

Solved—that 'Black Cat' mystery

CARRERAS GETS £1,320,000 OFFER



ANTHONY RUPERT

A FORTY-TWO-YEAR-OLD South African—Anthony Rupert—who gave up his job as a university lecturer to go into the tobacco business—is making a £1,320,000 bid for the control of the Carreras "Black Cat" and "Barons" group.

Through princely merchant-bankers Rothschild, Mr. Rupert's Rembrandt Tobacco Corporation is offering £5 10s. a share cash for each £1 Carreras Ordinary.

And that explains the mystery of Carreras shares—which in a month have trebled in price from 30s. 6d. to 100s. last night.

Under the deal Carreras will continue to manufacture its own brands, but be "co-ordinated" with Rothmans of Pall Mall, which Mr. Rupert took over five years ago.

'Take it'

The Carreras bosses, headed by Sir Edward Baron, advise shareholders to accept the offer. As holders of more than 75% of Carreras Ordinary capital, the directors, their friends and families, will share out £1,000,000.

This man Rupert lectured in chemistry at Pretoria University for £15 a week. At 24 he struck out on his own and

formed the Rembrandt company on £10.

That was 17 years ago. Now the Rembrandt company does a £60,000,000-a-year trade in seven countries and has assets of £20,000,000.

Why Rembrandt? From his suite at a London hotel last night Mr. Rupert told us: "The name came to me in the middle of the night. I nudged my wife—'We will call our company Rembrandt,' I said.

"She told me to go back to sleep."

Paper Ploughshare

UP 5s. to 70s. went shares of paper-makers C. Townsend Hook on news of a £250,000 Ploughshare. Basis—two non-voting "A" shares for every nine Ordinary now held.