

Geography

AFRICA

EAST AFRICA

19. Sisal Grass Industry : East Africa.

Sisal Grass, yielding the fibre from which rope is manufactured, is cultivated over large areas in East Africa. This film shows in a most interesting manner the varying stages in this conversion from leaf to fibre.

20. Zanzibar.

Gives some scenes suggestive of the history of Zanzibar, and then pictures the present-day clove industry. The varied population of Zanzibar is also shown.

SOUTH AFRICA: CAPE COLONY

21. An African Derby.

At Maseru, on the occasion of the annual race meeting, the first motion-pictures ever taken in the native territory of Basutoland were photographed: many native types are featured, and some of the similarities between African and European peoples manifest themselves. The geographical formation of the country is clearly shown.

22. Basutoland.

The life and customs of the negro inhabitants of Basutoland are depicted in this film, which concludes with scenes at a great tribal meeting where warriors and chiefs assemble to discuss tribal affairs, and afterwards to feast, dance and make merry.

TRANSVAAL

23. Rough Diamonds. (Diamond Mining in Transvaal.)

The earth never yields easily those products upon which man sets so great a value. Here we see the native miner at his arduous task, and some of the sorting and sifting processes through which the stones pass before at last they find their way into the jeweller's shop.

NORTH AFRICA: EGYPT

24. Suez.

This film shows the geographical importance of the Suez Canal, and follows a boat's course from the time it enters the Canal at Suez to the moment when it sights Port Said. The interesting and unusual life that centres round the Canal is portrayed, and man's skill and ingenuity in constructing and maintaining the waterway are revealed.

WEST AFRICA: GOLD COAST

25. Accra, the Capital of the Gold Coast.

Accra has developed in less than fifty years of British rule from a poor, unhealthy, ill-governed native town to a prosperous, well-ordered and modern community. But although the city has been modernised and rendered clean and sanitary, it still retains much of the mystery of Africa, as this film well depicts.

26. Ashanti, Gold Coast.

Although the early history of Ashanti was unsettled, peace and goodwill now reign. Since 1900 progress has been steady, and the natives are now taking an active interest in public affairs. The extension and development of railway and roads proceed apace, and the telegraph pole is rapidly gaining ground. The towns of Kumasi and Mampong are of considerable interest.

27. Clearing the Bush for Developing the Gold Coast.

Man, it seems, is always seeking for fresh worlds to conquer, and in this film he is seen endeavouring to tame the wildness of the Bush by means of roads, railroads and bridges, and succeeding in his endeavours. Although hindered by climate, vegetation, and such destructive creatures as white ants, every day he adds other links to the chain of communication which is being established between the coast and the interior.

28. Cocoa Industry, Gold Coast.

Shows work in the cocoa plantation, the removal of the beans to the factory, and the processes through which they pass in preparation for export. The difficulties of transport are pictured, including the final stage before the beans are safely shipped, when they have to be taken in small boats through the dangerous surf on the shores of the Gold Coast. 1927. B.L.O. 13/1/27

29. A Day in the Life of a District Officer.

The District Officer spends his time visiting the villages in his section, for his work lies in advising the native chiefs and in administering justice. He makes long and arduous journeys through tropical forests, and when he arrives at his destination he is faced by many difficult and perplexing problems of local administration. After a hard day's work his camp is pitched in the middle of the forest, and the next day he will move on to another village. This film is very useful in the teaching of civics.

30. The Mineral Wealth of the Gold Coast.

The name of the Gold Coast itself tells that it was the mineral wealth of this region of West Africa which originally attracted Europeans to its shores: gold, diamond, and manganese ore are among the principal mineral resources of the colony, and mining processes are seen in operation.

31. Northern Territories, Gold Coast.

The life, manners and customs in this part of the Gold Coast are shown, covering the districts of Western Dagomba, Konkomba and Tamale.

WEST AFRICA: NIGERIA

✓ **32. City of Kano, Nigeria.**

Kano has a very old civilisation, and the market was in existence when William the Conqueror invaded England. Within the ancient walls of the city, life of the old civilisation proceeds alongside that of the new. In the market-place the potter, the leather-worker and the barber ply their ancient trades, but not far away is the new Government School where Nigerian students study surveying.

✓ **33. Cotton Growing in Nigeria.**

This film illustrates a tropical plateau, and shows conditions of life in the Western Soudan. In seeing how raw materials are produced, and the processes through which they pass before they are ready for export, the interdependence of one nation upon another is realised.

34. A Day from Douki's Diary.

Douki is a donkey who lives near the Walled City of Kano, Northern Nigeria, where he helps his master to earn a living. We accompany the pair as they go about their day's work, carrying heavy loads to and from the market. We see the cotton-weaver at his trade, the native dye-pits, the potter and the leather-worker. Douki does a good day's work, and certainly earns his board and keep.

35. The Durbar at Zaria.

Durbars are held on special occasions, such as when the Governor wishes to recognise the valuable work of an Emir (or Native Ruler). Among the great crowd assembled on this particular occasion are mounted Mohammedan chiefs, pagans from outlying villages, hunters, porters, snake charmers, and dancers. The hero of the day, the Emir of Zaria, arrives at the head of his bodyguard of 2,500 horsemen.

36. Lagos, the Capital of Nigeria.

This film gives a very comprehensive idea of life in a West African town which is a "seat of Government." It shows how primitive instincts have been adapted to more social ends, since the coming of the white man: thus football has taken the place of slave-raiding. The debt that the black man owes to the white and the interdependence of each upon the other, are clearly indicated.

37. Northern Provinces of Nigeria.

Here again is seen the contrast between old methods and new. Bridges are being built, railway lines are laid, machinery is in working in the mines; but the native potters and glass-blowers still ply their ancient trades in the manner of their forefathers.

38. Oil-Palm of Nigeria.

The history of the oil-palm is pictured, from its origin in a tropical forest to the moment when it is shipped for transportation to Liverpool. Many new aspects of native life are introduced.

39. Southern Provinces of Nigeria.

This picture shows rubber-planting, coalmining, lumbering and canoe-building in the Southern Provinces. A holiday to celebrate the Festival of the War Canoes emphasises the fact that the British have developed the wealth of the country, and have restored peace and order without destroying native customs and habits.

40. Tin Mining in Nigeria.

This film shows tin being mined in the ancient beds of Africa. We see the native miners at work, and watch the various processes upon which they are engaged. Once again, as we look at the ore being loaded for shipment to England, we realise to what extent, at the present time, the prosperity of one country waits upon that of another.

WEST AFRICA: SIERRA LEONE

41. Sierra Leone.

Sierra Leone is a negro State, under British guidance, which is governed by and for negroes. This film is useful for imperial history, as showing a curious type of State within the Empire. It can also be employed with value to give a concrete example of the humanitarian efforts of the late 18th Century. Geographically, it is a helpful illustration of West African coastal and river formation.