

INDEPENDENCE FOR SIERRA LEONE: Mr. Iain Macleod opens the constitutional conference on the future of Sierra Leone in Lancaster House, London. The Colonial Secretary said the principle of independence was agreed. What they had to decide was the date for it.

The Constitutional Conference on Sierra Leone opened in a very friendly atmosphere last week. Addressing the delegates Mr. Macleod referred to the "orderly and systematic advance" of the Colony and Protectorate and went on to say, amid applause, they need waste no time about the principle of independence for Sierra Leone. That was agreed "without further ado." The main task of the meeting would be to decide the date for independence and settle the various questions involved in the hand-over of power. Sir Milton Margai, Premier of Sierra Leone, spoke of his country's "cordial and peaceful relations" with Britain and made it clear that when independent the people of Sierra Leone would remain within the Commonwealth.

THE FUTURE OF SIERRA LEONE

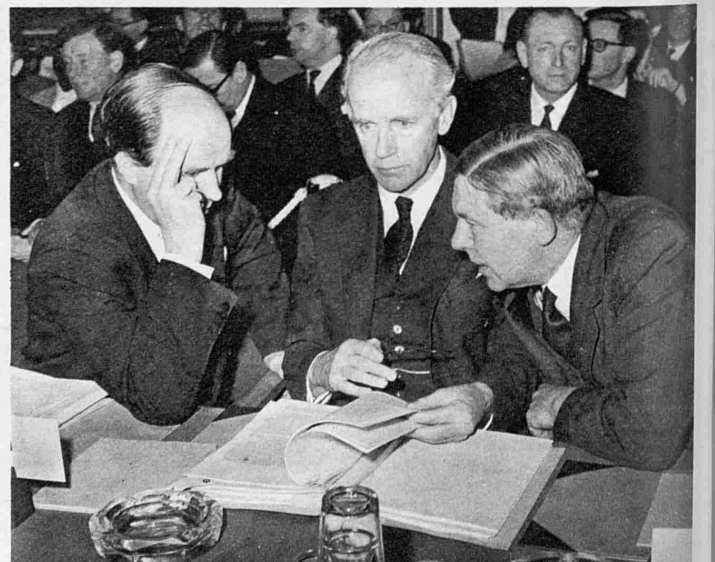
A Conference in London to Decide the Date for "Independence Day"



THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE AND THE LEADER OF THE SIERRA LEONE DELEGATION: Before the proceedings start in Lancaster House, Mr. Macleod shakes hands with Sir Milton Margai, the Prime Minister of Sierra Leone. It was understood the Sierra Leonians were asking that December 7 should be the day on which they become independent within the Commonwealth.



REPRESENTATIVES FROM WEST AFRICA: From left are Mr. H. N. Georgetstone; Mrs. Harris; Mrs. Cummings-John and Mr. A. H. Demby. All the political parties and independent opinion were represented among the delegates from Sierra Leone at Lancaster House.



A CONSULTATION AMONG THE BRITISH: Mr. Macleod confers with the Earl of Perth (centre), Minister of State, Colonial Office, and Sir Hilton Poynton, Permanent Under-Secretary at the Colonial Office. The talks on Sierra Leone were expected to last ten days.

PERSONALITIES OF THE WEEK: PEOPLE AND EVENTS IN THE PUBLIC EYE.



PRESIDENT OF THE SOVIET PRAESIDIUM: MR. LEONID BREZHNEV.

Marshal Voroshilov has been succeeded by Mr. Brezhnev, who is fifty-three, as President of the Praesidium of the Supreme Soviet. It was reported that Marshal Voroshilov retired on the grounds of ill-health. The new President was elected deputy of the Supreme Soviet in 1954 and, in August 1955, first secretary of the Kazakh Central Committee.

APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO BOLIVIA: MR. L. G. HOLLIDAY.

Since 1958 head of the European economic aid department of the Foreign Office, Mr. Holliday, who is fifty and was educated at Rydal and Queen's College, Oxford, has been appointed Ambassador to Bolivia in succession to Sir James Henderson, who is retiring. He has had diplomatic service in South America, Poland, the U.S., Sweden and Laos.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE R.I.B.A.: PROFESSOR SIR WILLIAM HOLFORD.

It was announced on May 4 that Sir William Holford was to be President of the Royal Institute of British Architects in succession to Mr. Basil Spence, who retires on June 30. Sir William, who is fifty-three, has been Professor of Town Planning, University College, London, since 1948, and is planning consultant to the City of London.

A FORMER COLONEL COMMANDANT, R.A.: THE LATE MAJOR-GENERAL F. W. H. PRATT.

Major-General F. W. H. Pratt, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., died at Winchester on April 26, aged sixty-seven. Educated at Cheltenham and R.M.A., Woolwich, he had a distinguished army career in both world wars. From 1946 to 1948, when he retired, he was A.D.C. to the King, and was Colonel Commandant, Royal Artillery, from 1949 to 1957.



AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE WHICH CONFERRED INDEPENDENCE ON SIERRA LEONE FROM APRIL NEXT YEAR: MR. MACLEOD SPEAKING. Sir Milton Margai, Prime Minister of Sierra Leone, said he was restrained from dancing for joy only by the presence of the Secretary for Colonial Affairs, Mr. Macleod, when the announcement was made that Sierra Leone would become independent. The Conference at Lancaster House ended on May 4.



LEADING THE CAMBRIDGE ATHLETICS TEAM: MICHAEL ROBINSON.



LEADING THE OXFORD ATHLETICS TEAM: JOHN B. HOLT.

We show here the Presidents of the Oxford and Cambridge Athletics Clubs, who meet in the inter-University athletics match at White City on May 14. Michael Robinson, of Maltby G.S. and Queens' College, Cambridge, is a hurdler; while John B. Holt, of Manchester G.S. and Manchester College, Oxford, runs in the quarter- and half-mile.



MARKING THE OPENING OF THE NEW BUTCHERS' HALL: THE BISHOP OF LONDON PRESENTED WITH A KEY BY MR. R. GARNHAM, MASTER OF THE COMPANY. The new Butchers' Hall, at Bartholomew Close, has been built to replace that destroyed in 1944. It has been built on the same site as the old hall, to a different design, and was officially opened by the Bishop of London on May 4. The new hall will be used for meetings of the members and trade functions.



ENTHRONED AS FIFTH BISHOP OF PORTSMOUTH ON MAY 5: DR. J. H. L. PHILLIPS. Dr. John Henry Lawrence Phillips, who was formerly Archdeacon of Nottingham from 1949, was enthroned as Bishop of Portsmouth. He is fifty. Last year he was appointed Chaplain to the Queen. Dr. Phillips was educated at Weymouth College and at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. The new Bishop takes a keen interest in many forms of sport.