Contents

List of Maps ix

Acknowledgments xi

A Note on Currencies and Talk xv

PART ONE

1. Blood and Words: Writing History with (and about) Vampire Stories 3

2. Historicizing Rumor and Gossip 56

PART TWO

3. "Bandages on Your Mouth": The Experience of Colonial Medicine in East and Central Africa 89

4. "Why Is Petrol Red?" The Experience of Skilled and Semi-Skilled Labor in East and Central Africa 122

PART THREE

5. "A Special Danger": Gender, Property, and Blood in Nairobi, 1919–1939 151
6. “Roast Mutton Captivity”: Labor, Trade, and Catholic Missions in Colonial Northern Rhodesia 175

7. Blood, Bugs, and Archives: Debates over Sleeping-Sickness Control in Colonial Northern Rhodesia, 1931–1939 208

8. Citizenship and Censorship: Politics, Newspapers, and “a Stupefier of Several Women” in Kampala in the 1950s 242

9. Class Struggle and Cannibalism: Storytelling and History Writing on the Copperbelts of Colonial Northern Rhodesia and the Belgian Congo 269

10. Conclusions 307

Bibliography 313

Credits 345

Index 347