THE ST. HELENA
"WIREBIRD"

FEBRUARY,
1957

A few minutes before sunset on the eve of the Duke's visit, Reggie George could be seen writing the traditional words of welcome on the lower wall of the donkey path above the town. St. Helena was then all set for the most important event in the last ten years of the Island's history.

As Britannia sailed into the roadstead even the porpoises played their part by gambolling in front of the bows of the graceful Royal Yacht. Despite the difficulty of using a forty-five foot motor launch to land at the Wharf steps, the royal barge was used to bring His Royal Highness ashore. Previously, Royalty had been forced to use a humble rowing boat like all other visitors, but so skilfully was the barge handled that only a small patch of paintwork was damaged in the process.

The Duke, with his newly grown beard trimmed in contrast to his war-time edition, was obviously in fine fettle and ready to enjoy his visit to our historic Island. After being officially greeted by His Excellency the Governor, Lady Harford and their daughter Priscilla, he shook hands with the Bishop, the Sheriff and Mrs. Solomon, members of the councils and their wives.

Using the same car that had been used by His Majesty King George VI when he visited the Island in 1947 accompanied by our present Queen, the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret, His Royal Highness drove past the long line of cheering flag-waving children who lined the route to the Parade Ground. His Excellency then took the Duke to see the Castle, giving all the people who had welcomed His Royal Highness at the Wharf, time to return to the main parade. On parade, under the charge of the parade commander, Mr. Walter Benjamin of Hutt's Gate, were the organised bodies of ex-service-men, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Rangers, Brownies, Red Cross, Salvation Army and the three friendly societies.

Leaving the Castle, His Royal Highness mounted the Courthouse steps and the St. Helena Band, conducted by Mr. Maurice Young, played the National Anthem. After the inspection of the parade, when His Royal Highness stopped to speak to many of the members of the various contingents, Mr. Homfray Solomon as sheriff read the following address of welcome:

"It is a great joy to the people of St. Helena once more to welcome a member of the Royal Family among us. The visit of Her Majesty the Queen as a Princess with Her Royal Parents in 1947 is fresh in the memory of most of us and is a cherished link with our beloved Sovereign. On behalf of all in St. Helena I offer Your Royal Highness our best wishes for your health and happiness. We trust that in the short time available to you at this Island in the course of your long voyage, you will be able to feel the deep and affectionate loyalty of all the people of St. Helena and that you will enjoy seeing some of the beauties and historical monuments of the Island.

We beg that on your return to England Your Royal Highness will convey to the Queen the assurances of our unfailing loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty's Person and to the Throne."
May I now on behalf of all of us present to Your Royal Highness, for the Queen and yourself gifts of local work subscribed for by all the people of the Island, and ask you to present in the hands of two St. Helenian children present for the Duke of Cornwall and Princess Anne'.

Mr. Solomon then presented the lace table set made by Mrs. Phyllis Peters and Miss Audrey Francis of High Hill for the Queen, and an inlaid cigarette box made by the Nicholls family of Barrack Square, for the Duke himself. Nine year old Keith Augustus, son of P.C. Augustus of Alarm Forest, then presented a pencil box, inlaid with the wirebird crest and monogrammed 'C', for Prince Charles, which was also made by the Nicholls family. A similar pencil box for Princess Anne was then graciously presented by six year old Thelma George, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Owen George of Upper Jamestown.

In reply His Royal Highness spoke these words:—

"I am most grateful to you, Mr. Sheriff, for your words of welcome and to all the people of St. Helena for the kind and friendly reception you have given me today. I also want to thank you all for your delightful presents which I shall take home with great pleasure. I am sure they will bring back many happy memories to The Queen of her visit here ten years ago. Before I left home in October last year she particularly asked me to convey her best wishes to all her people of St. Helena. I have heard a lot about this Island from The Queen, so I am very much looking forward to seeing as much as possible in one short day. I am very concerned to learn that your flax industry is having grave difficulties. This is particularly serious because, like so many of the islands I have visited, everything depends on the one industry. One of the most striking features of the modern world is the speed with which things change. As new discoveries make some things unwanted they nearly always make demands for something new. But, whatever happens, no island community can rest easy with all its eggs in one basket or it is entirely dependent on the outside world. I am happy to learn, therefore, that your Government, with the help of the Government at Scotland, is working hard to find a variety of activities suitable for St. Helena. I hope their efforts will be successful, and I can assure you that The Queen and I will watch your progress with interest and sympathy. I wish you all good luck and good fortune for the future".

After leaving the Parade, the Duke made a brief visit to the new General Hospital where all the members of staff were present, and where he spoke to many of the patients. Thomas George, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Owen George of Upper Jamestown, gathered there. On his return, where a cricket game was in progress between a Royal Yacht team and an island eleven. The members of the local team were well rewarded for their generous gesture to the visiting ship by being presented to His Royal Highness.

Our Royal visitor was afforded little rest for he then returned to Plantation House where the largest garden party ever to be held on the Island was taking place. Among the three hundred guests were representatives of every aspect of life on the island, from shepherds to shop-owners and from fishermen to field workers. Here His Royal Highness made a point of speaking to as many of the people who were bred and born on the Island as time permitted.

When he arrived at the Wharf in order to return to Britannia, he found most of the Island population waiting there to give him a royal send-off. The Duke responded by continually waving, stopping only to bend down and pop up with a tiny thumb size camera at the ready, in order to take a picture of the cheering crowds to show, we imagine, to our gracious Queen at a later date.

At eight o'clock prominent St. Helenians and members of the Government were entertained to a dinner party held on board the Royal Yacht. Soon after the guests returned and at exactly eleven o'clock, a signal gun was fired and Britannia sailed away, brilliantly illuminated against the dark northern sky.

E. J. Wagstaff

TRIAL RUN

THE Education Department recently had occasion to try out the Bedford Ambulance as a school bus, but instead of taking children from their lessons, an adult load was carried.

Mr. G. C. Lawrence had the excellent idea of asking some of the residents in the Parish Home to come along, and Mr. R. P. Broad was most prompt in arranging for the following to come for a ride": Lilian Thomas, Amy Leo, Martha Cosolly, Daphne Yon, William Grace, Eunice and James Joyce. Mrs. Davids came along to keep a matronly eye on her charges, who were surprisingly agile in climbing aboard.

Surprisingly, because Martha, Amy and Henry together can muster over 250 years between them! However, with the rear of the ambulance bowed almost to the ground, the test began. The weather was unkind throughout, and rain made it difficult to see through the winds, but in spite of this the "old uns" kept up a running commentary all the way, just to prove that
CORRESPONDENCE

The Editors accept no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents.

The Editors,

"Wirebird",

Sir,

I hope you will allow me to use a little of your space to express to the people of St. Helena my thanks for a memorable experience. I have done my best to meet as many people as possible. There are, I know, some I ought to have met but time has been too short to do all I would have liked. I can only apologize to those, I hope not many, who may feel neglected and assure them that no slight was intended.

While St. Helena is unique in many respects, there are certain features of its life which are familiar to one like myself who has had long experience of Colonial problems and a personal knowledge of a number of Colonial territories. One thing which has struck me particularly forcibly is the excellent way in which St. Helena affairs, and I hope that that will be for a long time yet, I shall deal with them with much greater sympathy and understanding because of my visit.

I would like to thank all those who have given me their time and who, socially, have done so much to make my visit pleasant.

It remains to wish everyone on the island good bye and the best of luck in the future.

Yours sincerely,

M. R. Willis.

(Colonial Office, London.)

THE CHURCH ON THE ISLAND

Once upon a time the 'Church of England' was to be found only in England until the days came when so many Englishmen went overseas that wherever they were there also was their Church.

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The service was conducted by the Rev. W. W. Shuster, Vicar of the Church of St. George, St. Helena, and the clergy of the island.

WEDDING

The Wedding took place on Wednesday, 16th January, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul of Mr. George Stuart Moss and Miss Polly Rankin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Rankin of Rosemary Field. The service was conducted by the Rev. W. W. Shuster, Vicar of the Church of St. George, St. Helena, and the clergy of the island.
BAHRAINI PRISONERS IN ST. HELENA
(Officially contributed)

On Sunday 27th January one of H. M. Ships arrived at St. Helena bringing three Bahraini subjects for detention in the Island. They are now housed under guard at the former signalight station at Munden’s Point which had been specially prepared for the purpose.

The actual procedure adopted was for the Colonial Prisoners Regulator to hand over the prisoners to the Governor by Order of Her Majesty in Council. Addresses were then presented by the Governor and the Attorney General to the Bahraini subjects for detention, requesting the consent for their deportation to Bahrain.

The prisoners are held in the Island for the purpose of their sentences being served. They have been tried by the court of the Ruler and are sentenced to 14 years imprisonment.

At one time in the world’s past history in Egypt, the Bakers in that land and in the Eastern parts of the Persian Gulf, were among the citizens who formed an independent order and who had their own courts and legal system.

Our DAILY BREAD
By Hadon Rownt

In the 18th century, the flour used in the production of bread was entirely from wheat. However, by the 19th century, there was a significant increase in the use of cornmeal and other grains, which led to a variety of breads with different textures and flavors.

Today, the production of bread is still a major industry, providing employment to many people around the world. Bread is a staple food in many cultures and is used in a variety of ways, from a simple slice of bread and butter to more elaborate dishes like sandwiches and pastries.

The process of making bread begins with the mixing of flour, water, yeast, and other ingredients in a large bowl. The dough is then shaped and allowed to rise before being baked in an oven.

The type of flour used in bread making can have a significant impact on the final product. White flour is made from the inner part of the wheat grain and is high in starch, which gives bread its elasticity. Whole wheat flour, on the other hand, is made from the entire grain and is higher in fiber and nutrients.

Our daily bread is an essential part of many diets and provides a convenient source of energy and nutrients. It is also a versatile ingredient that can be used in a variety of dishes.

In conclusion, the production of bread is a complex and technical process that involves many variables. The type of flour used, the fermentation time, and the baking temperature are just a few of the factors that can affect the final product.

For more information on bread making, please refer to the following resources:

- Breadmaking 101: https://www.breadmaking101.com
- The Art of Baking: https://www.theartofbaking.com
- Bread recipes: https://www.breadrecipes.com

We hope you enjoy our daily bread and all of its benefits!
in the U. S. A. today, where bread seems merely used as a tray to carry to the mouth succulent jams and pastes, over 100 million dollars a year is spent on laxatives alone. There is little sound evidence that whole-meal bread causes indigestion except in persons too long deprived of it. Incorporating ‘Agene’, and employing misleading labels like ‘fat extenders’ are devices by the Trade to make bread making, retailing and storage easier. ‘Agene’ has been outlawed in some countries, but what other steps are being taken? Something is being done in prenatal and postnatal clinics and the provision of supplementary school meals. In some American townships children are encouraged to bring their own pet mice and to observe the different rates of growth and health standards shown from feeding on (a) white bread (b) standard bread. However the central position remains that so long as flour mills obstruct enquiry and the Food Ministry merely directs investigators to the millers, real reform will take a long time.

[Editors Note:]

We think it would be of interest to mention that the flour now being imported into the Island comes from Canada. It is called “Canadian Beauty Special”, and is made from high quality Canadian Hard Spring Wheat being blended from several strains.

The extraction rate of this flour is 70—72 per cent, as any higher extraction rate is very difficult to store in this climate. It is however, enriched by the addition of calcium carbonate vitamin B, nicotinic acid and iron. These additions bring it up to the food value of flour of a much higher rate of extraction. This was ascertained from the report of the “Panel on Composition and Nutritive value of Flour”, whose members were nominated by the Royal Society, and were all most eminent scientists.

Births

Jan. 16 George Stuart Moss
Jan. 29 Isaac Frederick Henry

Deaths

Jan. 3 Cyril Simon 49 yrs.
“ 26 B. A. Constantine 19 “
“ 30 Henry Herne 52 “

Winner of last month's Puzzle

George Reynolds

We would like to thank all the competitors from whom a total of 14 correct entries was received.

St. Helena Cricket League

Points at end of 1st Round

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Kalendar for March

1 Friday New Moon.
Children’s Concert at Levelwood School.
Folk Dance—Longwood School.

2 Saturday Concert repeated.
Cricket—St. Paul’s v H. T. Hollow.

3 Sunday Quinquagesima.

5 Tuesday Shrove Tuesday.

6 Wednesday Ash Wednesday.

8 Friday Folk Dance—Infants’ School.

9 Saturday Moon—First Quarter.
Cricket—Jamestown ‘B’ v Jamestown ‘A’.

10 Sunday Quadragesima.


13 Wednesday Cinema Show—Blue Hill School.

14 Thursday Cinema Show—Half Tree Hollow School.
African Enterprise” scheduled to arrive from N.Y.

15 Friday “Braemar Castle” scheduled to arrive from S. A.
Folk Dance—Longwood School.

16 Saturday Full Moon.
Cricket—St. Matthew’s v H. T. Hollow.

18 Monday Cinema Show—Longwood School.

19 Tuesday Cinema Show—Levelwood School.

20 Wednesday Cinema Show—Sandy Bay School.

22 Friday Folk Dance—Infants’ School.

23 Saturday Moon—Last Quarter.
Cricket—St. Paul’s v Jamestown “A”.

27 Wednesday “Rhodesia Castle” due to arrive from United Kingdom.

29 Friday Folk Dance—Longwood School.

30 Saturday Cricket—Jamestown “B” v St. Matthew’s.

31 Sunday New Moon.

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