

# KNOW YOUR NEWS

## THE COMMONWEALTH'S EIGHTEENTH MEMBER

**A**FTER nearly a century of British rule, the Central African protectorate of Nyasaland becomes independent next Monday under another name—MALAWI.

This may sound a strange name. But it is not new. African peoples who lived west and south of Lake Nyasa are described in 17th century records as Malawis.

From them sprang the modern Cewa people and their African "saviour"—the spry little medical man they call Kamazu or Little Root. And Dr. Hastings Kamuzu Banda has become the first Prime Minister of his native

land in America. Then, between 1945 and 1953 he set up surgery in London, where he met Dr. Nkrumah—now President of Ghana—and other future African leaders.

In 1953 this lovely little



Dr. Hastings Banda, Prime Minister of Malawi

By Our  
**Special Correspondent**

land; lord and master of 3 million Africans and 25,000 non-African settlers.

"I decide everything without consulting everybody," he said recently. "That's how things will be in Malawi."

Next Monday is really Banda's Day. Six years ago—on 6th July, 1958—he returned to Nyasaland after some 40 years' absence in South Africa, America, Britain and Ghana. He became a doctor

country, only 520 miles long and less than 100 miles wide, joined the two Rhodesias in a federation.

Dr. Banda protested that the federation was set up against African wishes. He went to Ghana. There he campaigned to free his people from white domination

When, five years later, his people called him back home, he had been abroad so long he could hardly speak his native tongue.

Once home, he organised "young lions"—African nationalists—to fight for freedom (*uhuru*). The lions roared very loudly. There were disturbances, and Dr. Banda was jailed for 13 months.

By the time he was freed, British opinion had turned against the federation, and it was finally dissolved seven months ago, after Nyasaland had been set on the road to *uhuru*.

Now Malawi "goes it alone" as the 18th member of the Commonwealth. Her leader plans to visit London next week for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference.

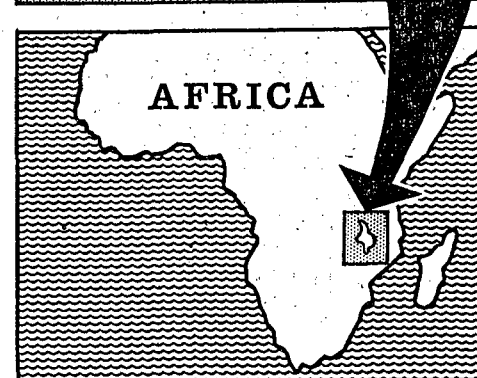
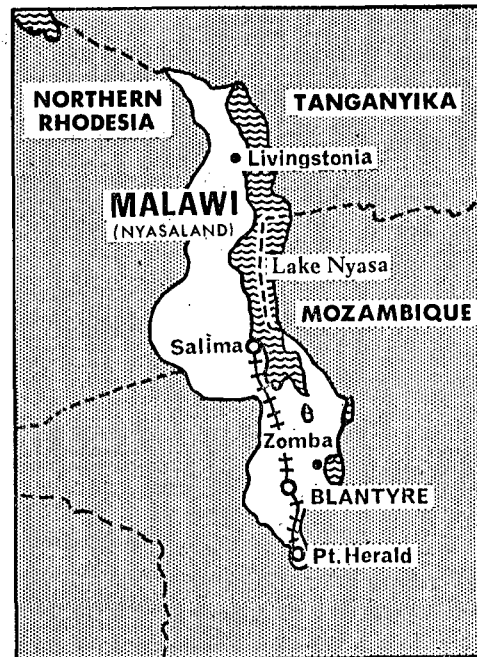
Malawi's chief crops are tea, cotton, tobacco. But many of her Africans work in the Rhodesias and South Africa for higher wages than they can get at home, and send their earnings back.

The new country will need continuing British help.

### DO YOU KNOW ?

- What is the name of Malawi's capital city?
- Who was the last Prime Minister of the now defunct Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland?
- What was Nyasaland called when it became a British protectorate in 1891?

Answers on page 12



Top: Map showing the new country of Malawi and some of its neighbours. Below: Malawi's position in east Africa.

## READERS' LETTERS

### TO WORK—BY HELICOPTER !

Dear Sir,—While enjoying playtime at Lee Common School, I saw a helicopter in the distance. This, at the time, did not seem at all out of the ordinary.



Slung beneath a helicopter, this piece of equipment can be moved speedily into position

But when I got home, my father had also seen it by the road. I inquired further and found out that it was an Electricity Company helicopter, dropping men near pylons to repair them, as it is much easier than having to walk across fields for miles to go where there are no roads.

I think it is a very good idea, don't you?

Phillip Brian Williams, Ballinger, near Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire.

I couldn't agree more, Philip. Editor.

### FOXES AGAIN

Dear Sir,—One of your readers has written to us on the subject of hunting. He was very worried by Mrs. Chapman's letter published in CN of the 6th June.

Foxes are not bred for hunting and fox coverts do not exist to preserve them. Fox hunting is a sport which, like others, has a set of rules, and one of these clearly states that only foxes in their "natural state" will be hunted.

Julian F. Platt, Assistant Public Relations Officer, British Field Sports Society, London, S.W.1.

### POP PROBLEM

Dear Sir,—I am writing to you about a subject that is discussed many times nowadays. This is pop music.

I don't think the older generation should complain about our sound, because when they were young they enjoyed the music of their day also.

Julia Coppard (10), London, N.3.

### PROUD SCOT

Dear Sir,—In CN, issue dated 13th June, we are told that Sir Alexander Fleming is an Englishman! Please!

We Scots are very proud of our great men.

Janet Allison, Auchinairn, Bishopbriggs, Lanarkshire.

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