

THE MAN WHOM THE LION BIT

Arnold Wienholt, Hunter, Soldier, Scout and Politician

[By CLEM LACK, B.A., Dip.Jour., F.R.Hist.S.Q.,
Vice-President, Royal Historical Society of Queensland]

(Given at a Meeting of the Society, Newstead House,
on 24 April 1969)

DAWN breaks with the roll of thunder in the wild border country of Abyssinia, a few miles east of the squalid Sudanese town of Gallabat. The hills on the skyline are still shrouded in mist, and a keening wind sweeps across the plain. The torrential rains of the south-west monsoon have eroded and sluiced out the flat country bordering the turbid yellow spate of the Shinpa River, pitted with craters and channels through which run a thousand rivulets. The rising sun lashes the land with rods of steaming heat.

A few miles away the Italian outpost of Mutabia sleeps uneasily. There is no sign of movement anywhere. Even the birds are silent. But in a small clearing in one of the ravines near the river, wooded with gnarled and stunted gum trees, clumps of mimosa, and dense thickets of thorny acacia, there are stirrings of life. A lean bearded figure throws aside his ground sheet, glances at his wristlet watch, and utters a low, sharp command. Recumbent figures alongside a dying fire spring instantly to their feet, and snap to attention. There are eight of them, woolly headed, bare-footed Sudanese soldiers, their legs swathed in British Army issue puttees. A corporal stirs up the fire, and places a coffee pot among the embers; the others swiftly busy themselves packing supplies and camp equipment which they load on the backs of two tethered mules. Nearby stand tripods of Enfield rifles. The askaris tighten up the loads and the officer sips a mug of black coffee. The fire is doused; all is ready for departure.

AMBUSHED!

Suddenly an irregular crackling fusillade breaks out from the underbrush surrounding the camp and sweeps the clearing with enfilading fire. One of the Sudanese askaris coughs chokingly and falls prone. His companions stare wildly

around, seeking a glimpse of the concealed enemy. They run for the stacked rifles; there is another ragged burst and four more soldiers fall riddled with bullets. . . . The rest of them flee blindly into the scrub. The officer has drawn his revolver from his holster, but he can see no target. As he turns to seek safety in flight, a bullet strikes him in the side. The impact rocks him on his feet, but he recovers in an instant and stumbles through the tall elephant grass on the rim of the clearing, running for the shelter of the bush. One of the fleeing askaris, looking back, gets a last glimpse of his officer as he staggers through the bush with his right hand pressed to his side . . .



ARNOLD WIENHOLT.

HIS LAST DAY OF LIFE

It was the morning of 10 September 1941, the last day of Captain Arnold Wienholt's life. For most of his years he had lived a life of peril and adventure that falls to the lot of few men. He was almost sixty-three years old, but years of a Spartan life in the outdoors, the open plain and the wilderness, had given him the muscular strength and the iron constitution of an athletic man of half his years. But his lean body and ramrod figure, with not an ounce of

superfluous flesh, the tireless energy which had kept him up with the fleetest of African Bushmen in following the spoor of lion, leopard and antelope, was not proof against the bullets of Mussolini's soldiers striking from ambush. Twice in his lifetime he had fought against the Italian dictator for his personal friend, Haile Selassie, the Lion of Judah, heir of the Queen of Sheba and the mythical kingdom of Prester John.

[Prester John was the name given in the Middle Ages to a supposed Christian king and priest (the name "prester" means "priest") of great power and splendour. Otto, Bishop of Freisingen, makes him conquer the Medes and Persians in a great battle, and attempt to reach Jerusalem. About 1165 A.D. a letter from "Presbyter Joannes" to Manuel, Emperor of the East, was circulated throughout Europe. Of this letter, nearly one hundred MSS. exist. In 1177, an epistle seems to have been written by Pope Alexander III from Venice to "John the Illustrious and Magnificent King of the Indies," regarding the establishment of a church and altar at Jerusalem. Gibbon and other writers make the subject of the first of these letters Gur Khan, the king of Khitai, or Cathay, who, however, was probably not a Christian: while the great Mongol conqueror, Genghis Khan, has been identified with later bearers of the name. Prester John's realm was at first supposed to be in Central Asia, but from the fourteenth century onwards, it was placed in Africa, and he becomes thus almost certainly identical with the king of Abyssinia, who was a Christian. Prester John is referred to in many mediaeval travellers' tales. A kinsman who took the same name is said to have been slain by Genghis Khan.]

This Eton-educated Australian was a man of restless energy, a dedicated patriot, idealist, and romantic adventurer. He belonged in spirit to the nineteenth century of Kiplingese Imperialism — to "the dusty parade grounds of the outposts of Empire," the "white man's burden," the gust of trumpets and the lilies of brass, sounding a fanfare for the heroic cause, the succour of the weak from the oppression of "lesser breeds without the law." In this spare figure, who strode through life as if to a knightly encounter on some day of mailed pride between the Douglas and the Percy, was an ardent poetic soul who considered life well lived if the splendour of achievement bloomed for one day at the summit.

He was a member of a notable and wealthy Queensland pastoral family that traced its roots back to the Austrian

landed aristocracy of the early seventeenth century, and was then transplanted to a castle in the Welsh marches in 1675¹.

ANCIENT LINEAGE

If proud and ancient lineage plays any part in the shaping of character on the stage of human destiny — and I believe it certainly does — it could have had a profound influence on Arnold Wienholt's life.

In the late seventeenth century one Daniel Wienholt — the Christian name was probably Anglicised — had left his native Austria and journeyed to England, of which country he became a subject in 1675. Settling first in London, the Wienholts afterwards removed to Berkshire and eventually established their family seat in South Wales at Llaugharne Castle, Carmarthenshire.

A descendant of Daniel Wienholt, John Birkett Wienholt, was a landed proprietor in South Wales and became a leading London merchant. His brother, Daniel Wienholt, fought in the naval battles of the Napoleonic Wars and is recorded as having been lost in H.M. frigate "Lutine"² off the coast of Holland on the night of October 9 1798. A tablet to his memory is erected in Westerland Church, in the Isle of Sylt, one of the Friesian Islands off the western coast of Schleswig-Holstein.

John Birkett Wienholt had seven sons, four of whom settled in Australia — Arnold (uncle of Captain Arnold Wienholt), who came to Australia in the late forties, settling at Maryvale Station on the Darling Downs, and died a bachelor; Edward (father of Captain Arnold Wienholt), who had three sons — Arnold, Edward Arthur, and William Humphrey Merrick, and three daughters; Arthur, who had two sons, Daniel and Frederick Edward, and six daughters; and Daniel, who emigrated to Australia in the middle fifties and went into business at Ipswich. One son, John Daniel, was living in retirement in Brisbane in 1921.

John Burkitt Wienholt died at Llaugharne Castle in 1851. Arnold's success at Maryvale, one of Queensland's most historic stations, so impressed his brothers in England that two of them came out to join him in 1853, and subsequently the two younger Wienholts, Edward and Arthur, took up Crown lands at Moogerah, which afterwards was incorporated with Fassifern Station.

THE WIENHOLT CLAN

The Wienholts were a numerous clan that created a barony of beef and wool in the spacious days when Queensland

cattle and sheep stations were bigger than English counties. One of the three sons of Edward Wienholt, Arnold Wienholt distinguished himself in many fields. Not only was he a man of wealth and culture. He was also an accomplished horseman who broke in his own mounts — blood horses bred at his famous stud at Washpool, Kalbar, in the Fassifern Valley district of Queensland; and a skilled lightweight amateur boxer as well. He fought in four of this century's wars—in South Africa as a trooper in the Boer War, and as a special intelligence scout in both World Wars. At intervals he sat and spoke in the Federal and State Parliaments of Queensland as an Independent, but he found his greatest sport and relaxation on perilous safaris in Africa, hunting lions and leopards in the jungles of Kenya and the Sand Forests of the Kalahari, living with a primitive tribe of Bushmen for months at a time.

LIKE RIDER HAGGARD'S HERO

There was nothing in Wienholt's personal appearance to suggest the adventurer and the secret agent. He was a trim, precise, bearded man of average height, with military bearing and a quick, light, almost mincing step. He was courtly in manner, but aloof and detached, and seldom smiled. Many admired and respected him, but he had few friends as Australian mateship is understood. His calm exterior gave no hint of the banked fires within.

With a beret on his head, he could have passed for an artist from some atelier in Montmartre—he was the antithesis of the popular conception of a politician. But anyone who has read the African romances of Rider Haggard, featuring his hero Alan Quartermain, and seen the wash drawings of the slight figure in the Norfolk jacket with the short Vandyck beard, the hunter-adventurer, followed everywhere by his devoted Zulu retainer Umslopogaas, will know what Wienholt looked like. He was Alan Quartermain in the flesh—even to the Norfolk jacket which he habitually wore, and the short, neatly trimmed beard. That was the irresistible impression he made on people both in Queensland and in Africa.

At the Queensland Supreme Court on October 14 1941, when Mr. Justice, later Chief Justice, and now the Governor of Queensland, Sir Alan Mansfield, granted Wienholt's widow leave to swear her husband's death, a letter was produced from a Mrs. Stewart, of Khartoum, testifying to this extraordinary real-life likeness to the imaginary hero of a romantic novelist of the Victorian age. Mrs. Stewart

wrote that she knew several of the officers working with Wienholt and “they all adored him; he was nick-named ‘Alan Quartermain’ and he would sit for hours around the camp fire telling them tales of his adventures in Africa.”

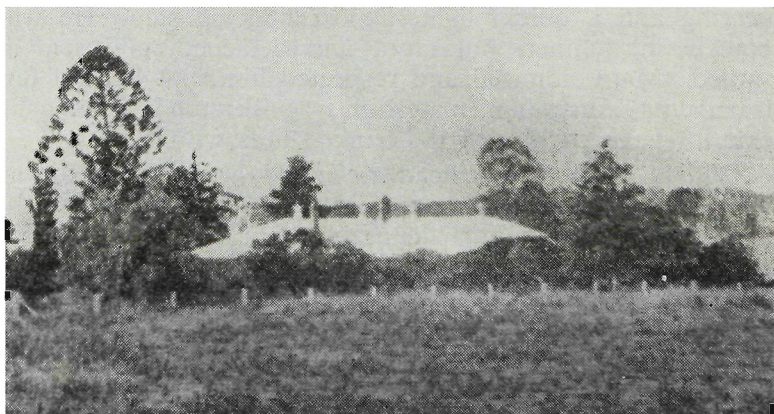
HISTORIC FASSIFERN

Captain Arnold Wienholt’s home — when he was at home — was at Washpool Farm, Kalbar, in the historic Fassifern district of Queensland. The open country of the Fassifern Valley had been taken up in the 1840’s by sheep and cattle squatters.

Arnold Wienholt was born in November 1877 at another historic old station, Goomburra, on the Darling Downs.

Edward Wienholt, father of Arnold, and his brother Arnold, operating as Wienholt Estates, obtained the lease of Fassifern Station in the early sixties.

In 1848 John Cameron took up the Fassifern run, a 24,000-acre spread, in partnership with Robert Coulson. John Kent succeeded them as holder of the Fassifern run and went into partnership with the Wienholt brothers. It



The old Fassifern Homestead, built in 1897. The original building was destroyed by fire.

remained a leasehold of the Wienholt Estates until, on the expiration of the lease in 1907, it was opened up for closer settlement by the Queensland Government.

PASTORAL DYNASTY

The Wienholts established one of the most powerful pastoral dynasties of Queensland. During the fifties the Wienholt family purchased Blythedale, on the Maranoa

River, which they disposed of subsequently. Their acquisition of landed property included Fassifern, Rosalie Plains, Goomburra (part of the original Toolburra holding of Patrick Leslie), and Jondaryan, on the Darling Downs; Degilbo, on the Burnett; and, when the Mitchell and western districts were opened up in the early seventies, Saltern Creek, Katandra, and Warendra — enormous leasehold properties upon which they spent large sums of money in costly improvements. In addition, at one period they owned Mount Hutton, on the Upper Dawson, and the agricultural estates of Rosewood and Tarampa.

The Wienholts also took up the Widgee cattle run in the sixties. Gold was discovered by James Nash in a gully on part of the old Widgee station in October 1867, within one hundred yards of the site of the present Town Hall in Mary Street, Gympie. "Nash's Gully" became famous as a "bonanza" equal to any "strike" in California.

A FORCEFUL PERSONALITY

Of the old Fassifern station, Fassifern Homestead and Washpool Farm remain. Edward Wienholt's brother Arnold — the uncle of the subject of this paper — seems to have been a forceful personality, like so many of the early pastoralists. These squatter-adventurers, who carved out for themselves huge pastoral baronies bigger than English counties, lived hard and were men of consuming energy and drive. Like Brian Penton's Derek ("Rusty-Guts") Cabell, the hero of his novel, *Landtakers*, they were hard fighters, hard riders, and hard drinkers.

Ipswich in the fifties and sixties was the headquarters of the Darling Downs, Burnett, Brisbane Valley and Fassifern Valley squatters and their rambunctious sons. It was one of these characters who, on a visit to Brisbane, then a sprawling frontier town, rode his horse into the Sovereign Hotel in Queen Street, through the doorway into the dining room, jumped his mount over the dining table and the heads of the startled guests, cracked his head on one of the low rafters and fell stunned among the plates of greasy stew, boiled mutton, and mashed pumpkin.

When they rode like centaurs into Ipswich, the squatters' capital of those days, they would put up at the Australian Club. One day twelve wool teamsters challenged twelve muscular squatter-members of the Club to a bare-knuckle, knock-'em-down-and-drag-'em-out fight. No gladiators in the ancient Roman arena ever received greater plaudits or had a more enthusiastic audience. In the gory battle, the

squatters routed the teamsters — and revived the comatose bodies with gallons of beer — both internally and externally.

“HEAVYWEIGHTS” OF PIONEER DAYS

Nehemiah Bartley, an eccentric, garrulous chronicler of early Moreton Bay, mentions some of the “heavyweights” of those days — Dr. Dorsey, of Grantham, William Turner, of Helidon, John Deuchar, of Glengallan, and Sandy McDonald, who mowed down the great Black Perry in a rough-and-tumble with no holds barred. “Any crowd who tackled a batch of early Moreton Bay squatters had their work cut out for them.”

John Deuchar was a notable Downs personality. When Patrick Leslie lived at Goomburra, which had been part of the Old Talgai station, and which he purchased on the death of Ernest Elphinstone Dalrymple, John Deuchar, afterwards manager at Rosenthal, was Leslie’s cattle overseer. He later owned Glengallan. Deuchar was an enthusiastic breeder of good stock, and a lover of horses. He brought to Rosenthal from the Maitland district, the stallion Grey Arab. This horse sired some of the finest jumpers and fastest horses on the Downs. They included Whalebone, which won the principal steeplechase in Brisbane’s early days; Jemmy Paterson, which won the Warwick Town Plate in 1855, ridden by John Deuchar himself; Tom Brown, which won the Maiden Plate in the same year; and Jingler, the famous lady’s hack by Grey Arab, which carried Mrs. Deuchar over the Range from Fassifern. Trotting Billy, champion trotter of the Downs, was also his. He did the journey from Rosenthal to the boiling-down works at Warrell, two miles beyond Ipswich, in one day. Deuchar also introduced Omar Pasha, one of the first Clydesdale stallions on the Downs.

A GREAT HORSEMAN

John Deuchar was a man of fourteen stone, of iron constitution, and he never spared himself. He had to do all his inspection journeys on horseback, including two annually from Rosenthal to Sydney. Although he was a good horse-master, he was hard on horses. There came a time when he had to make a special business journey, and speed was necessary. He rode to Maitland and back in six days on Billy, allowing himself a day in Maitland. The actual travelling time was, therefore, five days, and as the distance is approximately five hundred miles, the achievement must stand as one of the greatest ever accomplished by horse

and man, involving as it did the crossing of three considerable mountain ranges. Billy was grass-fed.

Deuchar imported stud bulls from England. He also had a fine stud of Merinos, and was the first man to start systematic stud-breeding in Queensland. He built, at a cost of £12,000, a magnificent two-storied stone mansion in the style of the great homes of the cotton planters in Virginia and Georgia in the pre-Civil War days of the American South. Railings, balustrades, spiral staircase, doors, and all internal fittings and furnishings were imported from England.

CHALLENGE TO DUEL

Arnold Wienholt, uncle of Captain Wienholt, in 1861 had an argument in the Australian Club with Lieutenant Seymour³, of the 12th Regiment⁴, from Brisbane. Angry words resulted in a challenge by the "redcoat" to a duel. Wienholt accepted the challenge and elected to fight with swords — as the challenged he had the choice of weapons, although Seymour wanted pistols. In the absence of lethal weapons, the belligerents were about to resort to fists when they were separated by their friends. A duel on orthodox lines was arranged to take place in Brisbane during the following week.

But Governor Bowen took a dim view of duelling, and prompt action was taken to nip the "affair of honour" in the bud. The police magistrate at Ipswich warned the authorities in Brisbane of the impending duel, and forwarded with his letter a warrant for the arrest of the parties if they persisted in disturbing "the peace of Our Sovereign Lady the Queen."

The would-be contestants were quietly tipped off and, much to the disappointment of an enterprising young reporter on the "Moreton Bay Courier," the duel did not take place.

MADE HOME AT WASHPOOL

Arnold Wienholt made his home at Washpool, where the Boonah and Kalbar roads merge into the Warwick highway. Washpool Homestead, a part of old Fassifern station, which was used as a horse-breeding stud farm for many years by the Wienholts, was acquired by Wienholt when the lease of the Wienholt Estates expired in 1909.

Washpool derived its name from the pool on the station where the sheep were washed before shearing with the old-type hand shears. The sheep that comprised the flocks in the early days were not the highly developed dense-woolled Merinos of today, cutting ten to twelve pounds of wool. The

lightly-woolled sheep of the early pastoralists, which carried little more than five pounds annually, had been descended from various British breeds.

FIRST SHEEP ON FASSIFERN

The first sheep on Fassifern were brought there by Cameron and Coulson, who had previously been at Maryvale, on the Darling Downs.

Maryvale, another historic Downs station, was first occupied by Cameron and Coulson in the early 'forties. They made their first camp on the eastern bank of Millar's Creek, close to its junction with Glengallan Creek. Here they had their first shearing; the wool was despatched to the coast through Spicer's Gap. As it was an impossible track for laden teams, the wool was transported over the range on slides, and reloaded at the bottom of the eastern side. Later, Maryvale passed into the hands of James Hay, and eventually was purchased by Arnold Wienholt, uncle of Captain Arnold Wienholt. For many years it carried large flocks of sheep, and also developed a fine Clydesdale draught stud. In 1908 Maryvale was cut up into farms and sold.

Frustrated by the problem of transporting their first wool clip down the steep Cunningham's Gap on sleds, they brought over their first flocks to Fassifern at the end of 1842. The type of sheep stocked was the cross tried out by the Gammie brothers and Fred Bracker on the Darling Downs. John Gammie had imported from Germany a splendid Merino ram known as "German Billy." This strain was crossed with that of a Spanish Merino ram, "Camden Billy." Spear-grass infestation and the hordes of kangaroos and wallabies, which made fodder scarce, thinned down the flocks. Cattle herds were also ousting sheep. The great drought of 1877 decimated the flocks at Fassifern and sheep were gradually discarded in favour of cattle.

HORSE-BREEDING CENTRE

Washpool became famous through the years as a horse-breeding centre. Some celebrated trotting horses came from there, but Fassifern station was chiefly noted for the breeding of draught horses. The A.W 1 brand became well-known in Queensland and inter-State. Nicholas Corcoran, of Moogerah, who was a groom at Wienholt's station, later carried on draught horse-breeding with such noted sires as Master Lyon and Crystal Star. Arnold Wienholt gave a great impetus to the breeding of blood horses by importing

for use at Washpool Farm sires like Borghese, Kilwinning, Thor, Kerman, Sailing Home, Tinspear, and Palfresco.

When sheep were displaced by cattle on Fassifern, most of the cattle were ranged on Moogerah and Tarome stations, leased by the Wienholts. Old Tarome, with a spread of 20,480 acres, was first taken up in August 1849. Tarome is dotted with the unknown graves of shepherds and station hands; some died from illness, others were massacred by the aborigines. The name Moogerah has been given to a 73,000 acre feet storage dam on Reynolds Creek, which serves 11,000 acres of the Fassifern Valley farming district.

RACED HORSES DOWN RANGE AT NIGHT

The Wienholts used Moogerah as a run for their blood mares. It is recorded in the local history of the Fassifern district, one of the oldest and most romantic in Queensland, that Bill Neal, who rejoiced in the sobriquet of "Moogerah Bill," used to test the Wienholt stock horses by racing them down the range at night, while Arnold Wienholt, uncle of Captain Wienholt, would test their mettle further by racing them up again. Captain Wienholt inherited the family tradition of horse-training and horsemanship.

A noted manager of Fassifern was the late E. O. W. Hill, whose younger son, Cedric Hill, was an officer of the Royal Flying Corps in the First World War, and was the first airman to loop the loop between the Pyramids in Egypt. He also saw distinguished service as an officer of the Royal Air Force in the Second World War. Many will remember his book, "The Road to Endor," in which he relates some remarkable experiences when he was a prisoner-of-war of the Turks during the First World War.

Pressley Hill, the elder son of E. O. Hill, was the last manager of Fassifern.

AFRICA HIS SPIRITUAL HOME

But Africa was Wienholt's spiritual home. The veldt and the jungle drew him constantly throughout his life as a magnet draws steel filings.

Young Wienholt was sent by his father to Eton to be educated. On his return from England, he managed Widgee Station for some years and subsequently took over the management of Fassifern.

He made his first acquaintance with Africa during the Boer War. When "Oom" Paul Kruger's rebellion broke out he was managing Fassifern station.

[Stephanus Johannes Paulus Kruger, Boer politician

(1825-1904), was a leader in the revolt of 1880 against British annexation, and was the active spirit of the provisional government during the war of 1880-81. In 1883 he was elected President, an office he still held when difficulties arose between Great Britain and the Transvaal in 1899. Stubbornly hostile to any concessions of any kind, he must bear some of the responsibility for the war that followed. In 1900, he went to the Netherlands, but he was in Switzerland when he died on 14 July 1904. Kruger combined a hard and narrow religious creed with much political subtlety.]

The news of the Black Week, when the Boers, almost entirely unmounted troops, with much superior artillery bought from Germany, and armed with Mannlicher and Mauser rifles, with which they were expert marksmen, decisively defeated frontal attacks by British armies at Colenso, the Modder River, and Stormberg, caused thousands of Australians to enlist in light horse regiments. Wienholt was one of them; he joined the Fourth Queensland Imperial Bushmen's contingent as a trooper.

EQUIPPED COMPANY OF LIGHT HORSE

Characteristically, he refused a commission, but equipped a company of light horse at his own expense. He held non-commissioned rank and fought throughout the war until Piet Cronje's surrender at Paardeberg.

[Piet Arnoldus Cronje (1840-1911), a Boer farmer in the Transvaal, was in command of a detachment of Boers in the war against the British in 1881, and won reputation as a soldier. He was in charge of the force sent against the Jameson raiders in 1896, and was chosen to command one division of the Transvaal forces when war broke out in 1899. He led them at the Modder and at Paardeberg, where he surrendered. He was in St. Helena until 1902, and then went to the United States, but he died in South Africa on 4 February 1911.]

Wienholt excelled in scouting and led many successful raiding parties into the Boer lines, bringing back prisoners and useful information on enemy movements. For his services in the Bushmen's Contingent he was awarded the Queen's Medal with clasps.

At the close of the war, Wienholt, then twenty-five years old, returned to pastoral work on the Wienholt Estates.

In 1908, after a visit to England, he took over the management of the various Wienholt properties. A year later he succeeded Charles Moffat Jenkinson as member of the

Legislative Assembly for the Fassifern constituency, but he resigned in 1913 to contest the Federal seat of Wide Bay against Andrew Fisher, who was then Prime Minister. Wienholt polled well against his redoubtable and popular opponent.

POLITICS A FAMILY TRADITION

In entering politics, Arnold Wienholt had followed a family tradition. Both his father, Edward Wienholt, and his uncle, Arnold Wienholt, had been members of the Queensland Legislature. Arnold Wienholt had represented the Warwick electorate in 1863 during the troubled first years of the new Colony of Queensland, when the Herbert Ministry was in power, and his father, Edward Wienholt, was member for the Western Downs constituency in 1870. For the last twenty years of his life, Edward Wienholt lived in England. He had married a daughter of Daniel Williams, a Queensland pastoralist who had been a railway contractor in the early days of the Colony.

Of Edward Wienholt's three sons and three daughters, Arnold was the eldest son. Captain Edwin Arthur Wienholt, of the King's Dragoon Guards, was the second son. He was on active service in France and Flanders for three years during the First World War. The third son was Lieutenant-Colonel William Humphrey Merrick Wienholt, D.S.O., who was on active service in France for three years, eventually assuming command of an English county regiment. He was awarded the D.S.O. in 1917 and subsequently received a bar to this decoration. He was twice wounded and several times mentioned in despatches.

Of the two sons of Arthur Wienholt, the younger was Major Frederick Edward Wienholt, who was born at Blythedale on February 20 1866. He was manager of Warena Station, in the North Gregory district, and remained in the Far West of Queensland for seventeen years. When the First World War broke out, he was on a pastoral property in Rhodesia. He enlisted in London in the Army Service Corps.

GOOD AMATEUR BOXER

Wienholt was a good amateur boxer. C. A. Bernays, in his book, "Queensland—Our Seventh Political Decade (1920-1930)," records that William Bertram, who was Speaker of the Queensland Parliament from 1920 to 1929, won the amateur middleweight boxing championship of Queensland in 1890 and 1900, "but that was before he became soft through sitting on soft cushions."

“Early in his Parliamentary career,” says Bernays, “Bertram used to go up on the Hansard flat and box with Arnold Wienholt, the African lion-slayer and member for Fassifern.

“At that time Billy — who had been a grocer’s assistant before he entered politics — was a little bit harder than grocer’s cheese, but not much, and Arnold marked him more than once.”

Over the years, Wienholt made periodical visits to Africa, where he acquired an international reputation as a big game hunter. Trophies of these long safari treks decorated the walls of the homestead at Washpool. Lion hunting was to him the greatest of all sports.

In the Angola Never Never country, Wienholt got to know the Maquengo bushman, a primitive man, as a hunting companion. If there existed, he said, celestial Happy Hunting Grounds for old departed hunters, they would lose — for one of them, at least — all their charm, were there not also in the Elysian sand-forests little shadowy bushmen to again tread lightly along some shadowy spoor.

Wienholt could talk Sequengo, the language of the Maquengo bushmen, a primitive little race, 20,000 years behind civilisation. The bushmen used poison to kill zebra and all kinds of buck. No one but a bushman, he said, could creep up close enough to shoot game with a bow and arrow, and even if they were successful in doing this, they might have several days’ tracking before the wounded beast was finally slain.

TIRELESS HUNTERS

The Maquengo were tireless walkers. Their feet and their hands were very small and beautifully made. They were wonderful runners, with great staying power: in favourable circumstances, Wienholt testified that they could run down the giraffe and the eland (deer).⁵ The giraffe was run down in the height of the rainy season, when the harder soil on the flats became wet and boggy, and when storms were falling daily, for the giraffe, like his cousin the camel, is very awkward on slippery or boggy ground.

The Maquengo hunters started their quarry about 9 or 10 in the morning, and might finally get up to the giraffe and spear it late in the afternoon. These “red wolves” on two feet kept calling whilst running on the giraffe’s track, and as the chase progressed they were joined by other killer parties of bushmen, who were scattered, and being thus drawn into the hunt were able to relieve the early

hunters. When hard-pressed, the giraffe would try to circle back to his favourite beat. When dead beat, the great animal would be speared to death by the panting and exhausted but exulting little savages.

Running down an eland was a much harder hunt than running down a giraffe, because this occurs in hot, dry weather when there is very little water anywhere, except in the native wells and sandpits. Wienholt commented:

“The fact of human beings being able to run down on foot such big and fleet animals helps to explain the great collection of bones of wild horses and other game left by the old European primitive races, in proximity to their caves and homes.”

LIONS ROAMED COUNTRY

Wienholt described in detail his experiences and adventures with the Maquengo bushmen of the Kalahari Desert, with whom he lived and hunted for several weeks. Lions roamed this country. He recorded that they were big, well-maned fellows, although with the buck, they were nothing like so numerous as he had found them in such regions as the Athi plains of Kenya, the Masai steppes of Tanganyika, and parts of northern Mozambique. He differed, as he records, from “the sloppy sentiment that would make lions just nice tame animals only to be photographed from a motor car.” His experience was that a lion, always formidable, could become, especially at night, a very dangerous beast. Every lion — and leopard, too — was at least a potential man-eater. Once, in northern Mozambique, he travelled during three days through a fertile district of recently-deserted villages whose inhabitants had been forced to abandon their homes and seek new habitations because of man-eating lions. He had never found natives otherwise than very pleased when hunters had shot a lion or lions in their locality. If one had travelled, as he had, for a fortnight in Central Africa through bad lion country, and had to camp during terrific nightly thunderstorms (when lions were apt to be bolder than usual), without arms of any kind, and without matches to make a fire, even if a fire could be started, the point of view of the native could be better appreciated.

“CLOTHED WITH THUNDER”

Wienholt wrote: “Walk up to a lion on foot in broken bush country — alone as regards any other white man — and you need apologise to no armchair critics for having

delighted in the very king of sports." He admired the foe he hunted, and gloried in its strength and majesty.

"The power of a large wild lion in his prime is really immense," said Wienholt. "One of these animals, standing with head erect, is a noble sight. It is not the Arabian stallion only whose neck is clothed with thunder!"

All Central African natives firmly believe that a man-eating lion or leopard is the spirit of some departed person. Wienholt remarked that it was curious how strongly and widely this werewolf idea⁶ was held by natives in Africa.

Wienholt hunted lions on the Athi plains of Kenya, the Masai steppes of Tanganyika, in the Sand Forest of the Kalahari, the Never Never country of Angola (Portuguese West Africa), in Northern Mozambique, and other parts of the African continent.



Wienholt with his favourite Bushman boy trackers, Gondoo and Googwe. He wrote: "These little fellows are highly intelligent, trustworthy, happy, very plucky, and in every way delightful and well-behaved companions."

HUNTED IN "SAND FOREST"

The first of these trips was in August 1913, when he spent twelve months in Angola. In the extreme south-east of Angola was a sort of No Man's Land, bounded by the Cuando or Marshi River, on the east; by the Okavango and its spring-fed tributary, the Quito River, on the west; and by the Luyanna and its tributary, the Lumuno, on the north. This area was regarded as the northern head of the great Kalahari Desert,⁷ but Wienholt preferred to call it the Sand Forest. He first entered this district in January 1914. He had travelled without any white companions — alone except for his native servants — from the west coast of Africa, all through the Ovamboland country of what was then German South-West Africa. Crossing the Okavango into Portuguese territory (Angola) near Kuanga, his little expedition ran down that river to Libebe, where they turned eastward into the dry area.

ATTACKED BY LION

Whilst lion-hunting there — always Wienholt's objective — shortly before the outbreak of the First World War, he was charged by a lion he had wounded and was badly mauled. His right wrist was broken and he suffered numerous fang and claw gashes on his arms and chest. Thereafter, he was known by the natives as *Sirumatauw* (The Man Whom The Lion Bit).

Wienholt was laid up for several weeks, but when he was able to sit his mule, he made his way back to civilisation and medical attention via the Zambezi into Livingstone, on the Northern Rhodesian railway. He emerged from the African wilderness to learn that Britain and the Dominions were at war with Germany and Austria. He promptly interviewed General Smuts and proposed the bold plan of an attack on German South-West Africa by a small expeditionary force which he offered to organise. Smuts was not impressed, and nothing came of the proposal. Undeterred, Wienholt waited on the doorstep of the Governor of Angola and offered to raise a contingent of mounted men from Rhodesia to help the Portuguese to repel the invasion of German forces he believed was imminent. He was again rebuffed, the Governor explaining that he was not authorised to accept outside volunteers.

INTELLIGENCE SCOUT

Wienholt then returned to Australia with the intention of enlisting in the A.I.F., but his right arm, despite treat-

ment, had become almost crippled as a result of his encounter with the lion, and he was rejected for active service. He came back to Africa determined to take an active part in the jungle war. This time his persistence was rewarded. At Salisbury, Rhodesia, he was appointed an intelligence scout. He gave splendid service throughout the campaigns in German South-West Africa⁸ and Angola. After the capitulation of the German forces in South-West Africa, Wienholt took part in the campaign against the Boer rebels and the German Camel Corps, winning his captain's commission as an intelligence officer for the Imperial Forces in East Africa. The wild nature of the terrain in which the campaign was fought was well suited to Wienholt's talents. It was the type of country he had always hunted in.

"DARING PATROLS"

There are on record in Count Lettow von Vorbeck's history of this strenuous campaign references to "Wienholt's extended and daring patrols." Vorbeck's tribute was that of a highly skilled captain of war. The white German troops and native askaris under von Vorbeck's command were weak in numbers, but handled with masterly skill and with all the advantages of an equatorial climate, a vast and trackless region — mountainous in parts and covered with dense bush and forest — to assist them in impeding the invader. The net was gradually drawn closer, confining Vorbeck to the south-east quarter of the Colony. He avoided envelopment in the end, slipping across the frontier into Portuguese Africa. There he maintained a guerilla campaign throughout 1918 until the general armistice. With an original force of only 5,000, five per cent being Europeans, he had caused the employment of 130,000 enemy troops and the expenditure of £72 million!

A PERFECTIONIST

Wienholt was thorough in everything he did. He was a perfectionist. He had made a special study of scouting, both in practice and from the pages of ancient and modern history. Reminiscent of Confederate General T. J. ("Stone-wall") Jackson in the American Civil War, who carried in his saddle-bags a book of Napoleon's Maxims, Wienholt always carried well-thumbed treatises and histories on military strategy, tactics, espionage, and scouting. Whenever he rested, he would pull out a book and read what earlier masters of the art of war had done — from the campaigns of the great Carthaginian General Hannibal and Roman

General Scipio Africanus to those of Marlborough and Napoleon, and the tacticians of the nineteenth century. He had closely studied, from actual observation and experience, the methods of the Boer scouts, and he had paid particular attention to the work of F. C. Selous,⁹ the famous English scout, who was guide to Cecil Rhodes' pioneer column which took up Mashonaland in 1891, and who had scouted for the British Army in the Matabele Rebellion of 1896. He learnt much from the uncanny tracking skill of the African Bushmen, who could detect spoor in a misplaced leaf, a disturbed twig, and a blade of bent grass.

The methods of the aboriginal black trackers of Queensland also contributed to the lore he had stored up in his mind. He considered the Bushmen of the Kalahari as being equal in tracking to the Australian aboriginal. This was high praise indeed, for Wienholt acclaimed our aborigines as being undoubtedly the finest scouts and trackers in the world. Both these races are, in their natural state, hunters of game and gatherers of roots, grubs, honey, etc.—unlike most other native races, who are to a great extent agriculturists or stock-owners.

CAPTURED ESCAPING GERMANS

After the surrender of the German colony of South-West Africa to General Botha, a small party of Germans mounted on camels and horses tried to break through to join their countrymen in German East Africa. The little group of Rhodesian intelligence scouts on the German South-West and Angola border had to follow and prevent this. The Germans, having four clear days' start, Wienholt's party had to follow with some caution, lest they should be ambushed by the enemy, which considerably outnumbered them. It was not until the eighth day of pursuit that the scouts overhauled the enemy, whose camp was then quietly surrounded and rushed from all sides during the Germans' mid-day dinner halt, all being taken prisoner. More than twenty years later Wienholt and a patrol were fatally ambushed in exactly the same manner by Italian troops in Abyssinia.

PRISONER OF GERMANS

During one of his forays into enemy territory, Wienholt and his fellow scout, Lieutenant Lewis, with a small party of black soldiers and porters, were attacked by the enemy early one morning, and lost all their equipment and supplies when the porters bolted in panic, throwing down their

loads. They had nothing to eat all that day and the next, although they found and enjoyed a good meal of roast mealies late on the third afternoon. Wienholt was subsequently captured, and for six months he was a prisoner.

The Germans were delighted with their prize and locked him up in a foetid prison at Mangagira, on the Luwego River.

For the first time in his life, Arnold Wienholt was no longer an adventurer and an individualist, but a number. Security was such that escape seemed impossible. For six months he sweated, fretted, and fumed in the close confinement.

Then came the night of a tremendous tropical storm in January 1917. Under its cover he led three white companions through the compound, risking being shot, and into the surrounding jungle.

The escapees were fifteen days in the bush before they reached their own lines. During that time they had very little to eat. There was, however, plenty of wild fruit. What was much more unpleasant than being hungry was to hear the roaring and coughing of prowling lions nearly every night. After travelling through lion-infested country in the rainy season, Wienholt and his companions made their way back to the front via Dar-es-Salaam. For his services in the African campaigns Captain Wienholt was awarded the D.S.O. and M.C. with bar.

IN FEDERAL PARLIAMENT

Back in Queensland after the war, Wienholt was elected in 1919 to the Federal Parliament as Independent member for the Moreton seat, which he held until 1922. Then Africa again called him, and he spent the dry seasons — about seven or eight months — of the years 1923, 1925, 1927, and 1929 big game hunting, returning again and again to the Sand Forest in the Angola country of the Maquengo Bushmen. He studied their habits, customs, and language so well that he could converse freely with them in Sequengo, the language of this primitive race of little men who were 20,000 years behind white civilisation. It was a land thick with lions and leopards.

WITH THE MAQUENGO BUSHMEN

In this Angola Never Never country Wienholt got to know the Maquengo Bushman as a superb hunting companion. Many of the young Bushmen were described by him as beautiful specimens of mankind — like red bronze

Greek sculptuary, without an ounce of superfluous flesh, yet well-moulded, trained to an inch, who trod their Sand Forest with the light ease and grace of the buck they hunted. They used the poison gum of a native berry to kill zebra and all kinds of buck.

Wienholt told many real-life experiences and adventures in his books, "The Sand Forest" and "Story of a Lion Hunt." A particularly daring leopard attacked Wienholt's camp on one of his scouting campaigns near Medo, in Portuguese East Africa, seizing, mauling, and trying to drag away three of his men in one night.

One of them was his white companion, who was severely injured, but recovered in hospital. A friend and fellow scout named Sinclair, whilst on active service, was killed by a lioness near the Quito River, Portuguese West Africa. When seized by the lioness, whom he had previously wounded, Sinclair, a tall and powerful Scotsman, put up a gallant and desperate fight for life, actually killing the infuriated beast by repeated stabs with his small hunting knife. He, however, succumbed a few hours afterwards from the effects of the terrible mauling he had received.

IN QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT

Back in Queensland in 1930, Wienholt was elected unopposed to the Queensland Legislative Assembly as Independent member for Fassifern. He remained alone and aloof from the turbulent forays and vendettas of the Moore Government's brief but colourful period of office. Always fluent, he was frequently penetrating. Never dramatic or intense, he was one of the few Parliamentary speakers who could speak "off the cuff" without the aid of prepared notes, "one hand politely pointing out their crime, the other in his pocket all the time." An inveterate foe of the Loan Council, and what he described picturesquely as "its brood of creeping deficits," he tracked them down relentlessly through the jungle of Australian politics with the same quiet zest with which he had so many times hunted a pride of lions or a herd of elephants in Africa—occasionally attended by a single unreliable gun-bearer in the person of T. A. ("Tad") Dunlop, the garrulous Independent member for Rockhampton, who in the debacle of the McCormack Labour Government in 1929 had overthrown the veteran Cabinet Minister, Jimmy Larcombe.

GOLD PASSES A PET AVERSION

Another pet aversion of Wienholt's were the gold railway passes issued to ex-members of Parliament. During the

debate on the 1933 Budget, by which time the Forgan Smith Government was in power, he moved, by way of protest, a reduction of £1,600 in the Vote for the Legislative Assembly. Nobody on either side of the House supported him, but he called "Divide!" just the same. When the division bells rang, Government members trooped over to the Opposition benches in a body, and Wienholt crossed alone to the rear Government bench and sat in solitary state while the tellers solemnly counted heads, and the Chairman announced, rather unnecessarily: "I think the Noes have it!" Jimmy Stopford, the jovial Minister for Mines, prince of raconteurs, who bore a remarkable facial resemblance to Napoleon Bonaparte, convulsed the House with his quip: "Now you know how that lonely lion felt when you and a hundred niggers were surrounding him with rifles!"

But politics irked Wienholt: the dangers of the African jungle were more to his taste than the tame skirmishes of a wilderness of words. In 1934 he resigned his seat and when Mussolini's Italy invaded Abyssinia in 1935 he passionately championed the cause of the Abyssinians. He journeyed to Abyssinia as a war correspondent for the Brisbane *Courier-Mail*, by arrangement with Mr. R. T. Foster, then editor-in-chief, and forwarded stories from the front.

It was my pleasure to interview him for the *Courier-Mail* on his return from Abyssinia.

ORGANISED ETHIOPIAN RED CROSS UNITS

Subsequently Wienholt joined the Ethiopian Red Cross as a transport officer, operating with a field ambulance near Makale, on the northern front.

The Ethiopians fascinated Wienholt. He threw himself with dedicated enthusiasm and unwearied zeal into the gigantic and thankless task of organising the pitifully inadequate and ill-equipped Ethiopian Red Cross units, which were trying with old methods to treat the wounds of modern warfare. One of his tasks was to bandage the horrifying wounds and burns on the skins of natives who could not understand the meaning of war gases; he encouraged by exhortation and example the stretcher-bearers making their way back from the front line to the primitive hospitals, and with amazing fortitude and patience, and seemingly inexhaustible nervous energy, did his utmost to speed up the meagre trickle of surgical supplies, lint and chloroform.

He had to surmount barriers of almost inconceivable frustration, and the ignorance, inefficiency, and lordly in-

difference of primitive, half-civilised native chiefs, wearing collars and head-dresses made of the manes of lions, and their savage retainers, who comprised the bulk of the Ethiopian Army. Among these Ethiopian warriors were considerable bodies of irregular cavalry on fleet, small-boned horses, rarely more than fourteen hands high.

Many of these men were armed with ancient and wonderful jewel-hilted swords, with curved blades, forged in past centuries when the sword was still the bright shining queen of battlefields. They used these weapons for carving and skewering the gobbets of half-raw meat they ate, as well as lopping off the heads of Italians.

The infantry, apart from a handful of uniformed Ethiopian regulars equipped with modern magazine rifles, consisted of a horde of men wearing the loose togas called "shammas," and armed with ancient matchlocks and lances, some of them wearing on their left arms curiously ornamented and brass-studded rhinoceros-hide shields.

UNDER-ESTIMATED ITALIANS

Associated with Wienholt was Schuler, an Austrian doctor, and Major Burgoyne, a British officer, who assisted in organising the evacuation of wounded Ethiopian troops. Wienholt at first was confident that the shamma-clad warriors of Ethiopia would be too much for the Italian invading armies, but he woefully under-estimated the terrible weapons of modern warfare and the effect of their employment on undisciplined masses of men armed mostly with primitive weapons.

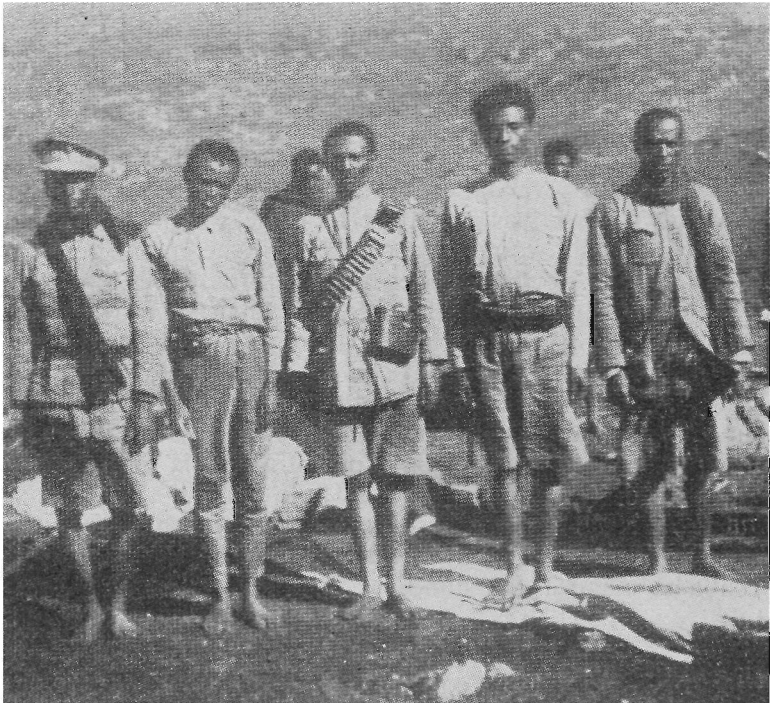
Amid the chaos of defeat and disaster he never lost heart, firm in the conviction that the day would come when the Italian invader would be swept out of Ethiopia. He was one of the very few white men with Haile Selassie's bare-footed Imperial Guard, the only disciplined and trained unit in the Ethiopian Armies, as it retreated from Dessie to Addis Ababa to make a last stand.

RETREATING HOST OF 40,000

The long, unwieldy column — a host of 40,000 — comprised all sorts and conditions of men, with thousands upon thousands of mules, packhorses, and donkeys; big chiefs, riding their fast-pacing mules, with scores of running riflemen around and behind them; smaller chiefs with smaller bodyguards; numbers of high-class women riding on mules, and accompanied by their personal escorts; neatly dressed Ethiopian officers in khaki; young boys of not more than

twelve or fourteen, often carrying modern rifles and covered with bandoliers, their sparkling eyes and grinning faces suggesting that they were on some huge exciting holiday; men of every age, up to grizzled grey-haired old veteran Ethiopian warriors, whose fathers had fought for Emperor Menelik and had cut to pieces Colonel Baratieri's Italian army at Adowa in 1896¹⁰—men who looked as if, when they were young, they might have served in Judas Maccabaeus' shock troops, or have escaped the evening before Titus stormed Jerusalem.

The Ethiopian's proudest possession was a crooked sword, which he wore on the right side, and used at meals to carve his meat. The slaying of lions was an exploit that gave a man the right proudly to adorn his head with the mane, worn like a saint's aureole.



A group of Wienholt's Ethiopian servants on the retreat from Dessie during the Italian-Ethiopian War.

ONLY TWO WHITE MEN WITH ETHIOPIANS

Wienholt and another European, a Greek, were the only two white people in that host, led by the Algorash (Crown

Prince). They caused interest and curiosity, but Wienholt never caught one black look or insulting word from any Ethiopian during the whole retreat. These Ethiopian soldiers were hungry, even starving men, retreating before their enemies, and with little cause to be friendly to any white man. The column was incessantly harassed by shiftas, Danakil guerillas, who were allies of the Italians. Brave men as the Ethiopians were, and educated and more or less trained as were some of their khaki-wearing officers, they seemed to Wienholt to lack every elementary instinct of military knowledge, and even of self-preservation. Yet in the north, armed practically only with rifles, and not even always modern ones, and disastrously handled by their arrogantly ignorant chiefs, they had for months held up the forces, both white and black, of a European power equipped with every modern weapon for the field or air. More than half-starved, and continually attacking the Italian positions — an utterly disastrous policy — it was a wonder they had held out so long. Even then, it was only the northern front that had broken, and in the south, General Nasibu, with his highly capable Turkish adviser, Wehib Pasha, were firmly holding back the invaders. Wehib Pasha told Wienholt that they could have held the Italians near Harrar for at least another six months. Nor in the other southern front had the Italians made any serious or definite gain for months. It was only the collapse of the northern forces that made further resistance on the southern front impossible.

TIME TO GET OUT

With the advance guard of the column, Wienholt reached Addis Ababa on the fifteenth day from Dessie. Italian planes were overhead daily, dropping propaganda and threats from Marshal Badoglio. Haile Selassie fled the country, and Wienholt thought it was time to get out too. He caught one of the last trains from Addis Ababa for Djibouti, and returned thence to Queensland.

But Wienholt's determination to aid the Ethiopians to regain their freedom never wavered. He considered the Ethiopians had been cruelly misled, shamefully betrayed, and basely abandoned by the League of Nations. In 1938 he made a special trip to England to protest against Britain's official recognition of Italy's conquest of Abyssinia. He had interviews with Winston Churchill, and with Emperor Haile Selassie, with both of whom he was personally acquainted.

“MISSION 101”

Upon the outbreak of the Second World War, Wienholt, rightly figuring that Mussolini, following the collapse of France, would play the role of jackal to the German eagle, saw a chance of striking a blow for Abyssinian independence. He left Australia for Aden in October 1939; he was never to see his native land again. He waited in Aden for six months, and when Italy entered the war, he flew to the Sudan. He placed his services at the disposal of the British Government and was given a captain's commission. He was one of a small number of gallant men who dedicated themselves to the task of organising and fomenting rebellion among the subject Abyssinians. Known in the files of the British War Office as "Mission 101," they secretly entered the country, and the success of their efforts is now history. For his work Wienholt was mentioned in despatches.

FLAW OF JUDGMENT?

In July 1940, Wienholt and his Sudanese patrol set out from Khartoum and entered the district east of Gallabat. For once Wienholt, who had so successfully carried out patrols against the Germans in East Africa, was caught unprepared by some fatal flaw of judgment. By a quirk of fate, more than twenty years earlier he had trapped and taken prisoner a party of German troops by similar tactics, on the border of Angola and German South-West Africa. Perhaps he under-estimated the Italian troops who garrisoned the village of Mutabia, only a few miles distant from his camp. Perhaps by a lucky chance the enemy became aware that Wienholt was in the neighbourhood, probably from a native informer. No one will ever know.

CAUGHT IN A TRAP

All that is known from the slender evidence produced is that Wienholt was caught in a trap, when a considerable force of Italians closed in on him, creeping stealthily through the underbrush around the camp on that morning of 10 September 1940. There is no doubt that Wienholt and his askaris were taken by surprise, and the surprise was so complete that it is doubtful whether they were able to fire a single shot, as no empty British ammunition was found afterwards.

A report filtered through to British headquarters at Khartoum, that Wienholt had been seen by natives staggering through the bush with his hand pressed to his side.

When Wienholt was reported missing in September, John

Hood, of H.M. Sudan Defence Force, took a patrol from Gallabat to search for traces of Wienholt and his party. Hood took with him as guide a native, Isa Abu Jiar, who had acted as servant to Wienholt. In the vicinity of Mutabia, Hood questioned natives who told him that an Italian patrol operating from Mutabia picked up Wienholt's tracks and forced the Gumz tribesmen to help them attack his camp. The attacking force comprised ten Gumz natives and eighteen Italian soldiers. The Gumz tribesmen could not say whether Wienholt was killed, as they were kept in the background until the Italians launched the attack with a fusillade of rifle fire.

SITE OF CAMP LOCATED

Hood's party located the site of Wienholt's camp a good four and a half hours' march from Mutabia, near the Shinpa River. They found a groundsheet belonging to Wienholt, a boot identified as his, and sixty-seven rounds of Italian ammunition. Isa Abu Jiar showed Hood the direction in which Wienholt ran after he had been wounded. Three hundred yards away from the camp site, in a low boggy hole, were human remains. Two of Wienholt's servants later reported that his camp was surprised while the party was loading its equipment.

Through the sacrifice of Wienholt and others like him, Haile Selassie occupied again his restored throne of Ethiopia, and the purpose for which Wienholt gave his life was fulfilled.¹¹

Wienholt's estate was estimated at £220,000, of which £125,000 was represented by pastoral properties and livestock. His widow (nee Enid Sydney Jones, whom he had married on 29 April 1919) placed Washpool at the disposal of the Salvation Army, which used the historic old home as an evacuation centre for their boy orphans in 1942 and succeeding war years when the Japanese invasion threat hung heavily over Australia; they remained there until 1944.

COMPLEX PERSONALITY

Wienholt was valiant and resolute, but with nothing of the berserker about him. His character had ambivalent qualities. He was an outwardly calm, bookish man, remote from other men, and living largely within himself. In his complex personality were fused the temperaments of poet and dreamer, and the man of restless action — the qualities of cavalier, romantic, and ascetic.

Perhaps he found at last those Elysian Sand Forests in the

Celestial Happy Hunting Grounds. There is a Norse legend that the Valkyries, the handmaidens of Odin, nine in number, those golden-maned Choosers of the Slain, winged their way back to Odin's Hall at Valhalla with the valiant who had been slain in battle.

But Arnold Wienholt would not have liked Valhalla. He would not have been at home among rowdy, mead-swilling, fighting and feasting Vikings — he who never drank anything stronger in his life than lemonade.

1. Wienholt's family is now extinct on the Continent, and has almost died out in England, although a few members of the feminine sex were still living in different parts of the United Kingdom in 1921. Mr. W. Wienholt, cousin of the late Captain Arnold Wienholt, was among the audience, with his wife, on the night the paper was given. He has presented to the Society a cooking dish used by his father, Arnold Wienholt, on his journey to Australia more than a century ago.

2. The Lutine Bell is rung at Lloyd's, a London association of underwriters, engaged in the business of insuring ships and their cargoes, on receipt of news of shipwreck or other shipping disasters. The Lutine Bell takes its name from H.M.S. "Lutine," a French warship that had been captured and put into service in the British Navy. The "Lutine" sailed from Yarmouth for Holland on 9 October 1798 with bullion and specie to the value of some £500,000. That same night she was wrecked on a sandbank in the Zuider Zee, with the loss of everyone on board save one, who died as soon as he was rescued. In 1858, some £50,000 was salvaged, and among other furnishings and articles, the "Lutine's" bell and rudder were brought back to England. The latter was made into the official chair for Lloyd's chairman, and the bell, on the secretary's desk, is rung once whenever a total wreck is reported, and twice when an overdue ship is reported. Lloyd's originated about 1688 in a coffee-house kept by Edward Lloyd, who issued "Lloyd's List" and "Lloyd's News," both giving particulars about the movement of ships. Here merchants with maritime and other interests gathered to transact business. By the middle of the eighteenth century, Lloyd's Coffee House had become the principal centre of underwriting business and of intelligence about shipping movements. In 1774 the Association, having been properly constituted, moved into the Royal Exchange. There it remained until 1928, when a fine building in Leadenhall Street was opened. The Association was incorporated in 1871.

3. David Thompson Seymour (1832-1916) was Queensland's first Commissioner of Police. He was born at Ballymore Castle, County Galway, Ireland, and reached Brisbane as a lieutenant in the 12th Regiment, the military garrison stationed there at the time of Separation. He was appointed A.D.C. to the first Governor of Queensland, Sir George Ferguson Bowen, and held that post for two years before his appointment as Acting Commissioner of Police on 1 January 1864, the date on which the Police Act of 1863 came into force. On 1 July 1864 he was appointed Commissioner. Seymour organised the police force, basically, into the body it is today. When he was appointed, the strength of the force was 150 white police and 141 native police. The northernmost police station in 1864 was at Bowen, and Roma was the station farthest west. When he retired there were 803 white police and 104 native police; the northernmost police station was north-west of Coen, on Cape York Peninsula; the westernmost at Camooweal. In 1866, during what were called the "Bread or Blood" Riots in Brisbane, unemployed navvies and other workers attempted to storm the Government Stores in William Street, Brisbane, and stoned the police, led by Seymour, when the ringleaders were arrested. At the subsequent trial, when four of the rioters were sentenced to imprisonment, Seymour was the leading witness. In 1868, Seymour visited police stations as far north as Cape River, which had a population of some 1,200 miners. In 1872, Seymour proposed that the Queensland Government should subsidise British-India steamers to bring migrants via the Red Sea and Torres Strait. His suggestion was adopted, and thereby duration of the voyage was considerably reduced. Seymour retired during June 1895 and died in London on 21 January 1916. He was twice married.

4. The 12th Regiment, the East Suffolks, were stationed in Australia from 1854 to 1861. Sir Robert Nickle (1786-1855) was appointed Commander of the Military Forces in Australia and he reached Sydney early in 1854. Later in that year he was stationed in Melbourne and had to deal with the disturbances on the goldfields at Ballarat. He arrived there just after the military forces had captured the Eureka Stockade, and by the exercise of tact and commonsense, he restored peace and dispersed the rioters.

5. The eland has largely disappeared from South Africa. Herds still roam north of the Zambesi, and other species are found further north.

6. The superstition of the werewolf was widely spread in ancient and mediaeval times, and is still widely believed, not only among primitive races, but even in some parts of Europe. The delusion of a temporary metempsychosis, or metamorphosis, whereby humans have been transformed into animals, is a commonplace of folklore in the history of the human society, and has given rise to the name of Lycanthropy. The wolf is, of course, not the only animal, although the most common in Western European folklore. The Khonds, of Orissa, in India, were reputed to have the belief that some men had the power to transform themselves into tigers, one of the man's four souls going out to animate the beast to kill the enemy of the man. An Abyssinian tribe were credited with the evil eye and the power of transforming themselves into hyenas. Werewolf warriors of peculiar ferocity occur in Scandinavian sagas.

7. The Kalahari, the "Great Thirst Land," is a wilderness of red sand and salt pans, one-tenth the size of the Sahara, and is not completely desert. It extends into the heart of Bechuanaland, from the Orange River northward to 21° S. lat., a distance of nearly 600 miles, to the Zambezi, with an average breadth of 350 miles. It is not entirely the desert that its name implies: the region is an elevated basin, 3,000 to 4,000 ft. high, with numerous depressions and bordered in most parts by a wide belt of sandy, waterless country. But the rainfall in the interior is sufficient to nourish a fair amount of vegetation. Though it has no regular running waters, the scanty rainfall gathers into pools at which its Bushmen and mongrel Bantu inhabitants can water their flocks, chiefly of hardy goats. Many parts are thickly covered with tufts of coarse grass reaching to a horse's back, and with high thorny bushes of acacia and other timber, which harbour large quantities of game.

8. German colonies in Africa were German East Africa, Damara and Great Namaqua Lands, the Cameroons, and Togoland. Agreements for partition were signed by Britain, Germany, France, and Portugal in 1890. The British-German agreement defined the boundaries of the two countries' possessions in Central and South Africa. As part of the bargain, Heligoland—which had been taken from the Danes by the British in 1807, and was formally ceded to Britain in 1814—was ceded to Germany in compensation for the recognition of the British Protectorate of Zanzibar. Heligoland became a German naval base.

9. Frederick Courtenay Selous (1851-1917), British hunter and explorer, travelled as a big game hunter and ivory trader between 1871 and 1881, and did much valuable work as a field naturalist. He acted as guide to exploring and hunting parties in Mashonaland and elsewhere, and in Matabeleland for the British South Africa Company. He fought in the Matabele Wars in 1893 and 1895, and was killed while fighting in World War I in Tanganyika. He wrote several accounts of his game hunting expeditions; his travels are described in "Twenty Years In Zambezia," and his extensive collection of trophies is in the National History Museum, London.

10. When Africa came to be divided by the chief European powers into "spheres of influence," Abyssinia was understood to fall to Italy's share as a protectorate. But the goodwill of Menelik, the Negus of Abyssinia, had not been secured by his would-be patrons. The Italians found themselves drawn into a costly war with the Abyssinian potentate. After several minor combats, an Italian army of 16,000 men, rashly led into difficult mountain country, was overwhelmed by six times their number, and routed with terrible loss of life at Adowa, 6,000 ft. above sea level, in 1896. This crushing blow took away Italy's appetite for Abyssinian conquest, until Mussolini came to power inspired by grandiose dreams of reviving the ancient Roman Empire. In 1928, Italy had signed a treaty with Abyssinia by which it was agreed that all disputes should be submitted to arbitration. Nevertheless, in 1935 Italy prepared to invade Abyssinia, Mussolini's plans to conquer the country receiving some colour of moral justification through several border disputes, notably the Wal-Wal incident of 5 December 1934. He rejected arbitration through the League of Nations, to which Abyssinia had been admitted in 1923. In October 1935 the invasion began, and Haile Selassie mobilised his available forces. The Ethiopian army was not strictly organised; it had no transport and little munitions and equipment. The war opened at Adowa on 3 October 1935 with an Italian air attack, and Adowa surrendered to the Italian forces on 7 October. The League of Nations declared Italy the aggressor, and later, 18 November, economic sanctions were enforced against Italy. Meanwhile, Ras Gugsu, one of the Abyssinian leaders, went over to the Italians. The Italian advance was conducted from the north under General De Bono (later superseded by General Badoglio), and from the south under General Graziani. Bombing and the use of poison gas were mainly responsible for overcoming the Abyssinian resistance. By 30 April 1936, the defence of the capital, Addis Ababa, was abandoned, and on May 2, the Emperor fled, being taken on a British cruiser from Djibouti to Haifa. Riots followed in the capital, Badoglio finally taking over the city on 5 May; four days later the King of Italy was proclaimed at Rome, Emperor of Abyssinia.

11. Ethiopia, or Abyssinia, is the country which the Greeks and Romans described as "Aethiopia," and the Hebrews as "Cush." The ancient kingdom of Meroe embraced the modern Nubia, Senaar, Kordofan, and Abyssinia. Syene, in the north, marked the division between Ethiopia and ancient Egypt (Ezekiel XXIX:10). The inhabitants of Ethiopia were a Hamitic race, of which the Sabaeans were the most powerful. The history of Ethiopia was closely interwoven with that of Egypt, and the two countries were not infrequently united under the rule of the same sovereign. Ethiopian archers and spearmen fought in the armies of the Pharaohs. Esarhaddon is stated in the Assyrian inscriptions to have conquered both Egypt and Ethiopia. At the time of the conquest of Egypt, Cambyses of Persia advanced against Meroe and subdued it; but the Persian rule did not take any root there, nor did the influence of the Ptolemies generally extend beyond Northern Ethiopia. Shortly before the birth of Christ, a native dynasty of females, holding the official title of Candace (Pliny), held sway in Ethiopia, and even resisted the advance of the Roman arms. One of these is the Queen mentioned in Acts VIII:27-28: "And he (Philip) arose and went: and behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet." The religion of the Abyssinians is a debased Christianity of the Monophysite sect, the national church being a branch of the Coptic, but the Gallas and other alien tribes are mostly Mohammedan, and partly pagan. Abyssinians observe many of the rites of Judaism. Indeed, some scholars have identified the Abyssinians with the Lost Tribes of Israel. The native annals of Abyssinia trace their kings from Menelik, reputedly the son of Solomon by the Queen of Sheba, but the real history begins with the kingdom of Axum; the Axumite Empire extended over Abyssinia, and attained its greatest extent and prosperity in the sixth century when it embraced Yemen, in Arabia, and possessed the command of the Red Sea. The Axumite Empire formed the outermost bulwark of Christianity. The contests in which it became involved with Mohammedanism caused its fall. During these struggles, the capital was removed from Axum to Gondar. With the sixteenth century began the irruptions of the warlike Galla tribes from the interior of the continent. The search for the kingdom of Prester John brought the Portuguese in contact with Abyssinia at the end of the fifteenth century. The tyrannical rule of Theodore, who in 1855 was crowned Negus of Abyssinia, and his imprisonment of the British consul, Captain Cameron, and other Europeans in his dominions—because of a fancied insult by Queen Victoria—resulted in an invasion in 1868 by 16,000 British troops under Lord Napier; the defeat of an Abyssinian army, and the storming of the fortress of Magdala. Theodore was found dead—he had shot himself. The invasion cost Britain nearly £9 million. In 1885, the Italians occupied Massowah but they did not succeed in establishing friendly relations with the Abyssinians.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

- Fox's History of Queensland.
 Centenary History of the Fassifern District.
 Arnold Wienholt's "The Story of a Lion Hunt" (1922); "The Work of a Scout" (1923); "The Africans' Last Stronghold" (1935); "In the Sand Forest" (1939).
 C. A. Bernays, "Queensland Politics During Sixty Years (1859-1919)"; "Queensland—Our Seventh Political Decade" (1930).
 Clem Lack, "Three Decades of Queensland Political History" (1960).
 Cilento and Lack, "Triumph in the Tropics" (1959).