga' the natural phonetic equivalent has by a kind of Kinyuma achieved its final form. I am indebted to Mr. W.G. Poole for this word.

## (Supplementary list)

Ganda.	Swahili or Arabic.	Meaning.
1. omupakasi —	mpagazi.	porter.
2. omuzukulu —	mjukuu.	grandson or direct descendant.
3. omuzinga —	mzinga.	cannon.
4. omuwandisi —	mwandishi.	clerk, writer.
5. matalisi —	talishi.	herald, news.
6. mpisi —	mpishi.	cook.
7. omujozi (emi) —	— — — —	jersey.
8. enamba (n Class)	— — — —	number-plate of cycle or car.
9. emotoka (n.class)		motorcar.
10. pikipiki (n.class)		motorcycle.
11. dakitari		doctor.
12. erikiso (n.class)		rickshaw.
13. Balози —	Balози.	Governor.
14. tundubali —	turubai.	tarpaulin.
15. epapali (ma-)	papai.	pawpaw.
16. tamusiya (?)		parasole.
17. patirisi.		puttees.
18. kabu (?)		police greatcoat.
19. mandigadi (n.class)		mudguard.
20. kabada (n.class can be ka-class also).		cupboard.
21. fuluwelo,		flywheel.

Ganda.	Swahili or Arabic.	Meaning.
22. okugenda fulu		to go very fast (of vehicles).
23. okudima (Used by bus-drivers perhaps from noise of horn when going fast, probably onomatopoeic. endimā		... ..
24. girikoti		noun of above. greatcoat.
25. sati (n.class)		shirt.
26. siteringi		steering wheel.
27. ekirato	kiatu	shoe.
engato		-do-
28. ngomeni		the old prison in Kampala.
29. namunungu	nangunungu	porcupine.
30. samba	shamba	large plantation.
31. e-sanduko (can be li-ma or nasal)	sanduku	box
32. e-bweta	bweta	box
33. e-radu	radi	lightning.
34. sabawa	shebaha	aim.
35. e-dwaliro	(from the verb okulwala)	hospital.
36. omusumami	kusimama	a waiter.
37. okukalanga ekikalango	From kaanga	to fry, frying pan.
38. okulagaya	legea	to be loose—of rope or screw.
39. etandaluwa	chandarua	hood of motor car but <i>not</i> mosquito net.

## Gordon's Farthest South in Uganda in 1876.

By H. B. THOMAS, O.B.E.

(Re-printed from "Empire Survey Review," July, 1935).

Colonel C. G. Gordon, C.B., of the Royal Engineers, later known to the world as General Gordon, had already achieved the reputation of a man of action when, in 1874, he accepted service under the Khedive Ismail as Governor-General of the Equatorial Province of the Sudan. Envoys from Gordon visited Mutesa, the King of Buganda, in 1874 (Chaillé Long) and 1875 (E. Linant de Bellefonds), but not until nearly two years after his appointment was Gordon able to lead the final advance which was planned to carry the Egyptian flag to the shores of Lake Victoria. In January, 1876, he reached Mruli on the south side of the mouth of the Kafu river into the Nile, and here he established a fort and garrison while a force was sent forward under an Egyptian (Arab) officer, Nuehr Aga, to occupy posts as far south as the Ripon Falls. Gordon returned at once towards Dufile, where his presence was required, not intending again to visit the southern portion of his province.

By this time, early in 1876, Gordon had, with the assistance of Lieutenants C. M. Watson and W. H. Chippindall,\* completed a half-inch-to-the-mile survey of the Nile from Khartoum to Dufile and from Foweira to Mruli, and he now planned the exploration of the unmapped sections of the river. Two Italian assistants, Gessi and Piaggia, made the first through boat journey from Dufile to Lake Albert in March, 1876; Gessi circumnavigated Lake Albert for the first time in April, and in May Piaggia made a somewhat ineffectual canoe journey on Lake Kyoga. But Gessi's and Piaggia's explorations complicated rather than elucidated the geography of the Nile, for Gessi reported a large arm running north-west from near Wadelai, and Piaggia that a river† extended north-eastwards from Lake Kyoga.

Reluctantly Gordon decided that he must himself settle these problems. During July, 1876, he traversed the river from Dufile to Lake Albert in his newly completed steamer, the *Nyanza*, disproving the existence of Gessi's western branch of the Nile; and in the early part of August, with toil and hardship, he surveyed the section between the Murchison Falls and Foweira. Here he received with dismay the news that Nuehr Aga's occupation of posts in Mutesa's kingdom had not pro-

\* Happily, Lieut-Col. W. H. Chippindall, R.E., is still living in England.

† "Another of those dreadful off-shoots," as Gordon described them in a letter to Col. Stanton (see *Sudan Notes and Records* 1927). Piaggia called his river (which is probably the arm running towards the present Lali Port) the Missanga, and Gordon could not dismiss the possibility that it afforded a cataract-free water route to the Sobat river.

ceeded according to plan and that the troops were in effect prisoners at Mutesa's capital, Rubaga (near the present Kampala). Gordon swiftly came to a decision to withdraw from the Buganda adventure and sent messages to Mutesa calling on him to facilitate the departure of the troops, with whom was a young German doctor, later well known as Emin Pasha, who had recently take service under Gordon and had been sent to Rubaga a few weeks previously with presents for Mutesa. Thus the middle of August, 1876, found Gordon once more in Mruli fort awaiting the outcome of these entanglements. In this dismal spot he remained for some three weeks until on 7th September, 1876, Emin marched in from the south, followed a few days later by the whole of Nuehr Aga's force, of whose unwelcome presence Mutesa was, in fact, glad to be relieved. The knowledge that the retirement from Rubaga had been safely accomplished left Gordon free to investigate the Lake Kyoga section of the Nile from Mruli to Nyamyongo, which was required to complete his map. ‡

It has usually been assumed that Emin accompanied Gordon to Nyamyongo. Gordon's own accounts give no hint that Emin was with him, but the assumption is probably based on a letter written by Emin on 3rd December, 1876, to Martin Hansal, the Austrian Consul at Khartoum, which is printed in the journal of the Austrian Geographical Society for 1877, § and English geographers have accepted this conclusion (see E. G. Ravenstein's note at page xxi of the Introduction to "Emin Pasha in Central Africa," *London*, 1888). The recent publication of Emin's journals *in extenso*, however, finally establishes the fact that Emin remained at Mruli.

Gordon, according to his own records, set out from Mruli on 11th September, 1876, and it is possible to print here the relevant extract, hitherto unpublished, from his small pencil diary. || This reads as follows:

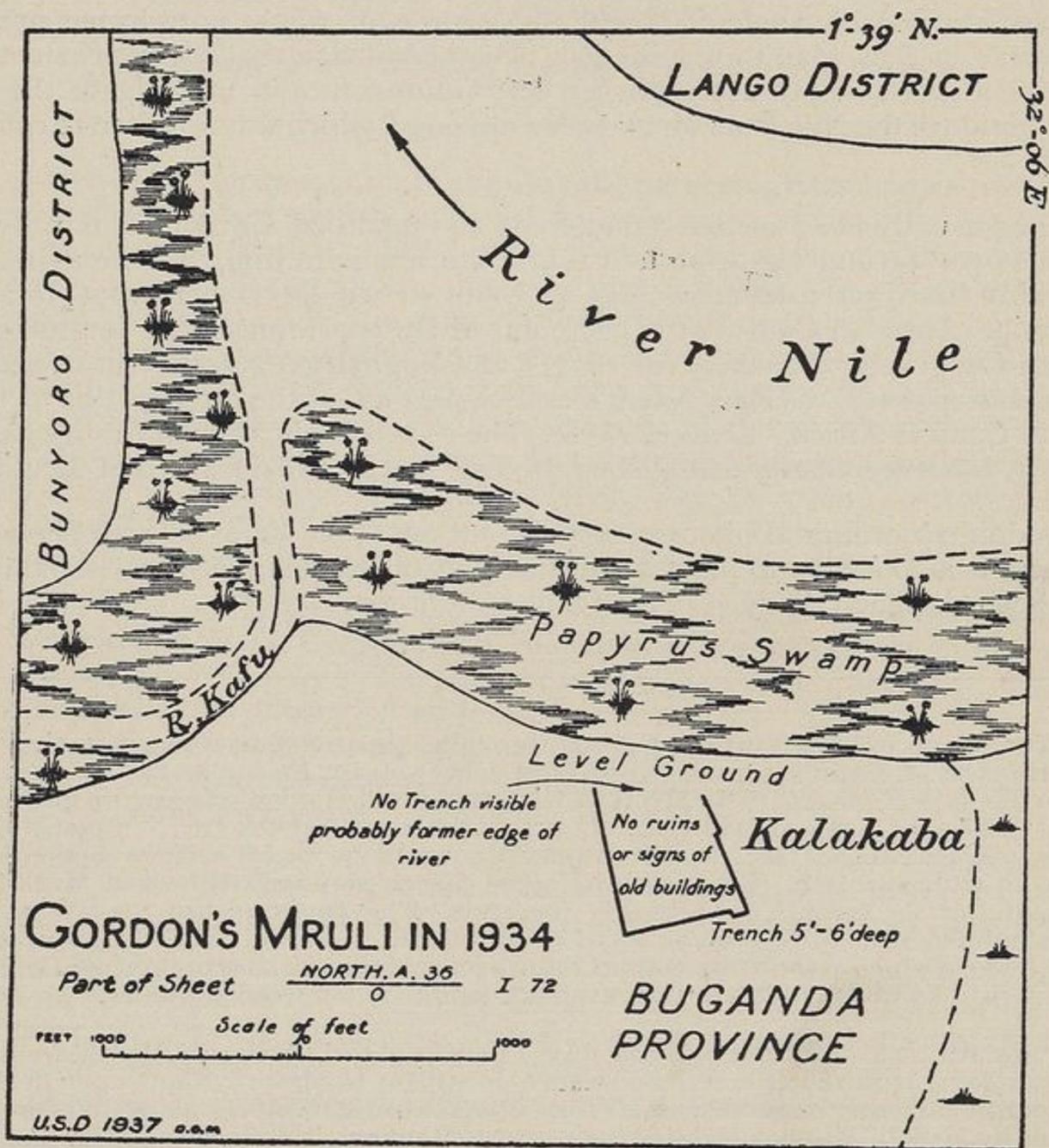
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‡ There is an unimportant but not readily explicable discordance regarding the chronology of this period. Emin's journals ("Die Tagebücher von Dr. Emin Pascha", *Hamburg*, 1917-26) give the date of his return to Mruli as 7th September, Gordon's departure for Nyamyongo 9th, and Nuehr Aga's arrival 11th. Gordon's letters (Birkbeck Hill, "Colonel Gordon in Central Africa", *London*, 1881) and his pocket diary give the return of the troops on 9th and his own departure on 11th. Both accounts agree that Gordon arrived back at Mruli late on the evening of the seventh day after his departure. The appearance of the "Tagebücher" obviates reference to G. Schweitzer's rather unreliable "Life and Work of Emin Pasha", *London*, 1898, in which alone extracts from Emin's journals have hitherto been available. For this journey to Nyamyongo it will be convenient here to follow Gordon's dates.

§ "Returning from M'tesa by a new way, I found Colonel Gordon at Mrooli, from which place after going for an 80 mile reconnaissance up-stream to Speke's Niamyongo in the Manyara county, and after experiencing all sorts of adventures, we struck an entirely new route and went by Mrooli, Kissuga, Masindi, Korota to Magungo." *Petermanns Mittheilungen* for March, 1877, confirms this account. It is noteworthy that Emin should have collected the name Manyara, for the inhabitants of northern Bugerere are still known as "Banyara".

|| Through the kindness of Dr. B. M. Allen, author of "Gordon and the Sudan", 1931, who has had access to unpublished Gordon papers and to whom I am much indebted for other references.

- "September 9. Nuehr Aga arrived from Dubaga.  
 11. Started for Niamyongo, Marched  $16\frac{1}{2}$  miles.  
 12.  $15\frac{1}{2}$  miles.  
 13. 20 miles.  
 14. 17 miles. Attack en route.  
 15. Marched 11 miles.  
 16. Left for Mrooli. Halted sudd.  
 17. Arrived Mrooli 11 p.m."



The only available narrative details of the journey are in Gordon's letters as printed by Birkbeck Hill, while Gordon's map which is available in two forms shows the survey work which he performed. The earlier edition of the map is in the *Journal of the Royal Geographical Society*, vol. 46 (1876), pp. 431-2, where appear Gordon's "Notes to accompany a survey of the White Nile from Lardo to Nyamyu-

ngo," and this map is elaborated in a later publication, "Map of the White Nile from Khartoum to Victoria Nyanza by Colonel C. Gordon. C. B., Royal Engineers, and his staff. Surveyed in 1874—5—6 and 7, Scale, 10 Geog. miles to 1 inch. Intelligence Branch, Qr. Mr. Genls Dept.; Capt. G. E. Grover D.A.Q.M.G. 1878."

If Gordon's map is compared with the modern topographical sheet, "Masindi Port," North A-36/O, 1/250,000 (1911), it will be found reasonable to identify Gordon's swamp Karabeisar with the river Makote. His route traverses the northern slopes of a forested hill, which would be Wajala, and skirts Kookoogo, the present-day Lukoge. The Sezibwa was evidently crossed near the present Erima ferry. On his return by water through Lake Kyoga, Gordon's Magogo and Andarra passages approximate to the narrowings of the lake at Namasali and at the bifurcation of Lakes Kyoga, and Kwania south of the present Muhaluzi Hill (Gordon's Mahorzi).

There remains the problem as to where the "Nyamyongo" reached by Gordon is situated. The conclusion to be drawn from a review of all the evidence is that Gordon's Nyamyongo was at or near Galiraya on the west bank of the Nile opposite Pegi hill, say in latitude  $1^{\circ} 22'$  north. This conclusion is founded primarily on the evidence of Gordon's map. It conflicts with the written record, and an examination of the facts may be of interest.

When Gordon left Mruli, he followed a track at no great distance from the southern shore of Lake Kyoga. He states that he marched 80 miles; yet it is only about 60 miles from Mruli to Galiraya. To explain this discrepancy it must be assumed that he overestimated the length of his marches, a well-known tendency (from which Gordon was not immune\*) when travelling by compass on a time-scale, as Gordon would almost certainly be doing in a hurried journey of this nature.

Under date 15th September Gordon says (letter printed by Birkbeck Hill), "Having marched close on eighty miles by land I ought to be near Nyamyongo which Speke puts near south of  $1^{\circ}$  N. Lat.",† and Dr. B. M. Allen informs me that, in the original letter, following the words quoted above Gordon makes a further reference (which has not hitherto been printed) to the effect that "I therefore take  $1^{\circ} 8'$  for N. Lat. of where I am and Prout can rectify it."‡ A modern map shows that *if* Gordon had marched 80 miles he would have been close to lat.  $1^{\circ} 08'$  north.

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\* For instance, Gordon computed Keroto to Magungo as 54 miles (see Birkbeck Hill, p. 195). In fact it can hardly be more than 30 miles.

† Speke placed Urongani in lat.  $0^{\circ} 52' 27''$  north (and there is every reason to accept his value, for he was an accurate astronomical observer). His Nyamyongo, or rather the point in Nyamyongo's territory at which he was turned back, was 9 miles northwards from Urongani, along the river (see Birkbeck Hill, p. 181), or say in lat.  $0^{\circ} 59'$  north, and therefore not far from opposite the present port of Namasagali. The difference between Speke's  $0^{\circ} 59'$  and Gordon's  $1^{\circ} 08'$  would represent about 10 miles, which is therefore the distance which Gordon assumed that he was short of Speke's position. Actually their positions were about 28 miles apart.

‡ Colonel Prout, an American officer in the Egyptian service, whom Gordon proposed should succeed him as Governor of the Equatorial Province.

It must be remembered that Nyamyongo was the title of a chieftainship which covered the northern half of the present county of Bugerere (its southern boundary being about 4 miles south of Namasagali) and that the name Nyamyongo might be applied to any place within that area. The actual headquarters of Nyamyongo, who was a frontier chief of Bunyoro, § have, according to native report, always been at Misanga on the Nile bank in about lat.  $1^{\circ}13'$  north.

Gordon's map, however, establishes the fact that he had determined his Nyamyongo to be at the mouth of the Nile into Lake Kyoga and that opposite to it on the Busoga shore were two mountains, Nabouga and Namjari. Now there are no mountains of any sort on the Busoga bank of the Nile other than the Pegi group which is directly opposite Galiraya, and one of the outlying peaks of this group bears on the modern topographical map the name of Nalibuga.

Efforts to reconcile Gordon's too southerly latitude of Nyamyongo with the entrance of the Nile into Lake Kyoga and at the same time to bring it within a short distance of Speke's Urondogani left their mark upon the map of central Africa for the next twenty years and are well exemplified in Ravenstein's map of Uganda in Lugard's "Rise of Our East African Empire" (1893), *vol. ii*, where Lake Kyoga is contorted to run almost due south to north.

One minor point which goes to confirm the identification of Gordon's Nyamyongo with Galiraya is that Gordon returned to Mruli by water in two days. Experience of canoe transport on the sudd-choked Lake Kyoga shows that even from the mouth of the Nile this would be a notable performance, || and we know that it was nearly midnight on the 17th September before he reached Mruli. But to add a further fifteen or twenty miles to the presumed length of the journey renders it virtually impracticable of accomplishment in two days.

The Egyptian garrison evacuated Mruli towards the end of 1879 and the site of Gordon's fort, in all probability, has not been occupied since that date.

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§ If one is to believe Stanley's account ("Through the Dark Continent", *chap. xv*), Namionju was in the unenviable position of a shuttlecock between Buganda and Bunyoro.

|| Chaillé Long in 1874 took over 5 days from Pegi Hill (Gebel M'tingi) to opposite Mruli (see "Provinces of the Equator", Publications of the Egyptian General Staff, Part I—1874, *Cairo*, 1877). How Gordon obtained canoes without delay at Nyamyongo in a hostile country is obscure. Perhaps he had sent them forward from Mruli to await him.

# World Mineral Production and Uganda's Contribution.

By K. A. DAVIES.

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Since the beginning of his intelligent activities man has been forced to accept the rocks and their products as a necessary factor in his economy. Pre-history, in fact, is classified by the particular type of implement of stone or metal which mankind shaped; and although in later times other phases of human activity come more easily to mind, the story of man's gradual improvement in applying metals to his use is one of the main features of the evolution of civilisation. The greatest acceleration in this direction has of course been made since the Industrial Revolution, but who would deny, when he considers for example the increase in the use of aluminium, since the later days of the last century that we still pass through metal 'ages'.

Today such is the complex nature of mankind's activities that a failure in the supply of mineral commodities must usually lead to considerable inconvenience and often times to hardship. Part and parcel of our complex life, too, is the dependence of man upon his neighbours, and in no other trade is this interdependence more obvious than in the supply and demand of minerals. During times of peace the requirements of each nation are usually fulfilled in spite of tariff barriers, but with the coming of war supplies of much needed metals are cut off and all the countries concerned are embarrassed thereby. Even were the United States and British Empire, who together control more than 50% of the world's mineral exports, in alliance they would find themselves sadly lacking in such important products as potash, nitrates and tungsten. This lack of necessary materials then is of a much greater degree in countries who are less fortunate in their endowment, and can be at times of crises of considerable weight in determining policy. If anyone should doubt the part played by minerals at times of international tension let him examine the German imports of key minerals during the first half of 1914, and the imports of manganese into France in the critical days since the war. The desire, too, on the part of both these countries to hold the Ruhr Coalfield is another pointer in this direction; in fact, minerals are so essential for armaments that it has been suggested by Sir Thomas Holland that the withholding of these exports might be used as the main force in a sanction scheme to deter aggressor nations.

It would be idle to pretend however that minerals are only of value in time of war; rather do we lose sight of the manifold uses of metals in the years of peace. The price of gold for instance largely depends on purely political circumstances and that of silver on the prosperity of certain countries in the Far East. Again,

increase in the price of base metals during the early part of 1937 was occasioned as much by the general rise of the standard of living and the increased demand for such commodities as tinned foods and motor cars and other articles of the luxury class as by the stated intention of the European powers to rearm. Even the Ruhr might be said to lend its aid to the cause of peace for Lorraine iron demands that France and Germany should enter into trade agreements in order that the interdependable sources of income, coal and iron, may be worked to the best advantage.

Thus it comes about that each country must depend in some degree upon its neighbours for the fulfilment of its need of minerals whether these comprise spectacular exports like uranium or the humble iron-ore. Whether therefore we regard Uganda as a unit of the British Empire or as a member of the Commonwealth of Nations, we must view its mineral products both appraised and potential in the light of these contributions to the general betterment of man's conditions of life.

Let us therefore examine what the Protectorate has to offer and discover how these assets are governed by political change or by the advancement of knowledge. We shall deal firstly with the metals whose ores are at present exported and treat the others, which may come into prominence in the future, subsequently.

*Gold*—Uganda, in common, with so many other countries who are working gold at the present time is fortunate in that it has come into the market when the price has been at the highest level the metal has ever known. At the old pre-war value of 77/10½ an ounce the working of numerous claims would have proved unprofitable, especially as the winning has been carried out mainly by people of no experience. Every consideration points to a continuation of demand at the present price and there is no reason why Uganda should not increase its contribution to the world's supply, especially if the lodes from which the alluvial gold is derived are found to be workable. So many people think of gold as a commodity which is stored up in national vaults that it is as well to point out that one third of the annual output goes with the making of jewelry into gilding and other ornamentation or is used in dentistry.

*Tin*—This is another metal the demand for which is likely to be maintained for a considerable time. Increased canning of foodstuffs and other articles, the use of tin alloys and general expansion of its application, together with the better purchasing power of most nations has caused a general rise in the price of late. Unlike the easily sold, precious metals the value is however subject to continual fluctuation and very little safe prophecy can be made regarding the possibility of expanding Uganda's exports. The 575 tons which represented Uganda's exports in 1936 may seem infinitesimal when compared with the 180,000 tons of the world's output, but, if properly worked the Protectorate deposits could yield considerably more. A great increase might however bring the country under the quota system; but the supply might prove a useful one if for some reason other sources failed or were unavailable.

*Columbite-tantalite*—This is the oxide of the two metals columbium (or alternatively niobium) and tantalum which may exist in varying proportions and are mixed with some amount of oxides of iron and manganese. The metals were first discovered in 1802, but for many years they were confused one with the other—and were not put to much use until tantalum was applied to the making of filaments of electric lamps early in the present century; it was soon however superseded by tungsten. Columbium on the other hand was so little in demand that in 1906 all the metal produced up to that time with the exception of half an ounce was on show in an exhibition in New York. Certain limited uses of these two elements called for intermittent production before the war and the major portion of the demand was satisfied by West Australian mines which were opened as demand warranted; occasionally as much as 17 tons of ore a year was exported.

The advance in metallurgy during the war and in the years immediately succeeding however brought to light new applications of these two elements and in 1921 sheets of tantalum were produced for the first time.

Columbium, the cheaper of the two metals is now supplied in fairly large quantities from Nigeria, a large proportion coming from the waste dumps of the tin mines where in past years it has been thrown out as useless. Tantalite on the other hand occurs in places which are more remote from Europe, and Uganda is therefore lucky in that the ore found here usually carries a high proportion of the tantalum end of the series. Well-pricked high grade ore of this type may fetch up to £350 or more a ton, but it is usually very difficult to prevent admixture of tinstone and other minerals in the concentrate. Like some of the tinstone in the Protectorate it is at present worked from the drift deposits on the hillsides but in some areas is found in workable quantities in the streams.

Although columbite-tantalite, as at present known, is confined to Ankole and Kigezi, tantalum-bearing minerals such as fergusonite and bismutotantalite occur over widely separated areas in Buganda. The first named has been found near Kagadi on the Hoima-Toro road, but apparently does not carry uranium as some varieties do; the associates of this mineral when examined however may prove interesting.

Stress is being laid on tantalum, therefore, because of its peculiar incidence to Uganda and its undoubted prominence in the future. If the localities of the ore are as productive as they are widespread, then Uganda will surely play an important part in the tantalum market, and who knows what critical uses it may have in the years to come. A glance at its properties and its present uses will give the reader some idea of its importance and what is more, of its widening applicability.

Tantalum is a bluish white metal darker than columbium which has the appearance of platinum; its specific gravity (16.8) is also twice that of columbium. Used by itself it can be worked cold and is resistant to most acids including aqua regia which attacks gold and platinum. This property of freedom from attack by acids including those of the living body has led to its use in surgical and dental instruments and in chemical apparatus. It can be produced in varying hardnesses and be highly polished; in addition special processes can give it a striking iridescent surface, which suggests its use as an art metal. Tantalum is also of importance in the manufacture of artificial silk, where it is used for the manufacture of spinnerets through the minute holes of which the viscose is forced. An increasing

amount, again, is being absorbed in tantalum-carbide tool mixtures which are capable of cutting steel of previously unmachineable hardness and of retaining a precision cutting edge at high speeds for long periods; the metal is incorporated too in other special steels for which there is a growing demand. Further uses at present are in the manufacture of instrument pivots, thimbles, needles, valve-plugs, gaskets, and penpoints. Another peculiar property which it possesses is that of converting alternating into direct current, which permits of its use in radio battery charges. Its power of absorbing oxygen and hydrogen at high temperature causes it to be incorporated in radio valves where traces of these gases are absorbed from the mechanically evacuated tubes, giving the high vacuum required for this purpose.

New applications for columbium are continually being found, and it is suggestive that the price offered in Germany and the United States is considerably in advance of that in England.

The mining of columbite-tantalite in Uganda is still in its infancy, but as was stated previously the wide-spread nature of the occurrence of tantalum minerals in the Protectorate suggests the probability of attaining a considerable production. The ore was exported for the first time last year when  $18\frac{1}{2}$  tons left the country; although this figure seems a small one it is only a beginning, and it must be remembered that it is in fact greater than the total world export of only a few years ago.

*Tungsten.*—Wolfram, which is one of the ores of tungsten, occurs in the Ki-gezi district and the export of this commodity from Uganda has recently begun. Two localities at present yield this mineral, but little or nothing is known of the extent of the deposits; the history of the discoveries in the Protectorate however suggests that other finds will be made. So great has been the demand for tungsten during 1937 that the price has risen rapidly, and the closing of the major part of world's supply from China by the Sino-Japanese war has led to quotations which are at present (November) three times that of the beginning of the year.

The principal use of tungsten is in the manufacture of high-speed tool steels, but another well known application is in the making of filaments for incandescent lamps; of late years too tungsten alloys have been used more and more in the valves of aeroplane and car engines.

It will be seen from these facts therefore that Uganda has here again entered the market at a fortunate time.

*Copper.*—At the end of the war the United States held a pre-eminent position in the copper market, for she controlled nearly 70% of the world's output. Subsequently, however, development of copper resources in Northern Rhodesia, the Katanga, Chile and Canada altered the position considerably. A slump in the market in 1930 caused the setting up of a quota system but even this did not prevent the price from sinking, until in 1935 it reached a London low record of £27.15 a ton. Since then however the industry has slowly recovered and the value at present is almost twice that just mentioned. The marketing of this metal is also easier with the general improvement in the financial state of many countries and the increasing demand contingent on the setting up of huge re-armament programmes.

During the slump there was little incentive to carry out much development work on the widespread resources of Central Africa, but Uganda copper at least received a fair amount of attention during the whole of that period. Copper was first reported from Mt. Stanley by the Duke of Abruzzi's expedition of 1906 when they climbed Ruwenzori, but it was not until prospecting was started in the neighbourhood of Kilembi, following upon the finding of a piece of copper sulphide in a stream, that anything was done on a large scale to prove the deposits. Copper ores and other minerals occur in many places around the mountain, but such is the difficulty of traversing it that little is known at present of its exploitability. A considerable amount of work has been done at Kilembi by Tanganyika Concessions, Ltd., and more than a million tons of ore of a good grade have been demarcated. If the present price of the metal could be maintained, there is no doubt that the working of these deposits would be a profitable undertaking, for in spite of its seeming inaccessibility the site is nearer the sea-board than the well known copper areas to the south. In addition the by-products in cobalt and nickel would largely pay for the working of the copper. Initial costs in the installation of machinery and transport would cause considerable difficulty, but this could be overcome if the price remained steady.

Reduction of the ore demands fuel and in this process the use of crude oil furnaces proves the best method. The discovery of workable oil in the Lake Albert area would therefore facilitate enormously the opening up of the industry. A consideration of the use of the metal, its importance in the electrical industry, its use in brass, bronze and other alloys and as sheets in roofing and plumbing will soon show its indispensable nature. Production should increase even in times of peace and thus sooner or later a call must be made on Uganda's resources.

*Cobalt.*—Cobalt together with nickel occurs in a mineral called linacite which is associated with the copper deposits of Ruwenzori. It is largely used in the form of cobalt salts employed in colouring pottery and glass and in insect poisons; it is also used with tungsten in some of the best high-speed tool and magnet steels. Increased knowledge of cobalt alloys has of late, too, considerably increased the demand, and the amount of the metal manufactured trebled between 1931 and 1934; the increase yearly since has been at about the same rate. Any exports from Kilembi in the near future would come in on a rising market and might be of such an amount as to make a considerable contribution to the world's output.

*Nickel.*—The proportion of nickel as judged by many assays of the Kilembi ores is considerably smaller than that of cobalt. Fair quantities however would be produced in the working of the copper ores and would find a ready market. The Empire controls the nickel production, for of late years the famous deposits of Sudbury, Ontario have yielded 90% of the world's output, and the reserves are so rich that the position is likely to possess the same aspect for many years to come.

No metal, with the possible exception of aluminium, has caught the public imagination so much during the present century or been applied to more diverse uses. Its alloys with iron to form heat-and corrosion-resisting steels, magnetic and non-magnetic mixtures and in low expansion metals such as invar are well known; other alloys are compounded with copper (monel metal), silver (nickel-silver), aluminium, zinc, gold and other metals. Such is the demand that no restriction is likely to be placed on the output and Uganda's share will therefore contribute to the Empire's strength in this regard.

*Petroleum.*—The efforts to find mineral oil reservoirs in the British Isles are a tribute to the important part played by petroleum in our modern world; in fact so much use of it is made that the consumption threatens to deplete the world's resources in a very short time, and such experts as Sir John Cadman have warned the nations that the employment of oil at the present rate of increase will use up the known resources in just over a quarter of a century. Not only conservation is needed therefore but the discovery of new supplies, and it is here that Uganda may have a contribution to offer.

So much has been said about the known petroleum occurrences around Lake Albert, that no reiteration is needed here. Recently however, with the confirmation of Wayland's compression hypothesis, it has been pointed out that the data point to the existence of structures favourable to the storing up of oil. There remains therefore to test this region, and to discover whether the Protectorate can offer a future supply of petroleum which will at least satisfy the needs of the countries in the immediate neighbourhood for many years to come.

*Bismuth.*—The value of bismuth in the medical world is well known to all; less however is known of its incorporation in alloys and its use in staining glass and in enameling. Bismuth and its carbonate occur together with wolfram and tinstone in one locality in Kigezi where sufficient has been won to be exported for the first time. Much more work requires to be done however before the value of this occurrence or the possibility of others can be appreciated.

*Other minerals.*—Nearly all the attention paid to Uganda's mineral wealth has been claimed by the products described above and of these gold and tin have been easily the most prominent. This has been due of course, mainly to the demand, but in some measure also to the ease with which they are identified and worked. The tantalum-columbium minerals bring to the Uganda prospector a new problem, for they are often difficult of recognition in the field; yet there is reason for believing that with experience and the discovery of new deposits, even these ores will be recognised without difficulty.

The occurrence of minerals of this type is often known to the technologist years before they are worked, but with a rise in prices or diversion of the present flow from other sources mining is made possible.

Recently, microscope examination of rocks from certain parts of Bugishu served to prove the existence of considerable deposits of rock phosphate; this locality is in close proximity to large outcrops of limestone. The value to Uganda at some future time of these two products need not be amplified.

Other minerals found in quantity in Uganda and possible of marketing in the future include monazite, ilmenite and rutile. The former produces thorium oxide which is used in incandescent mantles and flash light bulbs but of late years the demand has decreased. Ilmenite and rutile on the other hand are sources of titanium and occur together with monazite in the alluvials of Büwezhu. Titanium metal is incorporated in alloys and is being called for every year in increasing amounts; other titanium compounds are variously used for smoke screens, 'sky writing', fireworks, arc-light electrodes, dyeing, medicines, pigments and many other substances of every day use.

It will be appreciated that discoveries by the technologists or the dictates of fashion may easily bring some new mineral into prominence. For example, one obvious trend in metal technology today is the production of alloys which combine lightness with strength. Mixtures with aluminium have so far held the field in the building of aeroplanes and for other purposes demanding these properties, but there is however some indication that beryllium and magnesium may become more important in this way. Their specific gravities of 1.9 and 1.74 respectively give them a decided advantage over aluminum (2.7); and it may be remarked that three magnesium alloys were produced at the National Physical Laboratory in 1936.

Beryl, one of the ores of beryllium, is found in Uganda, but the production of the metal is so difficult at present and the price offered for the ore so low, that little is being done in the marketing of this commodity. Considerable sums of money are being spent however in America, Germany and England in the search for a suitable method of producing the beryllium from the ore. When however it is remembered that metallic aluminium was once a curiosity (1), it will be appreciated what changes may be wrought by continuous research and world demand.

In addition to the above there are a number of other minerals of economic importances; but owing to market and other conditions they are unlikely to be worked for many years to come.

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(1). It could not be bought in the market 50 years ago.

# The Uganda War Memorial Recreation Ground, Kampala.

By H. H. Wood.

*Honorary Secretary of the Nakivubo Board of Trustees.*

*(Re-printed from "Makerere College Magazine").*

It is probable that before the early history of Uganda was recorded, a little stream made its way through what is now the Kampala Township, and on through swamp and forest, to feed the great Victoria Nyanza. Even in the year 1924 only those who lived very near it had heard of the Nakivubo; and they were few since the surrounding country was mostly swampy and uninhabitable.

Today the "river" has become famous, and for no greater reason than that of the existence of the "Nakivubo Ground" as it is familiarly called.

At the end of the Great War a certain amount of money remained in a "Gifts and comforts fund." This had been raised by public subscription for the purpose of sending comforts to our African soldiers in the war zone. The Government of Uganda—the administrator of the fund—decided that the money should be used for a memorial to those who had died in the service of the Empire. Many schemes were considered by a committee under the chairmanship of the Provincial Commissioner, Buganda, with Mr. B.T. Duckworth as Honorary Secretary. Finally it was decided to prepare a playing field and to dedicate this to the public.

For this purpose the Government generously allotted a piece of land between Makerere and Mulago hills and on this, with the assistance of Prison labour (the central prison was then in Kampala) and under the supervision of Mr. H.O. Savile, then Principal of the Uganda Technical College, now Makerere College, a football ground was speedily and inexpensively constructed.

It took only a very short time for the Committee of control to find that this land at Wandegeya was going to be totally inadequate for the purposes for which it was intended and to allow for the future development which quickly showed itself desirable. The Government was approached and again evinced great interest in the scheme. The Wandegeya ground was sold to Makerere College for what it had cost to prepare and the memorial authorities were given approximately 11½ acres of land in the Nakivubo channel.

Now the greater work started. The land was in an excellent position—central, sheltered, and in pretty surroundings—but was little short of a marsh. Much of it was under papyrus, all of it was extremely rough, labour was almost unprocurable and the prison authorities were unable to assist again to any large extent.

After considerable thought and discussion it was decided to send recruiters to the West Nile district and they eventually provided nearly 200 porters to start on the work of reclamation under a European contractor. Such was the development

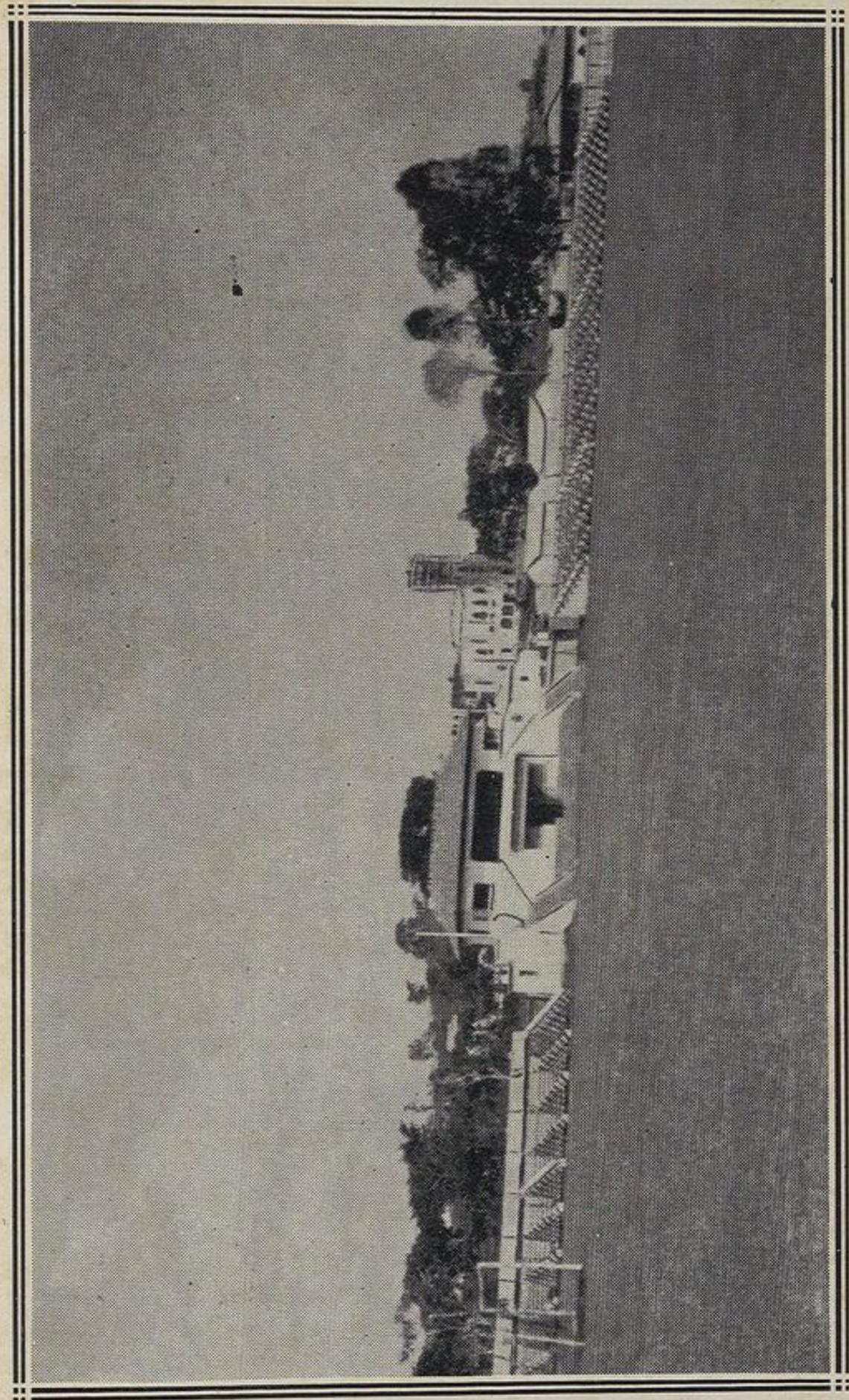
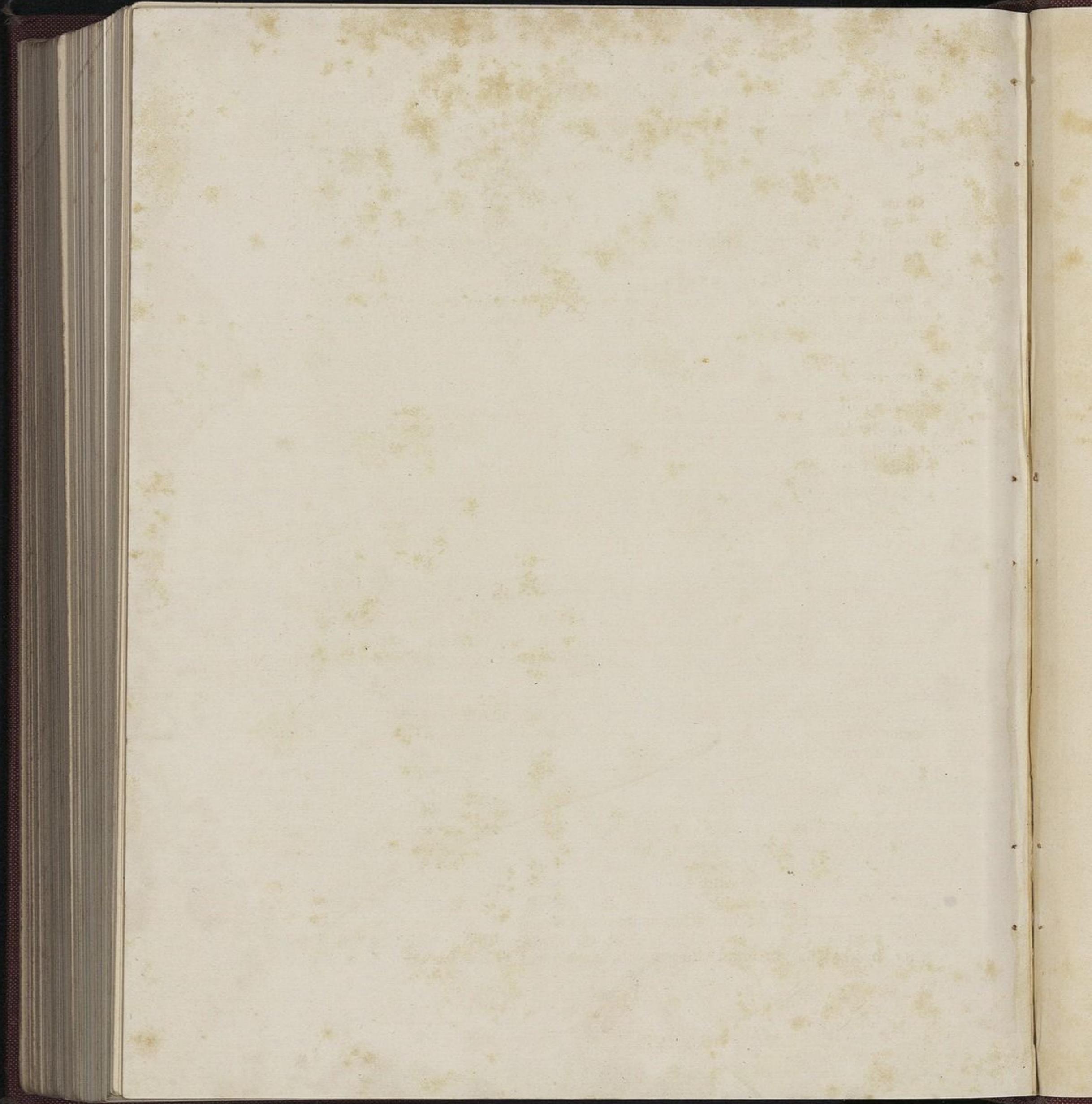


Photo by B. T. Duckworth.

Nakivubo Ground showing Coronation Memorial Pavilion.



of the country then in progress, and the demand for labour, that these very poor workers had to be paid Sh. 20/- per month each. A very worrying time followed but in the end the ground was ready for football. Deep drains had been cut and levelling completed, though a slope across the ground had to be left so that water, draining mostly from Mengo hill, should not lie there. The old Nakasero-Mengo road had had to be removed—signs of it can still be seen on the ground to-day, where it is driest in wet weather—and a new road on the West side constructed. His Excellency Sir Geoffrey Archer opened the ground officially on the 10th April, 1926; the opening was followed by a football match between the Uganda Kobs and a Uganda team selected by the Uganda Football Association.

Alas, nearly all the money from the original fund was gone, but the recreation ground was there and appeared likely eventually to be self-supporting, particularly with the promised aid of clubs intending to use it. The committee for the preparation of the Memorial had done its work!

The ground was now handed over to a Board of Trustees, nominated by the Government. The "Buganda Native Sports Ground, Kampala" came into the charge of these Trustees: The District Commissioner, Mengo (Chairman), representatives of H. H. The Kabaka of Buganda, the Church Missionary Society, The White Fathers Mission and The Mill Hill Mission, with the recommendation that they should appoint an advisory committee consisting of representatives of the various bodies interested in native sport of all kinds to help them.

One of the first things that the Board realised was the insufficiency of the title for a Uganda memorial and steps were taken to have this corrected in the Deed of Trust, so that it should be called "The Uganda Native War Memorial Recreation Ground, Nakivubo".

The first matches were played; the Uganda Football Association which had been founded in 1924 gave every encouragement and assistance. Crowds began to line the touchlines and to realise that this public ground, belonging to them, was to be the scene of all the most important football and other matches. Those with cars drove them on to the West side touchline and sat at ease to watch. This was of course highly undesirable, because the wheels cut into the still soft earth and the cars took up far too much room for the comfort of those without them.

Money for upkeep and improvement soon became an urgent need. For several years many public spirited people, mostly Europeans, put their hands into their pockets from time to time and made donations to assist. Also the Uganda Kobs and the Kampala Sports Club paid large nominal subscriptions and were permitted the use of the ground occasionally for rugby football and other matches. A system of collections on the ground was started and even an attempt to force people to pay to watch (without any means of keeping them away if they didn't) was tried. All these methods of raising money were obviously unsatisfactory and in any case brought in only just sufficient to keep the ground in its then condition.

Evidently the only economic method of dealing with such a matter was to ensure that those who wanted to watch matches should be the ones to support the ground financially, and it was only right and fair that the African, to whom the ground belonged, and for whose benefit it was kept and who provided by far the largest proportion of spectators, must be the one to subscribe. This could only be done by charging an admission fee—which meant a strong enclosing fence.

About £500 was required for the erection of a suitable corrugated iron fence around about half of the property—enclosing two football pitches. Endeavours were made to raise this amount by loan, with guarantors, or in some other way, but without success. After some time the Government was again asked for assistance. As before, it did not fail and ordered the required fencing direct from England and this was erected and completed in time for the Uganda F.A. cup final match played there in August 1930. No charge for admission was made for this match—a gesture by the Trustees in honour of the birthday of H. H. The Kabaka.

The cup-final resulted in a draw and the gate takings for the re-play and at the Gossage cup match—Kenya vs. Uganda—in that same month brought in over £200!

The Trustees now found themselves in a much better financial position and able to set about the programme of building and improvements to the ground upon which they had set their hearts.

From 1930 until today the story of Nakivubo has been one of steady progress. The improvements completed speak for themselves; permanent stands have been built, a proper  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile running track made, the whole ground more carefully levelled and drained, the remainder of the property enclosed within the fence, another football pitch constructed, palings erected around the main football pitch and running track and a fine Coronation Memorial pavilion erected. The pavilion was still another generous gift from the Government to show their interest in and anxiety to help the athletic progress of the people of the Protectorate, and was officially opened by His Excellency Sir Philip Mitchell in May 1937.

There have been, and still are, critics of the whole system of charging for admission to public matches, but it can only be repeated that it must surely be those who are entertained who should pay for the cost of such entertainment and that they should pay in proportion to the comfort in which they watch.

Finally, a few statistics may be of interest. The present annual income from the ground is over £600. From this the general recurrent expenditure includes the cost of upkeep of the ground and fittings and buildings, the cost of sending football and athletic teams to Kenya, entertaining visitors here in Uganda and assistance to the various Associations for their general expenses. These commitments usually swallow about half of the income, leaving some £300 per annum for improvements. Some of these improvements have already been mentioned and it is the intention of the Trustees eventually to make the ground into a really good stadium and club for the use of the African. The main stands are to be extended up and back and roofed over: standing mounds and further seating accommodation are to be constructed and an infinite variety of amenities introduced. It is hoped that in the future it will be possible to make tennis courts, a swimming bath and a main club house: the latter to include reading and recreation rooms, a restaurant and even finally perhaps residential quarters. Only when all this is done will the ground be a really fitting memorial, worthy of the games for which it is intended and the people for whom it is available, and a real "Wembley" of Uganda—a Country whose progress in sport is not behind its progress in every other direction.

○ If many now believe the stream to be named after the ground instead of the reverse, the Nakivubo does not worry but flows quietly on—perhaps part of it may soon be a mighty canal, thus enabling it to reclaim its name for itself.

## NOTES.

## Ducks Eating Groundnuts.

By W. J. EGGELING.

When on safari in Bugungu, Bunyoro, early in September 1937, I was arranging one afternoon with some local fishermen for a small duck-shoot the following morning, when a bystander suddenly interrupted the conversation by stepping forward and volunteering to take me that very evening to a place where many duck came every day just before sunset.

He was so certain that duck would be there that I agreed to go with him and we set off forthwith.

In a short while we arrived at a fairly large native shamba containing plots of *muhogo*, beans and cotton and a small brown patch of Stone Groundnuts. (*Voandzeia subterranea* Thou).\*

The dry shrivelled appearance of the plants was due, as my guide assured me and as I soon saw for myself, to their having been twisted round and round by something wrestling to pull off the half-ripe underground pods. His contention that ducks were the culprits was borne out by the prints of webbed feet in the sandy soil and by a few scattered feathers.

Although we lay in wait till nightfall we did not see any duck and, as the plants had already all been stripped of fruit, it was actually a forlorn hope that any birds would arrive. This was confirmed by the owner of the plots who told me that the duck had stopped coming a day or two previously. He had tried everything he could think of to scare them off, including scare-crows, snares and smoky-fires, all without success. Finally 'totos' had been sent to guard the shamba in the afternoons, but by that time the damage had been done and, when I saw it, the crop, about  $\frac{1}{8}$  acre in extent, was a complete loss. As stated I did not see any duck on this occasion but from the description of their size, colour, behaviour (including the habit of perching on a nearby tree), etc., I had little doubt that that they must be Whistling Teal (sometimes called Fulvous Tree Duck)—*Dendrocygna fulva* Gm.—the commonest duck on Lake Albert. This supposition was confirmed in October when at dawn one morning I disturbed a flock of about 20 Whistlers on a sadly-mutilated groundnut plot in the same locality.

Regarding the value of the stone groundnut, which is much less frequently encountered in Uganda than the common variety (*Arachis hypogaea* L.), we quote Dalziel, *The Useful Plants of West Tropical Africa* (p. 270)—: "As a human food Balland, considering the proportions of the ingredients, regards *Voandzeia* seeds as an example of a natural article possessing the composition of a complete food, and suggests that (theoretically) one kilo furnishes almost exactly all the bodily requirements of nitrogen fat and carbohydrate". The wild duck of Bugungu would seem to know a good thing when they see it!

\* *Mnjugu* (*njugu*) *mawe* (Kiswahili); *Mpande* (Luganda, Lugungu); *Ndemesa* (Lunyoro).

## "Etuku" ..... A Problem Propounded.

By J. F. SHILLITO

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In the article on the Coronation Ceremonies of the Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom, (U. J. IV, p. 289 et seq.) mention is made of the Sacred Guild (*Abajwara-Ekondo*) but no account was given of the investing of new members of the guild with their insignia. This latter ceremony (in its modern form) was witnessed in Toro during the celebrations of the anniversary of the accession of the present Mukama of Toro. (30th January, 1937.)

I have not had the opportunity of investigating this ceremony fully but the essentials to which I wish to draw attention are these: the recipient, who may have inherited his *Ekondo* or been awarded it for good services, kneels before the Mukama in the presence of the other Guild members while the *Omusuna* ties to his forehead a single scarlet tail-feather of the common grey parrot and places a string of blue beads round his neck.

*Omusuna* is the title of the hereditary Head of the Guild and it is understood that he claims descent from Bamuroga who accompanied the first of the Babito Kings into Kitara and invested him (Rukidi I) with the feather (*Etuku*) that he later incorporated into his crown (*Ekondo*)<sup>1</sup>. When the recipient has accumulated enough of these scarlet feathers, he has his *Ekondo* made, and the original feather with which he was invested is the first to be placed on the beadwork of the crown. These emblems may only be worn during the first four days of the lunar month, while carrying out the ceremonial observances of those days, and for special occasions, anniversaries, etc., though it is not unlikely that in the past these would be timed to coincide with the former period.

Turning now to Mr. Geoffrey Gorer's book, "AFRICA DANCES", opposite to page 337 we find the following descriptive note to an illustration of two bronze figures from Dahomey.

"This group is typical of modern Dahomeyan work. It represents very exactly a woman worshipper of the snake fetish Danh dancing in full regalia, with the python on her shoulders. Notice the parrot's feather on her forehead—the insignia of a fetisher—and the necklaces. Behind her is a man playing the special tom-tom."

While it is probable that the python is now not held in veneration to any great degree, there still remain isolated examples of "sacred" pythons in Uganda, though it would appear that the Sacred Guild is now free from association with such a cult. The similarity of insignia is surely a clue worth following up and I should be interested to hear if connecting links can be traced across the continent.

In conclusion I should like to thank the Katikiro of Bunyoro-Kitara and also the Katikiro of Toro for information willingly supplied.

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<sup>1</sup>, Compare Uganda Journal Vol. IV p. 75.

## The Dry Crossing of the Nile Near Nimule.

By E. J. WAYLAND.

Mr. Watney's note under the above title in the Coronation Number of the Journal is interesting from several points of view; one of them is this: tradition has it that the dry crossing appears in famine years, and according to expectation famine-time should be approaching. Recorded famine years are 1898, 1908, 1918-19 and 1928; but my informant told me that the crossing formed in 1917, disappeared in 1921 and was reformed about 1930. Mr. Watney shows the dry crossing to be breaking up again.

The dry crossing near Nimule as it is called—actually it is much nearer Old Belgian Fort (a recognised camping place) but few people have heard of it—has been in the scientific news of late. In the issue of *Nature* for February 22nd of this year the present writer drew attention to a criticism of Emil Ludwig's work (translated by H. Lindsay) in which Dr. Hurst, the greatest authority on the Nile, obviously doubts the existence of "a natural bridge so strong that it bears the elephant from one bank to another" and adds "Nobody else has even reported this bridge". In his reply to my letter calling attention to the Uganda Journal for January, 1934, Dr. Hurst points out that the Arabic word "sudd" means blockage, and he describes some temporary Nile blockages which have occurred, on the lower Bahr el Jebel for the most part (*Nature loc cit*), and adds "In 1934 I was on what appears to be the spot described by Dr. (*sic*) Wayland, and at that time a block must have been just beginning to form, for at a point where the river narrows suddenly there was an accumulation of floating dead vegetation mostly umsoof, covering the whole width of the river and extending perhaps thirty yards upstream. It was, however not at all consolidated nor was it a serious obstruction to the river". This cannot have been the spot where the dry crossing now under discussion occurs, however, for the river does not narrow at that point.

Following up Dr. Hurst's letter, Dr. A.E.H. Tutton writes (*Nature*, January 12th., p. 994) as follows:—

"It may be of interest to add to the record of the observations by Dr. (*sic*) Wayland, from the air in 1930\* and by an actual passage on foot in 1933, that a natural bridge does from time to time exist across the higher reaches of the Nile, strong enough to bear the elephant, a still more remarkable observation by my late brother-in-law, Mr. Leonard Loat, made and recorded by him in the year 1902, during his survey of the fishes of the Nile for Lord Cromer's Government and the British Museum (Natural History). In a letter to me describing the difficulties then being met with, owing to the remarkable density and solidity of the "sudd" between Fashoda and Gondokoro, he states that he had just observed a herd of over two hundred elephants walking on the sudd over the river. When he returned to England for a short leave, before undertaking a similar survey up the Blue

\* A mistake occurs in my original note under this head (*Uganda Journal*, Vol. 1, p.68, paragraph 2),—for 1930 read 1931.

Nile, I asked him whether he had recorded a solid fact or was indulging in a traveller's tale, as it seemed a very extraordinary circumstance, if true. He was most emphatic, however, as to its being literally true, and that he had ceased to count the elephants after the two hundredth; also that he had been accompanied by a big-game hunter friend at the time, as well, of course, as by the Egyptian skipper and Sudanese crew of his little survey vessel, a specially fitted dahabeyah, all of whom were greatly interested in the unusual spectacle. It is referred to in the obituary notice of Mr. Loat's work which appeared in the Times of April 30, 1932."

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### **Hippo Hunting by Night.**

*By* JOCK JARDINE.

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Hippo-hunting by night is very popular with the natives along the Albert Nile although, from my experience, for real thrills I should place hippo-hunting by night next to elephant-hunting. I was once asked by my native friends to join in one of these hunts and as I should gain a lot of experience (even in the dark) I gladly accepted. Canoes were prepared during the afternoon, spears with dried logs to act as floats attached by ropes were all put in order and the hour of departure fixed for 5. p.m. Each canoe was manned by a spearman and a paddler and had a smouldering log of wood placed in the bottom. This last had two uses—one for the lighting of cigarettes and the other for keeping the mosquitoes away. A special seat made out of wood was put in position for me to sit on, and this was quite comfortable as long as the canoe did not wobble about. We left for the hunting grounds which hippo were known to frequent when coming ashore at night, the well defined water-ways leading to the banks being easily detected in the fast fading light. In one of these we took up our position, the canoe being pushed back into the papyrus clear of the path used by the hippo. The long, deadly spears with ropes attached were laid ready; the logs used as floats tightly fastened; and we sat down to wait.

Up and down the river hippo could be heard grunting away and it seemed hours before the first arrival made its appearance. As the spearman stood erect in the canoe with his spear held in his two hands the excitement became more and more tense and I kept wondering what was going to happen to our canoe when the animal was speared. The animal gave a snort and a blow just as it was about opposite the canoe, making its way ashore, and the spearman raised his deadly weapon and drove it in just behind the shoulder. The animal gave a scream as it turned and plunged in the water, a second spear was driven in, the ropes and floats were thrown into the water and I found myself hanging on for all I was worth with the canoe swaying from side to side. The spearman appeared to balance himself in mid-air.

Back into the river went the hippo, splashing and screaming as he went, and as soon as the canoe steadied we pushed out from the papyrus and followed it. This part of the hunt I did not relish—the following of the wounded animal that was plunging about in the river in the dark with two spears in it—but the canoe-boy kept the float in view and kept on. How he saw it was a mystery to me as when the animal was down I could see nothing. He said that the animal was moving down-stream and kept paddling on. At last it came up but this time it was rolling over and over and was in its death throes. Finally it sank. News of the kill was sent out by tapping on the side of the canoe until a faint reply was heard in the distance, and the hunt was over. We returned to camp and I was still able to snatch a few hours sleep before daybreak.

In the morning the dead hippo was towed ashore to where men, women and children could assemble to cut up the meat, and by noon only the skull and large bones remained.



## REVIEWS.

**Plant Hunting on Tropical Mountains.**

SECOND BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY) EXPEDITION TO RUWENZORI,

"MOUNTAINS OF THE MOON."

By PATRICK M. SYNGE.

E. LINDSAY DRUMMOND—15s. od.

In a manner intended for those who do not know one plant from another as well as for the expert, this book recounts the experiences of a Scientific expedition sent primarily to study the flora and fauna of the Ruwenzori range situated on the Western boundary of Uganda. During a period of ten months spent in East Africa one or more of the party visited Mts. Elgon and Kenya, the Aberdare Mountains and also the Virunga Mountains; surely an ambitious programme for so short a visit. Although not the first ascent attempted by the author that of Ruwenzori receives pride of place in the book as it was the major enterprise and partly, no doubt, on account of its traversing but slightly known territory.

By way of remote and previously unexplored valleys the expedition reached the Summit of Weiseman Peak amidst the Equatorial Snows. Mr. Synge was clearly awestruck by the strange world revealed to him and enraptured by the grotesque and monstrous vegetative forms which he encountered in the high regions. He attempts to convey his impressions and flights of fancy to the reader, a method to my mind less pleasing and effective than a dispassionate presentation of the picture, leaving the reader, as it were, to see the landscape for himself.

The accounts of the author's visits to the various other mountains in Uganda and Kenya are in some degree repetitions, for as Mr. Synge points out close affinities exist between the striking plant communities at high altitudes on all the East African Equatorial Mountains, a phenomenon of much interest to the Scientific investigator.

Later chapters tell of a most interesting trip in a dug-out canoe on Lake Kioga, give a brief history of a limited part of Uganda and an account of native life in town and district. In this part of the book Mr. Synge is revealed in many minor errors which although perhaps unperceived by the visitor are only too apparent to the resident.

The final chapter is concerned with the potentialities for progress and cultural development of the Baganda and the author indicates the educational attitude and method which he feels should be applied in the best interests of the people. There is little in the chapter specially applicable to the nature of Uganda, the author's suggestions being such as are generally recognised as ideals in the directed cultural evolution of a backward people.

The book is illustrated by some excellent photographs and by reproductions of oil paintings, water colours and drawings, of varying merit, by Mr. Stuart Somerville. The artist has captured the spirit and attitudes of the people, but depicts the African Scene with less success.

Legends relating to the Mountains of the Moon of the ancients are collected in an appendix which also discusses the claims of Ruwenzori to this title and explains at some length former beliefs as to the sources of the Nile.

Successful attempts to cultivate in England some of the more striking plants collected are recorded in a further appendix; a most interesting experiment necessitating much care and labour which I hope will be rewarded by great enrichment of English Gardens.

F. R. B.

*Mr. Synge contributed to the Uganda Journal. Vol. II page 145.  
(Note. Ed.)*

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### **African Roses.**

By J. R. P. POSTLETHWAITE, C. B. E.

H. F. & G. WITHERBY, LTD., 7s. 6d.

*(Re-printed with permission from "The Uganda Herald.")*

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We welcome the publication of Mr. Postlethwaite's little book, "African Roses", consisting of sixteen very readable short stories and seventeen appropriate poems which are crowded into less than 200 pages. The author gives us an opening chapter of admitted autobiography and the story of the opening of Kitgum as a station. We are sorry, however, that he only gives us one reason as to how Bwana Gweno got his name! The rest of the book is described as "more or less fiction;" but those of us who knew the author, and are acquainted with some of his contemporaries and his achievements, can perceive that it is rather less than more. Many of the events described will be passed down as history, though not to be found in the archives in Entebbe, while some of the characters almost burst through their thin covering of disguise!

For those who do not know Africa, or who have not had the fortune to have seen Uganda before the headlong rush to progress overtook it during the last two decades, the book fulfils a need. To those who know Acholiland some of the tales are especially interesting. The author has given us some episode connected with every district in which he worked, Busoga, Mengo, Masaka, Toro, etc. To Kampala residents the poem, *Nile Water*, should appeal. The "little town in Africa nestling mid seven hills" is, however, beginning to outgrow its nestling habits, while one might almost think that the lines

...the Nakasero lights  
Shine bright across the valley  
To the Namirembe heights

would have been slightly altered if written in 1938, when, thanks to Messrs. Balfour & Beatty, we have blazing electric street lamps.

From so many good stories it is difficult to pick outstanding ones. Those that appealed most to the writer of this review were the *Blackman's Gods*, *No more of that*, *Twelve o'clock and alls well*, *The Failure*, *Conditions on the spot*, and *Pete*.

The book is written with knowledge and insight. The author knows his Africa and its inhabitants, whether it is the blackman, who is a mixture of "friendliness and suspicion, or "the misunderstood and ill-used official who did his job, whatever the consequences." The petty quarrels and hates of station life are portrayed, but for the man who is treated unfairly "the scars grow smaller as the years go by." Even the evils of parents being separated from their children are touched on, and the moral drawn.

The book is worth reading, if only for one thing, the epitaph of the late Pete Pearson in the tale and poem called *Pete*. As one reads one's mind is carried to the little stone monument overlooking Lake Albert, the scene of many of his exploits.

The last two stanzas bear repeating:

He had no time for orders, and he hated human laws,  
His views on right and wrong were quite absurd,  
But he never broke a promise or failed a pal in need,  
And he knew all nature's laws for beast and bird.

He'd never seen a rugger match, he'd never held a bat,  
He'd never heard the tufters raise the hind,  
But he'd grin and bluff and win, with a ruddy busted flush,  
And all he'd ask was danger of a kind.

We must congratulate Mr. Postlethwaite on his book, which we hope will find its way to every Uganda bookshelf, and much further afield, while we look forward to more African flowers from his pen.

F.O.A.

## The Bisoro Stories.

By AKIKI K. NYABONGO.

(BASIL BLACKWOOD, OXFORD. 3s. 6d.)

(Re-printed with permission from "The Uganda Herald")

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This pleasing little book, by the author of "Africa Answers Back," we are assured, is the second of a series of books for Western children, and we are promised more. As the Lutoro-English title implies, they are African animal tales, and should delight the heart of many an English child. The book is well illustrated by Gabriel Pippet.

The tales do not purport to be derived from any one part of Africa, but, judging by the names of those who have helped to collect them, presumably they were culled in Toro. We meet some old favourites which are known in other parts of Africa, sometimes with slight variations, such as *The leopard and the rabbit*; *Mr. Hare*; *The race between the dog and the tortoise*; *The leopard and the rabbit*; *Why the bat only goes out at night*; *Why the giraff has a long neck*; *How the leopard got his spots*. But there are a number of most interesting new tales.

It is a pity, however, that the author could not give us the English equivalents of Mr. Kyingora and Mr. Ntuha. It is much easier for children to understand Mr. Crow and Mr. Golden-crested Crane. We are sorry, also, that the author is still unable to keep away from Mrs. Baskerville's rendering of "How the Grey Parrot got its red tail." Though not mentioning this tale, yet he gives a poem which in metre and spirit is so obviously like the poem in that story, that it is little less than a parody of it.

Nevertheless, those who are interested in African folk-tales will find something in *The Bisoro Stories* well worth reading, while mothers who like bed-time stories to read to their children are recommended to try this little book.

F.O.A.

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### Corrigendum.

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In the last number of the Uganda Journal the name of C. W. Chorley appears in error at the foot of the illustration Fig. 2. of Mr. E. J. Wayland's article, following p. 252.

## INDEX TO VOLUME V.

	PAGE
BIRCH, J. P.	48
	134
BISSET, C. B.	130
BOOTH, A. J.	85
CARPENTER, G. D. HALE	253
	256
CHORLEY, C. W.	46
	245
CRAZZOLARA, J. P.	1
DAVIES, K. A.	289
EGGELING, W. J.	299
HERSKOVITS, M. J.	51
JARDINE, JOCK	302
KENNEDY, F. R.	137
METTAM, R. W. M.	22
PERSSE, E. M.	255
PITMAN, C. R. S.	27
	93
	160
	141
ROGERS, F. H.	300
SHILLITO, J. F.	50
SNOXALL, R. A.	267
	284
THOMAS, H. B.	53
W., K.	70
WAYLAND, E. J.	252
	301
WOOD, H. H.	296
WRIGHT, A. C. A.	255
	304