

RHODESIAN FLOODS.

Sweeping through Mozambique, Nyasaland, and Northern Rhodesia "Cyclone Edith" leaves ruinous floods in its wake. Railway bridges are torn up, and to keep communications going, the River Shire's ancient stern-wheel paddle steamers are called into service. Trains get as near as possible to the gap, and passengers walk to the ferry.

It only needs a massed choir singing "Old Man River" to make us think we're on the Mississippi a hundred years back.

As soon as the waters begin to subside, work starts on repairing the ruined bridges. Boatloads of heavy wooden piles are brought up, and are driven deep into the river bed. Meanwhile the superstructure's being prefabricated on land, and when the foundations are ready, it's lowered into place section by section. And so the River Shire has a brand new bridge - it's an ill cyclone that blows nobody any good!

Governor General at Arundel Girls School.

The Governor General is welcomed to Arundel Girls School Salisbury by the principal, Miss Kicol Smith, who introduced the members of the staff. Arundel school, opened as recently as February this year, is already a fine example of the modern Public school by which paradoxically we mean, of course, Private school. Funds to build it were raised by private and company donations in the Federation. When and as further funds became available the number of pupils will be raised from 76 at present to 300 when the school is complete.

His Excellency was interested in all the activities going on at Arundel, its educational and cultural programme, as well as the modern accommodation for boarders. The girls at Arundel enjoyed his visit because he got them a half holiday before leaving.

Transformer.

The heaviest single road lift in Southern African history was necessary to move a 90 ton Transformer from Nkana Mine Railway Siding to the Switching Station a road journey of $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

The trailer carrying the Transformer was built in Johannesburg specifically, for this purpose and will move a second 90 ton Transformer in 4 or 5 months time. $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles seems to be no distance at all, but the journey took an hour and a half to complete.

The Transformers will be used to step down voltage from the Belgium Congo hydro electric scheme when it comes into operation. It says much for the manner in which the move was planned, that it went into position without a hitch.

Troops.

Docking at Beira, the troopship Empire Clyde brings back the 1st Battalion of the Northern Rhodesia Regiment, after 18 months of highly meritorious active service in Malaya. They return with a record second to none for any battalion of any nationality in Malaya. Their place in Malaya is being taken by the first battalion of the Rhodesian African Rifles who embarked on the same troopship. We wish every success and a safe return to the 900 men, accompanied by 42 wives and 72 children, who leave for active service.

Meanwhile, on their homeward journey, the Northern Rhodesia Regiment was welcomed and congratulated by the Governor General on their arrival in Umtali. Getting nearer home the battalion reached Lusaka. Suffering slight casualties itself, the battalion had wrought havoc among the communist guerrillas in the Malayan jungle. It was a heroes' homecoming and Northern Rhodesia can be proud of their achievements. Following the official civic reception, the battalion was driven to the Barracks, glad to be home and looking forward to a spot of well earned leave.

Floods.

Sweeping through Mozambique, Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia, the Cyclone Edith left floods in its wake. Hard hit is the Chiromo Area where household goods and food stores were sunk in the mud of the Ruo and Shire Rivers. Little could be done until the rivers began receding. The Shire River on the rampage has cut a 40 yard breach in the Nyasaland-Beira railway line. It was thus far and no further for trains at any rate. Meeting this emergency the authorities did a transshipping job calling the Shire Rivers' ancient stern wheel paddle steamers into service. By this means, amid scenes resembling the old days of the Mississippi the passengers continued their journey to link up with the Railway further along. The only thing lacking seemed to be a full male chorus singing "Old Man River".

Minor breaches of the line presented little difficulty, but the main breach was a different proposition. Heavy wooden piles were prepared in readiness. Then as soon as the flood waters subsided far enough, the pile driven drove them into the river bed. Replacing the bridge was going to take far longer than the Shire took to destroy it. But as the foundations were driven in, the super structure was being assembled elsewhere, brought up section by section, and lowered into place. Cyclone Edith was an ill wind, but you know what they say about ill winds.

Regatta and Soft Ball.

The stage is set for a regatta on the Makoma Dam Lamskya, and as the clock moves to Zero, the starter gets the main event under way. The 350 cc, 5 lap scratch race for the Keith Barnes Trophy and away they go, engines flat out and taking the bends in a phase of flying spray.

And here comes the winner of the Keith Barnes Trophy. And who is it? None other than Keith Barnes himself.

Still in Lamskya, men of the N.R. police play a women's team at Softball. Its a good women's team, too, with several representative players. And in no time at all the women were way out in front. So far in front that they were practically out of sight. Then just before the trail grew cold the police went into action. They tried so hard 4 of them crashed the sound barrier.

Governor of Nyasaland.

Performing one of his last duties on the eve of his retirement, His Excellency the Governor of Nyasaland, Sir Geoffrey Colby attends a Police parade at Zomba. In his last investiture he decorated Colonel Apthorp the Commissioner of Police and other members of the force both European and African.

On the day of his departure, full military honours were accorded by the 1st Battalion of the King's African Rifles. In the 8 years he has held office, Sir Geoffrey Colby has served Nyasaland well. He has guided it through a significant period of its development, and has commanded the admiration, respect and friendship of all with whom he has come into contact. Amid many expressions of regret he and Lady Colby left Zomba, travelling by car to Limbe station and here again many friends were on hand to express their gratitude for services admirably performed, and their heart felt good wishes for the coming years of retirement.

A few days later, an AirForce Dakota arrived in Blantyre bringing the new Governor Sir Robert Armitage and Lady Armitage to take up their duties. Sir Robert was Governor and Commander in Chief in Cyprus, but it is fervently to be hoped that his Governorship of Nyasaland will be completely trouble-free. Spotlight takes this opportunity of extending its sincere welcome.

Before a special meeting of the Executive Council in Zomba, His Excellency Sir Robert Armitage was sworn in and took the oath of allegiance. Soon after taking office he flew to Salisbury where at Government House a cordial welcome was extended to him by the Governor Lord Llewelin.

Motor Racing.

Cars pile in to the car park as folks really flock to the First International Motor Racing Meeting at Salisbury's Marlborough circuit. Main interest centres round the two British entries, Peter Whitehead's Ferrari, Number 31 and Mike Young's 2 1/2 litre Connaught Number 30. They're taking part in the Limpopo Handicap over 30 laps, the main event of the day. And away go the handicap men. 75 miles to go with straights, bends and occasionally brilliant recoveries the order of the day.

-5-

Scratchman Peter Whitehead, car 31 has entered the race, and coming from behind he has to watch for his opportunities to overtake. He's giving a brilliant display of driving and receiving full consideration from the other drivers. It was certainly worth coming to see. Watching his opponents he sometimes cut through on the inside of the bends. Some of those passed probably thought they were standing still, that may have been the explanation for one of them nearly coming to grief. Look out.

Whitehead bustles records wide open. The previous record stood at 72 miles an hour, but in his Ferrari the British ace raised it to 84. Coming in ahead of Tingle of South Rhodesia and Ferguson South Africa, Peter Whitehead won with an average 81.8.
