

***Government Publications relating to
African Countries prior to Independence***

**Government Publications relating to
Southern Rhodesia, 1890-1963
and to the Federation of Rhodesia and
Nyasaland, 1953-1963**

Introduction to the
microfilm collection
by
Andrew D. Roberts

Publication no. R97123

MICROFORM ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS

*Government Publications relating to
African Countries prior to Independence*

**Government Publications relating to
Southern Rhodesia, 1890-1963
and to the Federation of Rhodesia
and Nyasaland, 1953-1963**

Introduction to the
microfilm collection
by
Andrew D. Roberts

First published in 1983 by Microform Ltd.

Microform Academic Publishers

Main Street, East Ardsley, Wakefield WF3 2AP, UK

T: +44 (0)1924 825700

F: +44 (0)1924 871005

E: MAP@microform.co.uk

W: www.microform.co.uk/academic

Copying of this Guide

The contents of this guide may be copied for the purpose of private study and research in accordance with the principles of "fair dealing" and "library privilege" established in copyright legislation. A digital version of this guide appears on the publisher's website, to which institutions may freely link in their library catalogues for reference by their users. Enquiries concerning any reproduction falling outside the scope of the principles mentioned above must be addressed to the publisher.

Copyright © Microform Academic Publishers and Andrew Roberts, 1983

ISBN: 0715850911

ISBN 13: 9780715850916

Government Publications relating to Southern Rhodesia, 1890-1963 and to the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, 1953-1963

Introduction

In 1889 Cecil J. Rhodes, who had made a fortune in the South African diamond industry, formed the British South Africa Company and obtained for it a charter from the British government to administer territories north of the Limpopo river. In 1890 the Company's Pioneer Column established Fort Salisbury in Shona country, in what from 1898 was officially called Southern Rhodesia. The country's gold mines proved less remunerative than Rhodes had hoped but together with good farmland attracted a fairly steady flow of white immigrants: by 1911 the white population numbered 23,000. (In 1936 it was 55,000 and in 1956 178,000 when the black population was about 2 million.) In 1923 the whites achieved self-government and the territory became the Colony of Southern Rhodesia; from 1925 its relations with Britain were channelled through the Dominions Office. From 1953 to 1963 it was part of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. In 1965 the Government of Southern Rhodesia made an illegal unilateral declaration of independence; in 1980 the territory became the independent state of Zimbabwe.

The government of Southern Rhodesia was always radically different in form from those of African territories controlled by the British Colonial Office. This difference is reflected in its publications, since these were not obliged to conform to procedures established by the Colonial Office. Government *Gazettes* were published by both the British South Africa Company administration and by the Government of Southern Rhodesia, but neither regime published annual Blue Books, nor did they produce any continuous series of annual reports covering the whole business of government. The situation is further complicated by the fact that for the ten years of Federation one must take into account the publications of the Federal Government (which in any case was based in Salisbury) as well as those of the Southern Rhodesia Government. Like other colonial territories, however, Southern Rhodesia was the cause of numerous Command Papers for the British Parliament; indeed, some of these are among the most important documents for the colonial history of Africa.

The microfilms are arranged in three groups. The first covers the period from the year of the British South Africa Company's charter up to 1923, when Southern Rhodesia achieved self-government. The second group continues up to the creation of the Federation in 1953. The third group concludes with the demise of the Federation in 1963.

Strictly speaking, there was only one serial publication produced in Southern Rhodesia before 1923 by the government as a whole (as distinct from departments or the Legislative Council, created in 1898). This was the *Gazette*, which comprised the usual miscellany of legislation, public notices advertisements. Since the Company was responsible, as an administration, to the British High Commissioner in the Cape Colony (and subsequently South Africa) proclamations concerning Southern Rhodesia were issued under his authority from time to time, and these duly appeared in the Cape government's *Gazette* (which is included in another microfilm publication in this series).

Such proclamations, together with those of the Company's Administrator and other government notices, were initially published in Southern Rhodesia's first newspaper, the *Mashonaland Herald and Zambezi Times*; this is not included in the present series. The first issue of the Company's own weekly *Government Gazette* appeared on 5 October 1894; from 22 February 1895 to 29 September 1899 it was distributed as a supplement to the *Rhodesia Herald*.

The rest of the material produced by the Company which is included in this collection cannot properly be called government publications: they were printed for restricted distribution by the Company in its capacity as a business which happened to have special responsibilities to the British government. In accordance with normal business procedures, the Company's directors produced reports and accounts more or less annually; these naturally make some mention of its work as a government but are mainly concerned with its various commercial activities. A fuller picture of Company government is provided by the four volumes which it produced between 1892 and 1897 of *Reports on the Company's Proceedings and the Condition of the Territories within the Sphere of its Operations*. These cover the initial phase of white settlement in Mashonaland and the conquest of the Ndebele in 1893. In 1896 the Ndebele and numerous Shona chiefdoms rebelled against Company rule and were not finally subdued until the following year: hence the Company's *Reports on the Native Disturbances, 1896-1897*. For the next few years the British government kept a closer watch than hitherto on the Company, which between 1898 and 1902 issued four bulky volumes of *Reports on the Administration of Rhodesia, 1897-1902*. The volume for 1898-1900 has a long appendix which includes

much descriptive material intended to reassure businessmen, prospective settlers and British politicians that the Company's administration had now been placed on a regular footing and was fully in control of the country. Excluded from the present series are two categories of printed material dealing with the Company's commercial operations: three long reports to shareholders on mining in Rhodesia (Northern as well as Southern) in 1899, 1900 and 1902; and the ten memoranda, some as long as a book, written between 1909 and 1915 for the Board of Directors by the Company's General Manager, H. Wilson Fox.

To some extent, the lack of Blue Books, and of general annual reports for all but a few years, can be made good by using other types of material. In 1903 Southern Rhodesia joined the South African territories in a customs union, and from 1906 to 1929 details of the country's external trade were included in annual statements on trade and shipping issued by South African government departments.

The Company's administration generated occasional public interest in Britain as well as routine parliamentary activity. There are thus several relevant Command Papers, and these include a good deal of official correspondence, chiefly in 1893-4 (before and after the Ndebele war), 1902 and 1904 (African labour, and the possibility of introducing Chinese labour) and 1917-20 (African reserves).

The achievement of self-government in 1923 did not add much to the range of material relevant to the collection. The principal innovation to be noted here is the occasional publication of an *Official Yearbook of the Colony of Southern Rhodesia*. This appeared in 1924, 1930, 1932 and 1952; each contains much reference material for earlier years. They summarise much of the content of annual departmental reports and include statistical information concerning government revenue and expenditure. For the period from 1923, the latter is listed under several departmental headings, and there are also some basic trade statistics. Annual statements of Southern Rhodesia's external trade continued to be published by the South African government up to 1929; from 1930 to 1946 they were published by the Southern Rhodesia government's own department of statistics, which also produced its own *Statistical Yearbooks* in 1938 and 1947; these largely fill the gaps left between the Official Yearbooks of 1932 and 1950. From 1947 to 1953 the annual statement of external trade was published by the Central African Statistical Office, an agency of the Central African Council; this body had been created in 1945 to co-ordinate government policies in the Rhodesias and Nyasaland on matters of common interest. For a fuller picture of government finance than the yearbooks provide, it is necessary to turn to the annual reports of the Auditor-General; these will be included in a further microfilm publication on departmental reports.

After 1923 the concern of the British government in Southern Rhodesia *per se* was for the most part with constitutional change and legislation specifically affecting Africans. Its right to veto the latter was never used; the occasion did not arise since such legislation was discussed in draft with the Dominions Office. Between 1923 and 1953 only two Command Papers were concerned exclusively with Southern Rhodesia. One, in 1928, arose out of the Native Juveniles Employment Act of 1926 and the Native Affairs Act of 1927 (which extended the judicial powers of white civil servants over Africans). The other Command Paper included the proposals (adopted in 1937) of the Southern Rhodesian prime minister, Godfrey Huggins, to increase his government's independence of Britain, chiefly by eliminating the role of the British High Commissioner in South Africa as a 'watchdog' over the administration of Africans in Southern Rhodesia. However, Britain took much interest in Southern Rhodesia in the context of plans to strengthen links between British territories in east and central Africa. Thus the present series includes Command Papers relating to the Parliamentary Commission which toured Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and East Africa in 1924, the Hilton Young Commission which visited East Africa, the Rhodesias and Nyasaland in 1928, and the Royal Commission chaired by Lord Bledisloe which visited the Rhodesias and Nyasaland in 1938. The latter was cautiously in favour of yielding to settler pressure for closer union between the Rhodesias, while recognising that their demands for outright amalgamation could not be met until Southern Rhodesia's policies concerning Africans were much closer to those of Northern Rhodesia, which was still under the control of the Colonial Office. After the Second World War the issue was revived, and from 1951 it generated numerous Command Papers, including official reports on conferences, regional surveys and enquiries; these culminated in the federal scheme which was adopted in 1953.

For the years 1953 to 1963 the present series includes the Government *Gazettes* both of Southern Rhodesia and of the Federation of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland. From 1954 to 1963 statistical reports on Southern Rhodesia were subsumed in those for the Federation as a whole. The Central African Statistical Office (from 1959, the Central Statistical Office) published not only an annual statement of the Federation's external trade; it also published cumulative statements of the national accounts and balance of payments of Northern

Rhodesia, Nyasaland and Southern Rhodesia. The last edition, published in 1964 and covering the whole period from 1954 to 1963, is included here.

The Federation had been imposed upon central Africa despite widespread opposition in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland. The long-term effect of Federal policies, which broadly favoured the white minority in Southern Rhodesia, was to aggravate this opposition, to such a point that by 1960 the future of the Federation was seriously in question. The tensions provoked a spate of Command Papers. It has been decided to include in the present series all those concerned with the Federation and its constituent territories, whether or not they specifically concern Southern Rhodesia. Thus the collection here includes not only the report in 1960 of Lord Monckton's Advisory Commission on the review of the Federal Constitution, with its voluminous appendices, but also the celebrated report in 1959 of the Devlin commission of enquiry into political unrest in Nyasaland, as well as various papers relating to constitutional change in Northern Rhodesia.

**Government Publications relating to Southern Rhodesia, 1890-1963
and to the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, 1953-1963**

Contents of the microfilms

GROUP I: 1808-1865

Reel 1	British South Africa Company	Directors' Reports and Accounts, 1889/91-1911
Reel 2		Directors' Reports and Accounts, 1912-1923/4
		Report on the Company's Proceedings, 1889/92-1897
Reel 3		Report on Native Disturbances, 1896-7
		Reports on the Administration of Rhodesia, 1897-1900 (including Appendix to the Report of 1898-1900)
Reel 4		Reports on the Administration of Rhodesia, 1900- 1902 1902
Reel 5		Government Gazette, 1894-1899 (Sept 1898-Feb 1899 missing)
Reel 6		Government Gazette, 1900-1903
Reel 7		Government Gazette, 1904-1906
Reel 8		Government Gazette, 1907-1909
Reel 9		Government Gazette, 1910-1912 (no Supplements for 1912)
Reel 10		Government Gazette, 1913-1914
Reel 11		Government Gazette, 1915-1917
Reel 12		Government Gazette, 1918-1920
Reel 13		Government Gazette, 1921-Sept 1923
Reel 14	South African Customs Statistical Bureau, Capetown	Annual Statement of the Trade and Shipping of the Colonies and Territories forming the South African Union, 1906-1909
Reel 15	Union of South Africa Department of Commerce and Industry	Annual Statement of Trade and Shipping of the Union of South Africa and of Southern and Northern Rhodesia, 1910-1915
Reel 16		Annual Statement of Trade and Shipping of the Union of South Africa and of Southern and Northern Rhodesia, 1916-1923
Reel 17	U.K. Government	Selected Command Papers, 1892-1899 C6645, C7171, C7190, C7196, C7284, C7290, C7393, No. 467 (1894), C7555, No. 177 (1894), C7637, C8060, C8117, C8130, C8547, C8732, C8773 No. 161 (1898), C9138, C9323, C9428

Reel 18	Selected Command Papers, 1901-1923 Cd667, Cd1200, Cd1363, Cd1682, Cd2028, Cd2820, Cd7264, Cd7352, Cd7509, Cd7645, Cd7708, Cd7970, Cd8674, Cmd547, Cmd1042, Cmd1129, Cmd1273, Cmd1471, Cmd1573, Cmd1914, Cmd1984
---------	--

GROUP II: 1923-1953

Reel 19	Government of Southern Rhodesia	Government Gazette, 1923 Government Gazette with Supplements, 1924
Reel 20		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1925-1926
Reel 21		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1927
Reel 22		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1928
Reel 23		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1929
Reel 24		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1930
Reel 25		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1931
Reel 26		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1932
Reel 27		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1933
Reel 28		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1934
Reel 29		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1935
Reel 30		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1936
Reel 31		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1937
Reel 32		Government Gazette, 1938
Reel 33		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1938
Reel 34		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1939
Reel 35		Index to Government Gazette and Bill A.B.1, 1940 Government Gazette with Supplements, 1941
Reel 36		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1942
Reel 37		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1943
Reel 38		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1944
Reel 39		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1945
Reel 40		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1946
Reel 41		Government Gazette with Supplements, 1947
Reel 42		Government Gazette, 1948
Reel 43		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1948
Reel 44		Government Gazette, 1949

Reel 45		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1949
Reel 46		Government Gazette, 1950
Reel 47		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1950
Reel 48		Government Gazette, 1951
Reel 49		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1951 (part)
Reel 50		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1951 (cont.)
Reel 51		Government Gazette, 1952
Reel 52		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1952 (part)
Reel 53		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1952 (cont.)
Reel 54		Government Gazette, 1953
Reel 55		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1953 (part)
Reel 56		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1953 (cont.)
Reel 57		Official Yearbook of the Colony of Southern Rhodesia, No. 1 1924, No. 2 1930
Reel 58		Official Yearbook of the Colony of Southern Rhodesia, No. 3 1932
Reel 59		Official Yearbook of the Colony of Southern Rhodesia, No. 4 1952
Reel 60	Union of South Africa Department of Commerce and Industries	Annual Statement of Trade and Shipping of the Union of South Africa and Territory of South-West Africa, 1924-1929
Reel 61	Government of Southern Rhodesia Department of Statistics	Annual Statement of the Trade of Southern Rhodesia with British Countries and Foreign Countries, 1930-1934
Reel 62		Annual Statement of the Trade of Southern Rhodesia with British Countries and Foreign Countries, 1935-1939 (including Review of Trade for 1935-1938)
Reel 63		Annual Statement of the Trade of Southern Rhodesia with British Countries and Foreign Countries, 1940-1943
Reel 64		Annual Statement of the Trade of Southern Rhodesia with British Countries and Foreign Countries, 1944-1946
Reel 65		Statistical Yearbooks of Southern Rhodesia, 1938 and 1947
Reel 66	Central African Statistical Office	Annual Statement of the Trade of Southern Rhodesia with British Countries and Foreign Countries, 1947-1950

Reel 67		Annual Statement of the Trade of Southern Rhodesia Rhodesia with British Countries and Foreign Countries, 1951-1953
---------	--	---

Reel 68	U.K. Government	Selected Command Papers, 1925-1953 Cmd2387, Cmd2904, Cmd3076, Cmd3234, Cmd3378, Cmd3574, Cmd5218, Cmd5949, Cmd8233, Cmd8234, Cmd8235, Cmd8411, Cmd8573, Cmd8671, Cmd8672, Cmd8673, Cmd8753, Cmd8754
---------	-----------------	--

GROUP III: 1953-1963

Reel 69	Government of Southern Rhodesia	Government Gazette, 1954
Reel 70		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1954
Reel 71		Government Gazette, 1955
Reel 72		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1955
Reel 73		Government Gazette, 1956
Reel 74		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1956
Reel 75		Government Gazette, 1957
Reel 76		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1957
Reel 77		Government Gazette, 1958
Reel 78		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1958 (part)
Reel 79		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1958 (cont.)
Reel 80		Government Gazette, 1959
Reel 81		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1959 (part)
Reel 82		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1959 (cont.)
Reel 83		Government Gazette, 1960
Reel 84		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1960 (part)
Reel 85		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1960 (cont.)
Reel 86		Government Gazette, 1961
Reel 87		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1961 (part)
Reel 88		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1961 (cont.)
Reel 89		Government Gazette, 1962
Reel 90		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1962 (part)
Reel 91		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1962 (cont.)
Reel 92		Government Gazette, 1963
Reel 93		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1963 (part)

Reel 94		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1963 (cont.)
Reel 95		Supplements to Government Gazette, 1963 (cont.)
Reel 96	Government of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland	Indexes only to Federal Government Gazettes, 1953-1954 (Gazettes and Supplements missing)
		Federal Government Gazette and Supplements, Sept-Dec 1955 (Jan-Aug 1955 missing)
Reel 97		Federal Government Gazette and Supplements, 1956
Reel 98		Federal Government Gazette and Supplements, 1957
Reel 99		Federal Government Gazette and Supplements, 1958
Reel 100		Federal Government Gazette and Supplements, 1959
Reel 101		Federal Government Gazette, 1960
		Supplements to Federal Government Gazette, 1960 (part)
Reel 102		Supplements to Federal Government Gazette, 1960 (cont.)
Reel 103		Federal Government Gazette, 1961
		Supplements to Federal Government Gazette, 1961 (part)
Reel 104		Supplements to Federal Government Gazette, 1961 (cont.)
Reel 105		Federal Government Gazette, 1962
		Supplements to Federal Government Gazette, 1962 (part)
Reel 106		Supplements to Federal Government Gazette, 1962 (cont.)
Reel 107		Federal Government Gazette, 1963
		Supplements to Federal Government Gazette, 1963 (part)
Reel 108		Supplements to Federal Government Gazette, 1963 (cont.)
Reel 109	Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland Central Statistical Office	Annual Statement of External Trade, 1954-1957
Reel 110		Annual Statement of External Trade, 1958-1960

Reel 111	Annual Statement of External Trade, 1961-1963 National Accounts and Balance of Payments of Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland and Southern Rhodesia, 1954-1963 (1964) Supplement to the National Accounts of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, 1954-1962
Reel 112 U.K. Government	Selected Command Papers, 1957-1960 Cmnd298, Cmnd362, Cmnd530, Cmnd707, Cmnd814, Cmnd815, Cmnd1132, Cmnd1148, Cmnd1149, Cmnd1150
Reel 113	Selected Command Papers, 1960-1964 Cmnd1151, Cmnd1151 I, II, III & IV, Cmnd1291, Cmnd1295, Cmnd1301, Cmnd1399, Cmnd1400, Cmnd1423, Cmnd1887, Cmnd1948, Cmnd2000, Cmnd2073, Cmnd2903, Cmnd2387, Cmnd2365

<https://microform.digital> - International Digital Scanning & Archiving Services