

Down Comes *the* German Flag, Up Goes *the* French

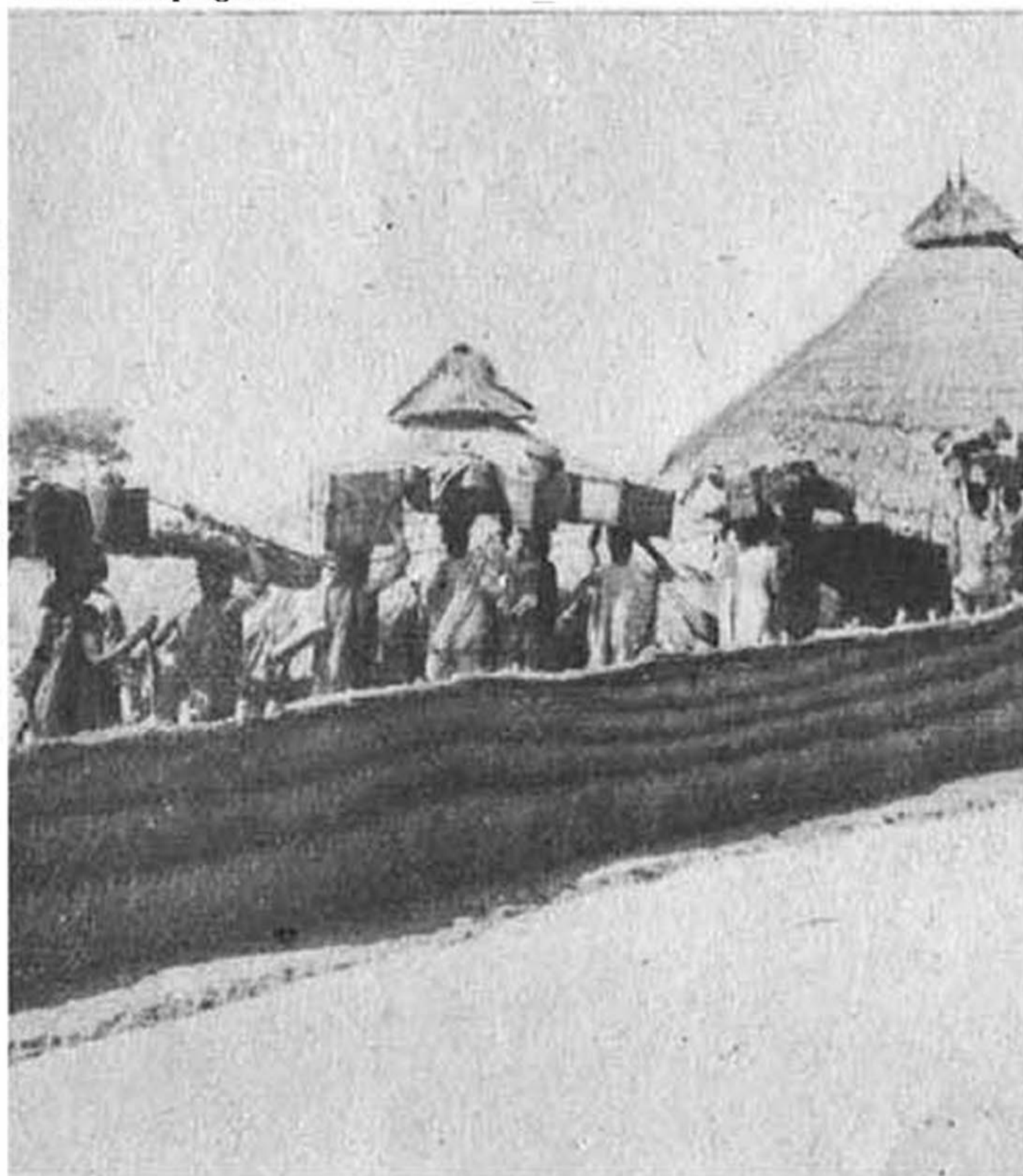
ON July 30, the Cameroons and Togoland, two of Germany's four African colonies, were formally ceded to France in accordance with the terms of a special agreement between France and Great Britain. A small strip of land adjoining Nigeria was given to the British, but with the exception of this area and a small portion of Togoland, the tricolor now flies over more than 300,000 square miles of picturesque land which was once under the rule of the Hohenzollerns. The Cameroons, which Germany ranked first in natural resources among her protectorates, have an area of 305,000 square miles, and a population estimated at 3,650,000. Located, as they are, on the west coast of Central Africa, the natives have small difficulty in raising large crops of manioc, tobacco, yams, etc., while the Europeans, who have many plantations along the coast, produce much cacao, tobacco, coffee and rice. In 1912, the export trade was estimated at \$5,500,000, and the import at \$8,100,000. Duala, a quaint seaport, is the principal city. The Cameroons were invaded in 1914 by the British, who took several small towns. Togoland, very much smaller than the Cameroons, has an estimated population of 1,032,000, of whom 400 are whites, and an area of 33,700 square miles. It is possessed of abundant natural resources. Many large cocoanut plantations have been established along the coast, and good crops of rice, corn, tobacco and coffee are raised. In 1913, the imports amounted to 10,631,000 marks, and the exports to 9,138,000 marks. The chief city is Lome, a seaport. Togoland was seized by French and British forces on August 7, 1914. Article 119 of the Treaty of Peace says: "Germany renounces in favor of the principal Allied and Associated Powers all her rights and titles over her overseas possessions." The lowering of the German flag in the two colonies will thus be but the prelude to a long series of similar performances to be staged in many sections of the world. The photos on this page are of scenes in the Cameroons, to be known hereafter as the French Cameroons. There, as in Togoland, life is primitive; but with the advent of the French, whose handling of their foreign possessions has always proved most beneficial to the natives, these lands will, no doubt, within a few years make remarkable progress.

LESLIE'S
WEEKLY

August 16,

1919

p. 247



Having rested and dined, these porters resume their journey. The chances are that the boxes so cleverly carried contain German goods, as seventy per cent. of the Cameroons' trade was with Germany before the war.

OldMagazineArticles.com