FEDERATION OF RHODESIA AND NYASALAND

The Federation of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland was brought into being on 1 Aug. 1953, when the Queen signed the Order in Council proclaiming the Federal State. (See map in The Statesman's Year-Book, 1955.) The Federation was dissolved with effect from 31 Dec. 1963. The following statements and statistics contain the latest and last information on the Federation.

HISTORY. The possibility of a form of closer political association at least between the two Rhodesias seems to have been mooted first about 1910. The proposal to amalgamate the Rhodesias was first officially made by Dr Jameson in 1916 on behalf of the British South Africa Company, but it was opposed by the settlers of Southern Rhodesia, who feared that amalgamation would defer responsible government.

In response to a request from the Rhodesias, the Bledisloe Commission was appointed in 1938; it reported against immediate amalgamation, but suggested the creation of a body to co-ordinate common services between the three territories. The war made it impossible to implement this suggestion till 1945, when the consultative Central African Council was established, which succeeded in extending or creating a number of common services. A series of conferences to examine the possibilities of closer co-operation took place in 1951, 1952 and 1953. The final proposals were endorsed by a referendum in Southern Rhodesia in April 1953 by a two-thirds majority, and later approved by the UK Parliament and the Legislative Councils of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

An advisory commission under Lord Monckton submitted a 'Report on the review of the constitution' together with a 'Survey of developments since 1953' and 'Possible constitutional changes' (HMSO 1960).

With the break-up of the Federation, all Federal functions returned to their respective territories, with the exception of the following which will be kept under common administration: Central African Airways, Rhodesia Railways, Federal Power Board and Agricultural Research Council. The currency of the Federation is to continue to be legal tender in the territories until 1 Jan. 1965, or not later than 1 June 1965. The Bank of Rhodesia and Nyasaland will be dissolved not later than 31 Dec. 1965.

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT. The Federation consists of the self-governing territory of Southern Rhodesia and the Protectorates of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, all of which retain the constitutional status as before federation.

The constitution vests the responsibility for economic and financial affairs, defence, external affairs, transport and communications, immigration, education (other than African primary and secondary education), medical services and a number of other functions in the Federal Government.

The Territorial Governments deal with all matters affecting the day-to-
day life of the African people, local government, industrial relations, mining and roads other than inter-territorial main roads.

The Queen is represented in the Federation by the Governor-General and in the territories by the governors to the territories.

The Federal Assembly consists of 59 members, of whom 12 are Africans and 3 are Europeans specially elected to represent African interests. Southern Rhodesia is represented by 29, Northern Rhodesia by 19, Nyasaland by 11 members. As a result of the Federal Election held on 27 April 1962, the state of the parties is: United Federal Party, 54; Independent, 1; specially elected African members, 2; nominated European members, 2.

The federal capital is at Salisbury in Southern Rhodesia.

The review conference met in London in Dec. 1960 and in 1962. In 1963 Nyasaland was granted permission to opt out of the Federation.

*Acting Governor-General:* Sir Humphrey Gibbs, KCMG, OBE.

The Federal cabinet was in Dec. 1963 constituted as follows:

*Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs:* The Rt. Hon. Sir Roy Welensky, KCMG.

*Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Affairs, Minister of Defence and Minister of Power:* Sir Malcolm P. Barrow, CBE.

*Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Law:* J. M. Greenfield, CMG, QC.

*Minister of Finance:* Sir John M. Caldicott, KBE, CMG.

*Minister of Transport and Minister of Posts:* F. S. Owen, CBE.

*Minister of Health:* B. D. Goldberg, CMG.

*Minister of Agriculture:* J. C. Graylin.

*Minister of Works:* G. N. R. L'Ange, CBE.

*Minister of Commerce and Industry:* J. A. Clark.

*Minister of Education and Minister of Public Service:* J. P. G. Duncan, MBE.

*High Commissioner in the UK:* M. J. Lamb.

*British High Commissioner:* J. B. Johnston, CMG.

*Representative in the Republic of South Africa:* J. W. M. Fitt, OBE.

*Representative for the Republic of South Africa:* H. L. T. Taswell.

*Minister in Washington:* O. B. Bennett, OBE.

Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal and the USA are represented by Consuls-General.

**AREA AND POPULATION.** The Federation extends from 22° 30' to 8° 15' S. lat. On the south it is bordered by the Republic of South Africa, on the west by the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Portuguese West Africa, on the north-west and north by the Congo, on the north by Tanganyika and on the east by Portuguese East Africa.

Most of the two Rhodesias is at an altitude of between 3,000 and 5,000 ft (1,000-1,800 metres) above sea-level; some mountains on the eastern border of Southern Rhodesia rise above 8,000 ft (2,200 metres). In the large river valleys, the Zambezi, Sabi, Kafue and Luangwa, the level falls to below 2,000 ft (650 metres).

In Nyasaland the level of the littoral of Lake Nyasa and in parts of the Shiré River Valley is 1,500 ft (500 metres) above sea-level. Elsewhere the altitude varies between 2,500 and 7,000 ft (900-2,000 metres), with the crest of the Mlanje Mountain massif rising to 10,000 ft (3,000 metres). Lake