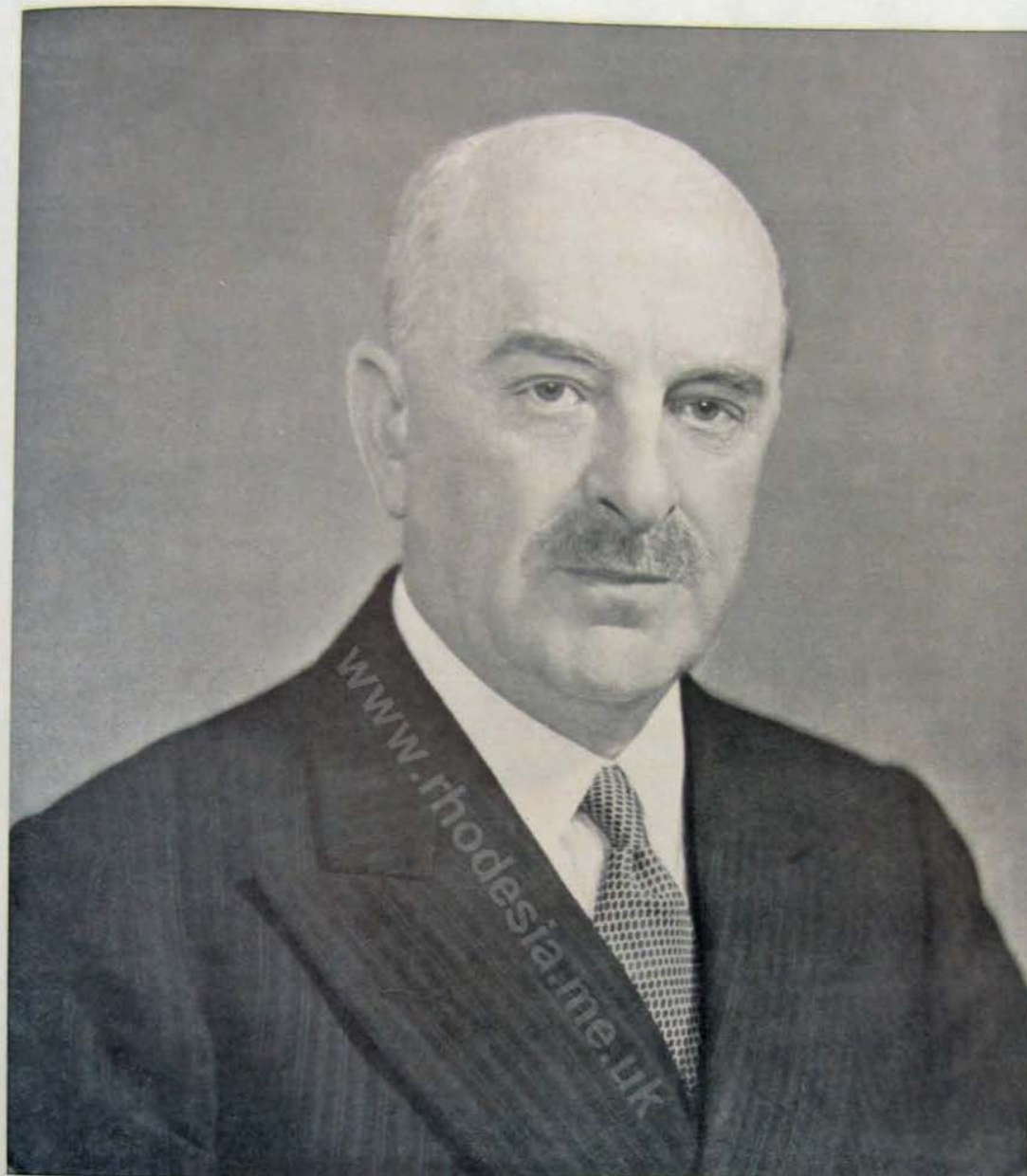


FROM SIR CECIL RODWELL, G.C.M.G.



I WRITE this message at a time of grave anxiety—not as to the final outcome of the war, for of this there can be no doubt, but for those gallant men who at sea and on land and in the air are bearing the brunt of the first murderous onslaught, and for dwellers at Home in towns and villages which, though remote from the battlefield, may at any moment be subjected to its worst terrors. There can be, I repeat, no doubt as to the outcome. One thing, however, is essential for victory. It is not enough for Britain to be mistress of the seas, or to possess an Army second to none in courage, training and equipment. She must be mistress of the air also, and thanks largely to the splendid help which is coming forward from the Dominions and Colonies she is well on the way towards air supremacy. A friend sent me recently an extract from a Rhodesian newspaper which quoted a passage from an address delivered by me seven years ago on the occasion of the fortieth anni-

versary of the Occupation of Matabeleland. I referred then to the air as being one of the fields of adventure still open to the rising generation, and I exhorted the young people among my audience to keep the spirit of adventure alive. Whatever effect my words may have had, Rhodesians have lost no time in throwing themselves into the great adventure which war has laid open to them. All lovers of Southern Rhodesia will have read with pride and satisfaction the Governor's reference, at the opening of Parliament in April, to the progress made with the Rhodesian Empire air training scheme, and to the three air squadrons which the Colony has offered to the mother country. May good fortune and success attend all Rhodesians serving the Empire both in the air and in other forces, and may 1940 prove "*annus creta notandus*" as the year not only of Southern Rhodesia's Jubilee, but of the great fight fought by her sons in the struggle of civilisation against the powers of evil.

*Ct Rodwell*