





VARIO

Made in Germany





ADEN, a British colony and port in southern Arabia. Aden colony lies near the entrance to the Red sea, about 100 mi. E. of the Straits of Bab el Mandeb. It includes the Island of Perim at the southern end of the Red sea, and the Kuria Muria islands off the Dhufar coast of Oman. The climate is tropical, hot and humid from April to October and cooler during the northeast monsoon. Rainfall is low and in some years there is none. The colony itself consists of two peninsulas of volcanic rock rising to more than 1,000 ft. The eastern peninsula (6 mi. across), on which is situated the town and port of Aden, is joined to the western peninsula, known as Little Aden, by a flat, sandy foreshore. The population of the colony in 1955 was 138,441 of which 55,791 were Arabs, 831 Jews, 10,611 Somalis, 4,484 Europeans, 15,817 Indians, 48,088 Yemenis and 2,819 others. The area of the colony is 75 sq.mi., that of Perim 5 sq.mi., and of the five Kuria Muria islands about 28 sq.mi.

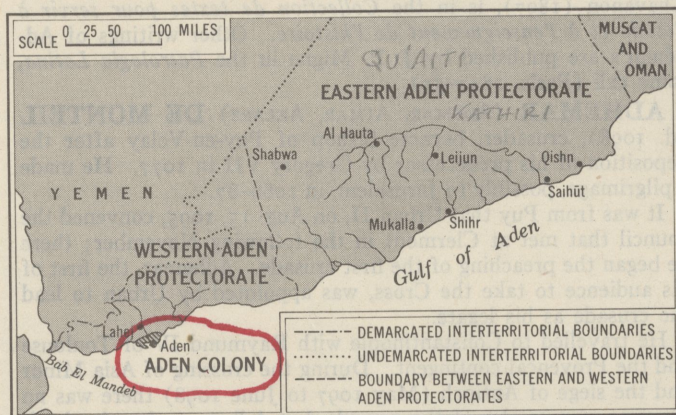
The old town of Aden, known as Crater (pop., 1955, 55,000), is built in the crater of an extinct volcano in the northeast of the peninsula and is surrounded on three sides by precipitous crags. The old harbour lay off the town, but the new port installations and harbour are on the northwestern side of the peninsula between Steamer point and Tawahi (pop. 20,000). In a rocky gorge above the town are the ancient rainwater storage tanks (Taweela tanks) which can still hold about 10,000,000 gal. of water; to the northwest is the suburb of Ma'ala (pop. 20,000) where dhows have been built for centuries; to the north is Khormaksar, another suburb, where is Aden civil airport (established 1952), 7 mi. from the port. To the west is Steamer point, with the consulates, the principal banks and shipping offices. Aden possesses two colleges, a technical institute for boys and two teacher training centres. There are no railways and communication is by road. Internal airlines are operated as well as international services. Aden is a free port and an important oil bunkering port where vessels of the principal steamship companies call regularly to and from the east, Australia and East Africa. The colony's trade is mainly transshipment and entrepôt for goods from neighbouring territories for which the port serves as a centre of distribution. More than 5,000 ships annually, with a tonnage of over 24,000,000 net registered tons, enter the port, which possesses 19 first-class berths including 13 oil berths for large vessels; five second-class berths, two of which are oil berths for medium vessels; and eight third-class berths for small vessels. There are also four floating docks. Many people are directly engaged in port activities, but other occupations include the crushing of oilseeds; the cleaning, sorting and packing for re-export of hides, skins, coffee, gum, incense and oyster shells; the making of soap, aluminum utensils, printed cotton cloth and mineral waters; and inshore fishing.

At Little Aden a large new oil refinery, with a refining capacity for 5,000,000 tons of crude oil a year, started operating in 1954. A specially constructed oil harbour can accommodate four 32,000-ton tankers at a time. A new 20-mi. road was made across the desert between Little Aden and Aden and a new town was built to accommodate the 9,000 workers at the oil refinery.

To the north of Aden is the town of Sheikh Othman (pop. 1955, 29,879) with a cotton-dyeing industry producing hand-printed bed-

spreads and head cloths. Sheikh Othman is known also for its gardens and camel caravans. Artesian wells there and at Bir Nasr supply drinking water to Aden. Between Khormaksar and Sheikh Othman are extensive salt pans (covering 3,682 ac.) where sea water, pumped by windmills, is evaporated by the sun's rays.

History and Administration.—Aden early became an important entrepôt of trade between Europe and the east. Spices, incense, etc., were brought to Aden and other south Arabian ports through the hinterland kingdoms of Saba (Sheba), Ma'in and Himyar until their high tolls made sea traffic cheaper and led to a decline. Produce from India, China, Indonesia and Africa was transhipped for carriage by camel caravans up to Egypt, Syria and beyond until about the time of the Roman occupation of Egypt, when adventurous traders developed more direct and less taxed routes via the Nile valley, Red sea and Indian ocean, water transport replacing caravans where possible. Ancient ruined cities, with elaborate dams and irrigation works, and fortifications along these routes both in the protectorate and in the Yemen indicate the



ADEN COLONY AND PROTECTORATES

importance and wealth of the traffic during the first millennium B.C. *Periplus of the Erythrean Sea*, written about 50 A.D., describes the sea traffic which had by then replaced it, giving detailed descriptions of the ports and the goods passing through them; Aden is called Eudaemon Arabia.

In 1513 Aden was unsuccessfully attacked by the Portuguese under Alphonso d'Albuquerque but fell into the hands of the Turks in 1538. A century later the Turks were forced to relinquish it when the peninsula was captured by the Yemen Arabs from the north. In 1728 the sultan of Lahej revolted against the Imam of Yemen and seized Aden, which he included in his own sultanate. It was captured by the British East India company in 1839, after an Indian ship had been plundered off the coast, and annexed to British India. This was followed by the establishment of a coaling station and a renewal of trade, which developed enormously after the opening of the Suez canal in 1869. Aden again became the important port of call on the shipping route to the east and, from having been reduced to a fishing village before 1839, it rose once more as a thriving town and was made a free port. The Island of Perim was occupied by the British in 1857, Little Aden was obtained by purchase in 1868, and the coastal strip between the two peninsulas in 1882 and 1888.

In April 1937 Aden ceased to be administered from India and became a crown colony, and the rupee was superseded by the East African shilling in 1951.

The colony is administered by a governor assisted by an executive council and a legislative council (inaugurated in 1947 and expanded in 1955 when the electoral principle was first introduced). At the end of 1957 a new constitution was published giving the legislative council an elected majority and a ministerial system.

Aden town (pop. 1955, 99,285 [mun.]) is controlled by a municipality and the port is administered by a board of trustees.

ADEN PROTECTORATE, lies on the southern coast of Arabia east of the Red sea and is bounded on the north by the desert plateau and the Yemen, and on the south by the Gulf of

Aden. It is divided into two areas, the Western protectorate, which consists of a coastal plain behind which rises a mountainous plateau dissected by rivers and fertile valleys, and the Eastern protectorate, which is largely desert and barren mountains, but contains also some fertile valleys. The Hadhramaut (*q.v.*) is included in the Eastern protectorate. Pop. (1955 est.) Western protectorate 400,000; Eastern protectorate, 350,000. Area about 112,000 sq.mi. including the Island of Socotra. The climate is tropical with hot damp summers on the coastal plain which also experiences sandstorms and high winds, and extremes of heat and cold with scanty rainfall on the plateau. There are no made-up roads, but the rough tracks can be used by motor traffic though most of the transport is by camel or donkey. There is an airport at Riyan, in the Eastern protectorate, about 300 mi. northeast of Aden, and 15 landing grounds, and there are ports at Mukalla and Shihr, also in the Eastern protectorate, for small craft and coastal steamers. The principal towns are Lahej in the Western, and Mukalla and Saiun in the Eastern protectorate. Most of the inhabitants are employed in agriculture, cotton being the chief crop. Cotton is ginned and there is fish-curing. There are three Farmers' associations in the Western and a Date Farmers' association in the Eastern protectorate. The main imports include foodstuffs, kerosene, cotton piece goods, cotton-ginning and agricultural machinery and motor vehicles. The chief exports include cotton, coffee, skins and hides. As well as East African shillings, riyals (Maria Theresa dollars) are used as currency. Health services are provided in six hospitals and many health units. Each protectorate has a health training centre and mobile sanitation unit. There are intermediate and primary schools (two catering for girls).

History and Administration.—After Aden had been occupied by the British in 1839, the tribal chiefs from neighbouring territories entered into protective treaty relations with the British government, the last treaty being signed in 1914. From 1915 until the World War I armistice in 1918, three districts of the Western protectorate were occupied by Turkey, which had conquered the Yemen in 1872. In 1934 an Anglo-Yemeni treaty was signed to protect the frontier (then undemarcated) between Aden and the Yemen, and this was followed in 1951 by the setting up of a frontier commission. Between 1944 and 1955 nine chiefs signed new treaties bringing them into closer relationship with the British government.

In the Eastern protectorate the Qu'aiti sultan, who had gradually come to rival the Kathiri sultan in power and wealth, first entered into treaty relations with the British government in 1882. These ties were strengthened in 1888 by the signing of a protectorate treaty which the Kathiri sultan acknowledged in 1918 as binding on his peoples also. Since 1937 five of the sultans, including the two just mentioned, signed treaties by which they agreed to accept the advice of a British resident officer in all matters excepting those concerning Islam and Islamic customs.

The Aden protectorate is not administered directly by the British government but by the local rulers with the help of the British advisory staff. The 16 states of the Western protectorate nominate their chiefs who have to be recognized by the governor of Aden. The two principal states in the Eastern protectorate, the Qu'aiti and the Kathiri, both of which are in the Hadhramaut, are administered by their sultans, who are constitutional rulers with state councils. These and the other two states are advised by a British agent stationed at Mukalla.