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Is Nigeria the exception?



A very sombre picture of the problems which characterise West Africa's 20 countries as a whole is given in the report of the World Bank for 1971-72. The report itself warns readers against the tendency to generalise about the poorer countries, each one of which has its own special problems, but nobody can dispute the generalisations which the report makes about West Africa.

The first problem the Bank report notes is the high rate of population growth, this will increase as mortality declines and is going to produce economic and social, not to mention political, consequences which, the report suggests, are not yet sufficiently recognised, although the Bank itself is doing what it can to improve demographic knowledge and promote family planning. Everybody knows how serious is the second problem the report lists, that of high unemployment and under-employment, here the report can only suggest the encouragement of regional arrangements which will allow the establishment

of industries to serve more than one country and diversification of the economies. But population growth, ranging from two to three per cent a year, is certain both to increase the labour force faster than any conceivable increase in jobs, and to distort the age structure, increasing the ratio of dependents to workers.

The next problem is acute poverty in the countryside. This is not always obvious to visitors who may feel that, in some areas at any rate rural communities are idyllic. In fact, as the report says, it is the harshness of rural life which is one of the main causes of migration from the countryside to the towns. The Bank is now helping to improve rural life by participating in schemes such as the IDA project to improve both the means of subsistence and the health of some half-a-million people in Upper Volta.

West Africa, says the report, has the highest overall rate of urban growth of any of the world's major areas. This does not mean that at present West African

cities can compare in population with London, Tokyo, Calcutta, and 70 per cent of the people still live in rural areas. But it is the rate of increase in the urban population rather than its absolute size that matters. For example, in Cameroon in 1963 only about a sixth of the people lived in urban areas; now the proportion is a quarter and within 15 years it may be two fifths. Any visitor to Lagos can testify to the serious problems which have arisen from the unplanned increase of the Federal capital's population.

Low aggregate savings, and in most cases, low rates of saving, are another feature of the West African area which the Bank notes. In many cases government savings are "negative" and current expenditure on essential public services often rises faster than the growth in production and incomes. Heavy debt payments, sometimes arising from "contractor-finance" and employment of superfluous workers in government services, intensify the problem, and tax evasion deprives the governments even of

● Niger and France ● Gabon claims island ● SLPP leaders arrested

● Studying Nigeria's war ● Joe Appiah's case

the low revenues which they can expect.

Exposure to the consequences of fluctuating prices on world markets for minerals and agricultural products also affects government revenues and capital formation. But the diversification of the economies, which is so often discussed, is inhibited both by limited natural resources and by a lack of trained people — including private entrepreneurs — to plan and execute projects. And the area's people are handicapped by debilitating diseases — the report gives particular attention to river blindness which has led to the abandonment of fertile valleys.

In all this Nigeria, with half the population of these 20 countries and half the area, stands out as an exception. Her size gives her a domestic market which enables her to use the economies of scale now necessary for viable industry. She has harbours which, properly managed, can cope with her trade; and, although, heavily dependent on world markets she has an enviable diversity of exports. Above all, obviously, with Gabon, she is a major oil producer and, as the annual report of the International Monetary Fund has pointed out, it is only the oil producers who manage to escape the balance of payments problem which bedevils African countries. The World Bank report does not mention the balance of payments deficits of West African countries, presumably because this is a problem of the poor world as a whole, and, with the exception of Ghana,

West African countries may suffer less from this problem than many others do. Nigeria is now even able to develop savings from the recurrent budget. The latest figures show that in the first 11 months of the last financial year actual revenue, at £554m., was £118m above the estimates for the period, while expenditure, at £390m., was £42m. below estimates — and the saving still allowed the Ministry of Defence to exceed its estimate.

Yet even if Nigeria may appear to be in a more favourable position than other West African countries, in some respects she still shares nearly all the problems which the World Bank report says characterise West Africa.

Particularly serious for Nigeria are the problems of unemployment and urbanisation, while vast areas of the huge country exemplify, as much as Upper Volta or Niger, the acuteness of rural poverty. Although such estimates must be treated with caution, the Bank report gives the Gross National Product per head in Nigeria as only \$120, compared with Sierra Leone's \$190, Ghana's \$200, and Gabon's \$490. It is true that the figures for countries such as Sierra Leone and Liberia reflect mineral production which, as the Bank report says, may be produced by "enclave enterprise" with comparatively little effect on the surrounding economy. But, although, now the Nigerian figure would be higher than it was in 1970, from which the Bank figures

come, it would be higher chiefly because of the "enclave economy" of oil and would not reflect any great improvement in the general standard of living, which would be no higher than it is in T. Gambia, which has no minerals.

We have already pointed out that Nigeria's leaders, so far from living in euphoria because of the resources which oil is giving them, are constantly warning their people that oil will not last for ever. Nevertheless, because oil can, for some years at any rate, free Nigeria from a balance of payments constraint which Ghana is experiencing and provide governments with funds to deal with some of the worst social consequences — urbanisation and unemployment, Nigeria can stand out as an exception to the West African rule. Yet never did an exception so clearly prove a rule.

Soldiers and Judges in Ghana

NO conflict between the military régime and the judges need be deduced from the NRC's decision to abolish Ghana's highest court, the Supreme Court, and make the existing Court of Appeal the highest court of appeal instead. For, a government statement says, the Supreme Court was set up under the 1969 constitution mainly to interpret that constitution and to decide whether Parliament or any other authority or person was exceeding the powers conferred by that constitution. Since the constitution suspended this main function is in abeyance. The Supreme Court also hears appeals from the National House of Chiefs but these will now go to the Court of Appeal. Although the Supreme Court was also empowered in certain cases to hear appeals from the Court of Appeal, the system always looked rather uneasy.

Abolition of the Supreme Court, however, suggests that the military régime sees no immediate prospect of a return to civilian rule since it would scarcely be necessary to dismantle the court if its main function was to be resumed within a year or two. Mr. Joe Appiah, the military régime's "roving ambassador" is quoted in page 1258 of this issue as saying that the military régime may last for 10 years or more — no doubt Mr. Appiah had exact period in mind but was giving a figure as an illustration.

It is true that there were criticisms of some of the appointments made to the Supreme Court under the Busia régime (although it was the Judicial Commission which made the appointments), but also included, apart from the Chief Justice himself, other judges of the highest repute. Now all Supreme Court judges who have not reached retirement age will revert to the appointments held before joining the court. This means, presumably, that those appointed from the Bar will cease to be judges while those, like Mr. Justice Apaloo and Mr. Justice Crabbe, will remain judges.

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The Affair of the Islands

As we go to press the threat of fighting between Gabon and Equatorial Guinea seems to have been contained by a smart joint move to mediate on the part of Presidents Nguabi and Mobutu. It is hoped to arrange a meeting between Presidents Bongo and Macias Nguema in Kinshasa to sort out their quarrel.

The first indication of trouble was a telegram sent by President Bongo on September 8 to the UN Secretary-General saying that fishing camps on the uninhabited islands of Mbané and Coco-beach, which form part of Gabon territory, had been attacked on several nights recently by an armed force from Equatorial Guinea. Shots had been fired at a Gabonese boat, and it was decided to post police on the islands. The attackers' arms and uniforms were confiscated. President Bongo said, "We regard the incident as minor and finished" although he felt obliged to inform the UN as Equatorial Guinea might resort to stirring up the border incidents.

Then Equatorial Guinea sent a message to all countries attending the Dar es Salaam summit of East and Central African heads of state (both Gabon and Equatorial Guinea were also represented) saying that it had been invaded by Gabon. The closing session of the conference was reportedly delayed for two hours by the dispute. A subsequent message from the Gabon Foreign Ministry to the UN called on the Security Council to intervene in the dispute because Gabon had committed an "act of aggression" against some islands off the coast of Equatorial Guinea. In the course of extending its territorial waters to 170 miles on August



President Macias of Equatorial Guinea.

23, Gabon had occupied the islands of Elobey Grande, Elobey Chico and Corisco, as well as some others adjacent to Rio Muni (the mainland province of Equatorial Guinea which is on Gabon's northern border). African envoys at the UN have criticised the approach to the

Security Council, saying that the affair should be left to OAU, which arranged the Mobutu-Nguabi mediation.

Why should these tiny islands suddenly have become so important? President Bongo gave a clue in an interview on September 10 when he said that Equatorial Guinea had provoked an incident during negotiations on the maritime frontier. This matters in questions of fishing, but the real bone of contention must undoubtedly be oil, which exists in large quantities offshore of Gabon and Nigeria, not far to the North, and is, presumably, also present off Equatorial Guinea. It should be noted that, if a vertical line is drawn westwards from the Gabon-Rio Muni frontier, all the islands in question would fall on the Gabon side; but owing to the fact that they were Spanish colonial possessions, they passed to Equatorial Guinea on its independence in 1968. The new Gabonese 170-mile claim, incidentally, falls not very far short of the Equatorial Guinean island of Annobon, and, more important, includes the Portuguese colony of Sao Tomé.

It is true that the regimes of President Macias and Bongo have some differences of international orientation. Gabon has no diplomatic relations with the communist countries, while Equatorial Guinea has them with several. But the type of régime is not very different (authoritarian, single-party) and the two countries share the same majority ethnic group, the Fang. Rather than squabbling over a few small islands, would they not do better, if they want to invade somewhere, to mount a joint force to "liberate" the Portuguese islands of Principe and Sao Tomé, and take one each?

Sierra Leone's Power Politics

Because the opposition SLPP has decided to make no further attempt to nominate candidates, Sierra Leone's governing party, the APC, will now win all 12 of the by-elections which originally had been expected to provide a useful test of government strength in advance of the general election promised for early next year. As it is, government supporters in the House of Representatives will now outnumber the Opposition by six to one.

The SLPP decision follows the party's failure to nominate candidates in three by-elections in the Kailahun District. As reported in last week's issue, opposition supporters allege that the SLPP was improperly prevented from making nominations for these seats, where they had every expectation of victory. Although the party had appeared to be divided into three "wings", each looking to a different leader, disagreements are reported to have been patched up when the government announced that it would at last hold the 12 by-elections, many of which had been pending for a long time. This new-found SLPP unity, however, has

had no opportunity of showing itself in the field.

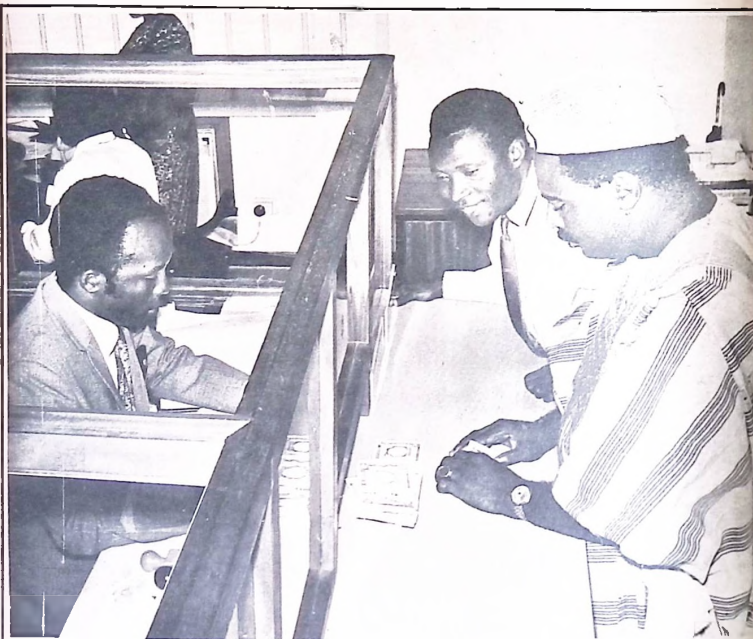
For the SLPP leaders things have now taken a more serious turn. For, as a result of the death of a government supporter in Kailahun, before the election results were announced, Mr Jusu-Sherif and a number of other SLPP leaders have been arrested and charged with murder (the names are listed on page 1270). The dead man was apparently killed by an SLPP Land Rover. Since the case is before the courts further comment is not possible.

Nevertheless, it is clear, as a correspondent emphasised in last week's issue, that those influential members of the governing party who have declared that a one-party system would be far more suitable for Sierra Leone than the present one will now claim both that the Opposition is so weak that it is not worth keeping it in being, and that since violence appears to be now habitual in Sierra Leone political conflict, such conflict should be eliminated by declaring a one-party state.

These APC members have never con-

cealed their admiration and envy of the Guinea system. But the President himself has often said — for example in an interview he gave for this magazine at the end of last year — that he would await the results of the general election before he could decide whether the people of Sierra Leone really wanted an Opposition party to continue in being. What is certain is that there remains in Sierra Leone a strong body of opinion which would oppose establishment of a one-party state.

This includes both those who fear that it would mean the demarcation of the country by sectional interests, and those whose opposition to a one-party state is firmly based on the conviction that, whatever may be true anywhere else, multi-party Parliamentary democracy is a system which Sierra Leone understands, needs, and deserves. It is interesting that Sir Albert Margai, whose alleged interest in a one-party state was a factor in his defeat in the 1967 general election, has attacked the idea in a BBC broadcast.



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NIGER

1972—the year of the showdown?

President Hamani Diori is back taking the waters at Contrexéville after talks in Paris which seem on the surface to have smoothed over his differences with the French government. Tamar Golan analyses the row which has been continuing for some months between France and Niger, and asks whether Niger will succeed in its bid to achieve more independence.

One of the most talked and speculated about subjects in Francophone Africa in the past few months has been the crisis in relations between France and Niger. Suddenly the moderate and soft-spoken President of Niger, Hamani Diori, has become the champion of the young militant Francophones who have, perhaps, attributed to him an extremism which he has never possessed. In his own country, however, students and young technocrats thought he was too hesitant. Some of his colleagues, such as President Félix Houphouët-Boigny of the Ivory Coast, felt the contrary — that he was pushing matters towards an unwanted and unnecessary crisis, the French press, and in particular the anonymous but well-informed *Canard Enchaîné*, used the crisis moments for an attack on the conservative African policies of the French Government and especially of its State Secretariat for African Affairs. French officialdom, at the same time, did its best to play the crisis down and conduct quiet negotiations with this "untidy" member of the French family.

Speculation concentrated on two seemingly procedural and technical questions. Would France insist that M. Pompidou returns to his posting as Ambassador to Niger? Would President Diori take his annual summer rest in his usual spot, Contrexéville, in the south of France or would he choose to stay home — or even go somewhere else?

Behind these "technical" questions lay the heart of the latest crisis: above all a crisis of confidence. In the past few years President Diori has been known to be trying to develop a policy of overture towards new countries, mostly his immediate neighbours at the same time, he has been most careful not to do this at

the expense of his traditional ties with France and with his Francophone colleagues of the RDA Party and the pre-independence struggle. Yet, since the beginning of 1972, the careful balance in Niger's policy seemed to be shaken. Certain observers feel that it was the inevitable outcome of the "overture" policy and that Niger could not hope to maintain the delicate balance forever. Furthermore, they claim, the showdown was inevitable not only from the Niger side, it had to come, too, from the side of France and of certain Francophone states. They could not be expected to allow Niger to break the chain of Francophone solidarity and get away with it. Niger's new style has been not only unacceptable, but also dangerous. It could lead to an erosion of the whole Francophone structure, as other countries tried to follow suit.

Whether it was inevitable or the result of a voluntary action on the part of Niger, the fact remains that 1972 has become "the year of the showdown". It began during President Pompidou's second official visit to Africa. Last year he visited five Francophone states, Mauritania, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Cameroon and Gabon. The choice of these relatively prosperous among the former French territories provoked some criticism among the poorer, landlocked, states. The leaders of the Entente group (which as well as the Ivory Coast includes Upper Volta, Dahomey, Togo and Niger) in a gesture of respect for their "dean", President Houphouët-Boigny, all gathered in Abidjan to greet the French President on his first official visit to Africa. They were received for a mere fifteen minutes audience, as M. Pompidou's schedule was indeed very heavy (he spent exactly 47 hours in each country visited). But his

gesture by the Entente Presidents provoked much criticism from the young in their own countries. Taking note, President Pompidou chose for his second visit to Africa, in January this year, two of the landlocked, and poorest, states — Niger and Chad.

President Hamani Diori, too, was aware of the militant spirit prevailing among his educated youth. He knew that the reception he was to offer the visiting French dignitaries could not be as unreserved, enthusiastic, and uncritical as that offered by certain coastal states the previous year. Thus, in his welcoming speech at Niamey airport, President Diori openly spoke of Niger's desire to diversify partners in trade and investment and mentioned the possible need for renegotiation of the Franco-Niger co-operation agreement signed soon after independence.

A tomato for Pompidou

The French President, also at the airport, gracefully accepted the challenge. He praised President Diori for his independent style of politics and for the originality of his policy of diversification which, he added, was wholeheartedly welcomed by France. But on the way from the airport to the capital an incident took place in which some youths threw an unidentified object (later said to be a tomato) at the French President. This was the first time anything of the sort had happened. The year before in Mauritania and Senegal students had also tried to stone the Presidential suite, they were prevented by strong police and army forces and President Pompidou had not been actually assaulted as he was in Niamey.

The tomato incident had political implications later on when Niger claimed that student agitation was in fact inspired and directed by young French "co-operants" (those working under the French Ministry of Co-operation's auspices). They were inciting youth against the Niger government, and the attack on the French President was only a manifestation of this imported *esprit contestataire*. The authorities pointed to tracts distributed to foreign journalists during M. Pompidou's visit in which the Franco-Niger co-operation agreements and France were attacked but which, Niger claimed, were written and printed in France and smuggled into the country.

The problem of youth and student unrest is possibly the most difficult internal problem at present facing Niger's Head of State. Whereas ethnic or regional differences were dealt with without



President Pompidou amid crowds at a French Embassy reception in Dakar on his first African Tour.

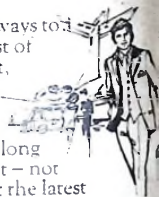
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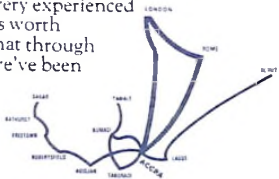
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President Diiori - renegotiating agreements

causing overt crises, the youth have remained turbulent, schools have been closed either by strikes or by government action, arrests of students have been recommended. Yet, the French were not willing to accept all the blame for these difficulties and to be used as scapegoats. This was particularly true of the new French Ambassador, M. Rostain.

Niger's record as far as French Ambassadors go has been unusual. Normally, the French Resident serves an average of six years in the Ivory Coast, Mr. Raphael-Leygues, has been in Abidjan for ten years and is Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in all former French territories. But in Niger, four Ambassadors have represented France in twelve years of independence. M. Rostain arrived in Niamey from Tokyo with the reputation of being a "Foccart man". When he first arrived, in late 1970, it was said in Niamey that it was better to have a wolf in a wolf's skin than a wolf in a sheep's clothing. It seems, however, that the activities of the new French emissary met with suspicion and that from the outset there was a total lack of "dialogue" and of mutual confidence. It is impossible to determine whether Niger's contention that the Ambassador was "interfering" in internal affairs, and in particular taking the side of French "co-operants" in their disagreements with the Niger government, was really founded.

When M. Rostain had to go to France for family reasons, the Niger Government intimated its wish that he should not return. The French government, shocked at this unprecedented act, froze all financial and technical aid. The French said that M. Rostain alone was authorised to sign pending agreements on behalf of France. The annual talks of the Franco-Nigerien mixed Commission, in which the co-operation and financial agreements for the forthcoming year are decided upon, the uranium negotiations (in which Niger was planning to ask for a larger stake in the policies and the profits of the Somair), the multilateral aid projects through FAC and FED: all came to a standstill.

In Niger, anti-French feeling was mounting, but some more moderate voices could also be heard. These said that these developments had also their positive aspects: they revealed to all the extent of Niger's dependence on France. To the

extremists such a revelation could lead only to one conclusion - that all efforts must be made to diminish and minimise it, but the more moderate seemed to realise that they could not hope to have their cake and eat it, and that France was not only their life-line but for a long time to come their principal partner.

It was after a two-day meeting in Yamoussoukro between President Houphouet Boigny and President Hamani Diiori, and other official and semi-official contacts, that the crisis was resolved. The details of the arrangement between France and Niger have not been revealed. But the French agreed that M. Rostain should remain in France and a new Ambassador is expected to be approved shortly. President Diiori did go, after several weeks of suspense and delays, to Contrezeville and French aid and assistance talks were renewed.

On the eve of his departure for his much-awaited vacation, the Niger President announced a surprise government reshuffle in which some Ministers were said to change portfolios because of being known as either too pro-French or too anti-French.

Moreover, only a few days after arriving for his private vacation in France, President Diiori was received in the Elysée for a long talk with the President. Coming out of the Palace, M. Diiori informed journalists that the Franco-Nigerien Accords are to be re-negotiated in October, "in all domains where it would appear necessary". He added that the French President "affirmed the interest he has for the continuation of this co-operation, and for its adaptation to the evolution of internal conditions, both in France and in the African countries, this evolution concerns particularly Niger because of its location in the interior of the continent and because of its international situation where it ranks among the twenty-five poorest countries of the world".

President Diiori's statement has had a wide echo in Francophone Africa. Is it possible that Niger, one of the most deprived territories of the continent, will succeed in asserting its independence *vis-à-vis* the former colonial power? Will France accept the new style adopted by Niger? And if Niger is to be "punished" by France, will there be a French power to come to its rescue?



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GHANA Subversion Trial

While Ghana's subversion trial lasts *West Africa* will carry a weekly summary of the proceedings separate from the Ghana news page. The trial is being conducted by eight armed forces officers presided over by Col. C. R. Tachie-Menson.

Some 80 other ranks had been detailed to replace officers killed during the alleged coup to restore Dr. Busia to power, a witness, Warrant Officer Gershon Kofi Kwadzode, told the military tribunal trying nine men accused of attempted subversion. The court had already been told by another witness that it was planned to kill all officers above the rank of captain in the coup, which was scheduled to take place on July 14. All soldiers with less than six years service were to be dismissed.

The nine accused, four civilians and five soldiers, are: Mr. Emil Adzima, former press secretary to Dr. Busia, Mr. George Ofose Amaah, director of the Special Branch under Dr. Busia, Mr. Daniel Owusu Darkwa Attakora, Mr. David Afful Bimpong Sgts. Kwaku Nimako, Wilberforce Agyare and Sandys Johnson Opong Nyantakyi, and Ptes. Charles Adu-Boateng and Kwaku Oduro. All are accused of conspiracy to commit subversion, subversion and concealment of subversion. All have pleaded not guilty. The hearings are in public and the accused have defence counsel of their choice, including a British QC, Mr. J. R. Harvey, appearing for Mr. Ofose Amaah.

So far the chief witnesses for the

prosecution have been members of the armed forces alleged to have been informed of details of the plot. Three soldiers who had been passing on information to the Military Intelligence Unit were arrested with the alleged plotters at the "Simple Bar", Labadi.

W/O Kwadzode claimed that Mr. Ofose Amaah told a meeting of the alleged plotters at a house in Odorkor that all former ministers in protective custody, as well as Lt. Gen. Afrifa supported the planned coup, but that Lt.

Gen. Afrifa did not know of it "D-Day". Mr. Ofose Amaah, he alleged had said that on the day of the coup Lt. Gen. Afrifa should be the first to be released, followed by the ministers. Lt. Gen. Afrifa might have been invited to an adviser. W/O Kwadzode claimed that Mr. Ofose Amaah said that on "D-Day" he would be with Mr. Mante, Deputy Inspector General of Police at Police Headquarters. He had visited Broadcasting House and seen soldiers idling at sleeping there.

Mr. Ofose Amaah had further suggested the witness, that Dr. Busia would be with Mr. Mante, Deputy Inspector General of Police at Police Headquarters on July 15, 1972. When it happened he would make sure that Lt. Busia would meet only Sgt. Opong Nyantakyi, Major Zumah, Capt. Opong Baid and W/O Kwadzode.



Prosecuting officers at the Tribunal. Left to right: Mr. H. A. Havron Benjamin, Senior State Attorney, Mr. K. Gweke-Darko, Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr. E. Moore, Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice.

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People

Our picture shows Polly Gaster, Secretary of the British Committee for Freedom in Mozambique, Angola and Guiné, with part of a Frelimo column in the Tete province of Mozambique. Miss Gaster was there on a visit with other members of the Committee, Pamela Logie and Lord Gifford, its chairman. At a news conference in London Lord Gifford gave details of the visit (for a fortnight in August), and announced that Frelimo (the Mozambique Liberation Front) were opening a new front in the Manica and Sofala province, to the south of Tete, where Frelimo had now established substantial control of the rural areas. The Portuguese were still in the towns, and of course at the Cabora Bassa dam site in Tete province, which is treated and defended as if it were a large town, although with the increasing possibility of ambush, supplies to the site have now become very costly. Lord Gifford said that even though he had worked in Frelimo's support for some time, he had been astonished at their achievement in setting up basic administration (health and education) in the liberated areas. Frelimo, which had overcome some of the internal difficulties which came to a head two or three years ago, was now, if not before, a force to be taken with the "utmost seriousness by everyone interested in the future of Southern Africa". The new front, penetrating much further south had served notice on all the racist regimes of Southern Africa that "their days are numbered".

Thomas Kanza, Ambassador of Patrice Lumumba at the UN, and later Foreign Minister of the Stanleyville régime, who has been in Britain for the last six years (as postgraduate student at London and

Oxford) is to go to Harvard for a year as a Fellow of the Centre for International Affairs there. He will receive a Ford Foundation grant, and is also to work as a lecturer at the University of Massachusetts-Boston. He will be returning in a year's time to Oxford, where he is doing a Ph.D. at St. Anthony's.

David Carmichael, who has a background of educational service in Ghana, has been appointed the first Secretary of the British Council of Churches' newly-formed Overseas Students' Unit. An elder of the Church of Scotland, Carmichael was the Registrar of Scholarships in Ghana from 1956-62, being Secretary of the Commission on Higher Education and Secretary of the interim Council of the University of Ghana. He then worked for four years as secretary of the Overseas Appointments Bureau of the Christian Education Movement, after which he returned to Ghana Government service as Adviser on Training, a British technical assistance appointment. Since 1970 he has been Fraternal Secretary of the YMCA in Nigeria's Eastern States. Among the tasks of the Unit, which for the first year will be based at the Africa Centre in London, is establishment and maintenance of links with institutions catering for overseas students.

A 47-year-old Frenchman has constructed the first aircraft ever made in Togo — a single-seater equipped with a Volkswagen car engine and a top speed of 170 kilometres (105 miles) an hour with the wind behind it, the Government newspaper *Togo-Presse* reports. Jean Camerini, a mechanic at a Fiat garage in Lomé, took a year and a half to make the aircraft out of wood, steel, aluminium and cloth. It can fly to an altitude of 4,000 metres (13,000 feet) for periods of up to five hours.



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Books and Publications

Nigeria's war: sources for study

The Nigerian War 1967-70 by Derek Cervenka (Bernard and Graefe, Frankfurt D.M.56).

Explaining the origins of this book, Dr. Cervenka says it was started as an introduction to a bibliography which might provide guidance to further studies of the Nigerian conflict. In the end only some 70 pages out of over 450 are devoted to a selection of what was written about the Nigerian crisis and the war in the US, the UK, France, the Soviet Union, Federal Germany and other European countries (Dr. Cervenka notes that almost nothing was written in China and that outside Nigeria remarkably little was written in Africa), and now it is Dr. Cervenka's "introduction", covering some 170 pages, which forms the main part of the book although the very long footnotes grouped at the end of this introduction contain a great deal of useful information. There are in addition a number of long appendices containing documents such as the declaration of secession, the Aburi communiqué, and OAU resolutions. Nevertheless, it may still be the bibliography to which students will turn in future because of Dr. Cervenka's thoroughness in searching publications in so many countries for articles.

The documents, together with many others, have mostly appeared in Kirk-Green's two volumes and the account of events leading up to the war and the war itself, although readable, is a skilful summary from many sources and not a creative narrative. Dr. Cervenka attached particular importance to the document, which he reproduces, which is claimed to be an incomplete police report on the investigation into the events of January 15, 1966, when Major Nzeogwu and his colleagues murdered the senior army officers and civilian leaders and attempted to seize power, and for his military appraisal he draws to some extent on the report (also reproduced), alleged to have been made by the British Defence Adviser in Lagos, in particular the report's emphasis on the vital importance of the supply of ammunition in a war where ammunition was expended at such an extraordinary rate. Some readers may feel that there is an imbalance in the narrative, because Dr. Cervenka himself was so anxious to use the material which he was listing for students, particularly the alleged police report and its account of the murders of Chief Akintola and the

Sardauna of Sokoto. In the narrative of the fighting it is sometimes difficult to separate the wood from the trees. Perhaps, however, it was that kind of war and Dr. Cervenka himself supplies an apt description: "apart from some big battles and a few military surprises — the recapture of Owerri by the Biafrans, who surrounded it and cut the garrison off from its lines of supply, for example — the war was a series of skirmishes, slow cautious probes, heavy, long-distance bombardments of doubtful objects with doubtful accuracy, and of an incredible amount of aimless and wasteful shooting. The lines of supply, particularly difficult for the Nigerians, the jungle terrain, the tropical climate, poorly trained soldiers, a real dearth of experienced officers and NCOs and the unprecedented nature of the struggle made this inevitable. The lack of dynamic ideological motivation, as with the Viet-Cong in Vietnam or the

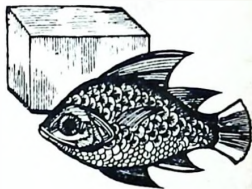
Communists in Malaya, also helped to reduce the tempo and scale of the fighting".

On the other hand he rightly criticises those outside Nigeria who, for whatever reason, regarded this as a "meaningless" war akin to a natural disaster in which they had an obligation to relieve suffering. "In fact, there were on both sides principles of the highest significance which gave the war purpose, although they failed to avoid its disastrous results. General Gowon and his Government believed that they had a duty not only to Nigeria but to Africa to end a secession which could lead to the fragmentation of Nigeria and perhaps other African countries as well. They also felt obliged to give the non-Ibo people of the former Eastern Region the opportunity of managing their own affairs which had hitherto been denied them. General Ojukwu, on the other hand, was deeply convinced, on the evidence of the massacres of the Ibos in 1966, that there was no place for the peoples of the former Eastern Region in the Federation and that the Federal Military Government could not control the powerful elements in the Federation intent on the extermination of the Ibos. The war aims of both Biafra and Nigeria remained substantially unchanged throughout the campaign. The Federal Military Government was fighting to maintain Nigeria's territorial integrity — its conditions for negotiations with the Biafran leadership were the renunciation of Biafra's secession and its acceptance of the 12-states structure. The Biafran

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response was always the assertion that sovereignty was sacrosanct and an essential prerequisite for the Ibo physical safety. Ojukwu argued that an arrangement with the Federal authorities must recognise this.

Dr. Cervenka is good on the political implications of relief and naturally devotes much attention to the domestic political significance the war came to hold in so many countries.

The book is sponsored by the World War Library founded in 1915 and now renamed the Library for Contemporary History, and Dr. Cervenka, a scholar from Czechoslovakia, is now at the Institute of African Studies at Uppsala University, Sweden. Such academic connections do not, unhappily, save the book from a large number of misprints — for example, Awka frequently appears as Akwa, Awka appears as Akwu, and Jebba as Jobba. There are, too, a number of minor errors: for example Alhaji Kam Salem is called Hausa.

Dr. Cervenka also uses the figure of 120,000 for the Federal army, although a much higher figure is usually accepted. He says that the "chartered companies maintained "armed units from 1900 onwards" in Nigeria, when in fact Lugard organised the Niger Company's troops into the Northern Nigerian Regiment in 1900 and united all military establishments into the WAAF in 1914. The UK-Nigerian defence agreement did not provide for an RAF "base" at Kano. Safrop had exploration and production equipment, but not "refineries" in Nigeria. The Onitsha-Enugu road was never securely in Federal hands throughout its length. It is curious, too, to see flat Umuahia described as a "hillside town".

At the equivalent of £7 the book, paperback, is rather expensive even if it is 450 pages long.

Tropical richness

Tropical Crops: Monocotyledons Vols. I and II, by J. W. Purseglove (Longmans £6 and £5).

These two books present basic information on the botany and agronomy of tropical monocotyledon crops, (that is flowering plants with narrow leaves which have only one cotyledon — seed leaf — their embryos). They include food crops such as maize, rice, and other cereals; various grasses and seeds, vegetables (such as onions), bananas, ginger, oil palms, and yams. With the author's two volumes on Dicotyledons they cover an enormous field.

Mr. Purseglove, who has worked in Uganda and Singapore as well as at several universities, defines a "crop" as a plant grown on field scale between the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, the product of which is either used locally or is partly or wholly exported. With such crops, but not millet for example, he deals in some detail. Plants grown on a small scale, or wild, which yield "useful products" are

also mentioned, as are crops which grow at higher altitudes in the tropics "if these appear in books on temperate crops". Crops produced mainly in the tropical highlands are dealt with more fully.

The crops are arranged under their families, which, with their genera and species, are given in alphabetical order. Synopses of the families and genera are provided, giving their main characteristics. "Keys" for identification of the principal species are included. There are also full-page drawings of individual crops based on careful examination of living specimens. The scientific names of monocotyledons referred to, together with authorities, are given alphabetically in an appendix, together with a glossary of botanical terms.

The volumes, say the publishers, will prove useful to all interested in tropical crops, including undergraduate and post-graduate students reading for degrees or diplomas in tropical agriculture or botany and agricultural officers and others concerned with production of tropical crops. Where appropriate the description of a crop is accompanied by a section on "production and trade". That on yams, for example reads, "global yam production is in the order of 20 million tons per annum. The largest yam-growing area is in West Africa between the central Ivory Coast and Cameroons, which produces at least two-thirds of the world's yams, with Nigeria producing about half the global figure, and with *D. Rotundata* as the most important species. Other areas producing substantial quantities are South-east Asia and the Pacific and the Caribbean, with *D. alata* as the principal species. As has already been shown above, the production of yams is declining and they are being displaced by cassava and sweet potatoes. Yams are usually expensive to buy. Cassava is a cheaper food for the urban proletariat of West African cities. Some 6,000 tons or more of yams are imported yearly to the United Kingdom from West Africa and the Caribbean for the increasing numbers of people of West African and West Indian origin".

A.M.

"Is she not marvellous?"

Travels in West Africa, by Mary Kingsley (edited and introduced by R. Glyn Grylls, £2.50).

It was a good idea to produce this condensed version of Mary Kingsley, albeit in a series with the banal and in her case inappropriate title "Makers of Empire". Enough is preserved of *Travels in West Africa*, including her lengthy second part on "Fetich and Religion in West Africa" to make the exercise worthwhile, especially as an introduction for new readers. One or two favourite passages and anecdotes may have been

left out, but Mr. Grylls has on the whole made a judicious selection. His introduction, mainly analytical biography, is also a useful contribution to the literature on the celebrated lady traveller of independent means and unrivalled stamina (of Mount Cameroon she writes, "I have given in to the temptation and am the third Englishman to ascent the peak and the first to have ascended it from the south-east face").

However the form of the book has disappointing aspects. Although fairly expensive for a slender volume, there are no illustrations and one inadequate map, a skeletal index and a number of printers' errors. Would not a paperback selection of extracts from all Miss Kingsley's works, especially *West African Studies*, and her letters, be a better idea? Or alternatively a really expensive "Complete Works of Mary Kingsley"?

For is she not marvellous? I cannot refrain from making just one more quotation "Round Glass in Gaboon the land is swampy, a thing that probably induced the English to settle here when they came to Gaboon, for the English love, above all things, settling in, or as near as possible to, a good, reeking, stinking swamp".

K.W.

Massive guide

Guide to Research and Reference Works on Sub-Saharan Africa, Edited by Peter Duignan, Compiled by Helen F. Conover and Peter Duignan (Hoover Institution Press \$19.50 hard \$8.95 paper)

Aimed particularly at librarians and research scholars this enormous volume, almost 1,100 pages, describes African library and archival material important for reference, research and teaching. The editor describes it as "a cross between a guide to reference materials and an annotated reading list", since the compilers have had to substitute specialised books and articles where, as they often found to be the case, no specifically reference work was available. The area covered is Africa south of the Sahara and the material is broken down into subjects, countries and areas. There is a list of institutions concerned with African studies and research, and of libraries and archives. Periodical publications concerned with the area are carefully listed, as are publishers and book sellers. There are 60 pages of bibliographies, which cover dissertations and atlases and maps, as well as books, etc. There is a small section on reprints and micro-films. Inevitably in a work on this scale some entries are out-of-date (for example, regrettably, Mr. Eric Bonner no longer issues his excellent catalogues), and Mr. Duignan says that he simply had to close studies at arbitrary dates and avoid further revisions. In any case, we have been promised a new edition when this one has been fully criticised and reviewed.



VIVE LE CHEQUE

The fascinating story is told, often enough, of the young lady, who upon being informed by a bank cashier that the cheque she presented for payment was a 'dud', cried out loud "My God! I've been raped".

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Vive le Cheque book!



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Acheampong and the artists

At Ghana's National Festival of Arts at Kumasi, Colonel Acheampong has introduced what is intended to be an annual event, the presentation of certificates and citations to Ghanaians who have made a contribution to the arts. The first four recipients are: Dr. Ephraim Amu, Dr. Alex Kyerematen, Mr. Philip Gbeho and Mr. Bob Johnson. Dr. Amu, an Ewe, is the doyen of Ghanaian musicians and was formerly a senior research fellow at the Institute of African Studies at Legon. Mr. Gbeho, also an Ewe, is Director of Music of the Arts Council of Ghana. He was once a music teacher at Achimota and although he studied at Trinity College of Music in London, and as a boy was so fascinated with Western music that he used to travel 20 miles every weekend to play an harmonium owned by an uncle in Lomé, he has specialised in African musical instruments. Dr. Kyerematen is

Director of the National Cultural Centre at Kumasi, where the National Festival of Arts is being held, and is well-known wherever Ashanti arts and civilisation are discussed. He was once Secretary to the Asanteman Council and Town Clerk of Kumasi, and more recently, under the first military government, was Commissioner for Local Government. But apart from this experience of administration, his main interest has always been in the arts and Ashanti culture. He is the author of a number of works in this field and has contributed to, or advised on, many other volumes dealing with African art. Mr. Johnson is a man of very different background from the other three, but as a comedian he has given great pleasure to many people. The choir of Kings' College Chapel, Cambridge, by the way, sang one of Dr. Amu's songs during their recent Ghana visit.



Messrs Equere and Ekanem with specimen bottles of cocoa wine.

Cocoa wines go ahead

Following the controversy in Nigeria about the invention of "cocoa wine" the government of the South East State, where two scientists, Mr. Luke Equere and Mr. Joseph Ekanem, claim that they, and not the Cocoa Research Institute at Ibadan, invented the wine, has issued a statement. Mr. Equere and Mr. Ekanem, says a press release, started research into "unconventional use" of cocoa in 1960 and by 1965 had produced a wine which tests at the then Ministry of Commerce and Industry in Enugu showed to be excellent. They were given no assistance by the Cocoa Research Institute but various scientific institutes at home and abroad approved their product, for which a UK patent was issued in September 1968, and a Nigerian patent in the following year. The release then explains that a number of different "wines" can be made from cocoa, some resembling red wine, some rose, some vermouth. The State Government plans investment of

over £800,000, with technical partners from Hungary, in a cocoa wine factory with a capacity of 2½ million bottles a year. The Government claims that it already has enquiries from Japan

"Take off the swear"

What may be a general problem is ventilated in the *Sierra Leone Police Magazine* by Mr. Kaetu-Smith, the Deputy Commissioner of Police. He wants to know whether the senior British officer who swore him in to serve "the Queen, her heirs and successors", could be found and be invited back to Sierra Leone to "take off the swear" so that he would be committed to serving the present Head of State. The Editor suggests that since the expatriate officer had "crossed the River Rokel" he had automatically cancelled the link between himself and Mr. Kaetu-Smith, and therefore the oath was no longer valid.

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CIVILISING À LA SALAZAR

When attacked for the backwardness of the Portuguese régime in Africa, former foreign minister Franco Nogueira has told us, "we (Portuguese) reply that our African provinces are more developed, more progressive in every respect than any recently independent territory in Africa south of the Sahara without exception".¹ This and similar statements about "Portuguese Africa" might seem a little overdone even in the light of the Hitlerian principle of propaganda, which held that the biggest lie was always liable to be the most effective. But Dr. Nogueira would certainly not see it in this way, for he has already told us in his book (page 100) that "the African bloc admits that Angola and Mozambique are in the forefront of development in black Africa", although the admission, at least so far as I know, has yet to appear on any record.

Is it possible to go behind the propaganda of the regime, and discover what its colonial administrations have really done to make good such claims to progress? This has been, in recent years, extremely difficult if not downright impossible. Observers suspected of a critical attitude could either not travel to areas under Portuguese control, or could not do so freely, if there have been a few good exceptions to this, they have only proved the rule. Aside from that kind of difficulty in gathering facts, there has been another, in some ways even larger: the more or less complete absence of statistical and other "quantitative" forms of information, or at least of reliable information.

It now appears that the Lisbon régime, hard driven by the colonial wars it has not won, may have begun to realise that the mere making of vast claims behind a "barriade of silence" is not the best way of presenting its "African achievements". However that may be, it is certainly the case that conscientious and patriotic Portuguese scholars have deplored the lack of information, and have tried to fill the void. So much appears, once more from a remarkable inquiry into the facts about "rural acculturation" lately completed, in its first descriptive volume by a Portuguese team under the general guidance of the ten-year-old Missão Inquéritos Agrícolas de Angola², in which, thanks as I must suppose to some kind but unknown Portuguese friend that part of the world, has lately arrived on my desk.

¹ F. Nogueira, *The Third World Journal* London 1967, p. 135.

² *Educação e Sociedade nas Áreas Rurais de Angola*, edited by F. W. Heine, Missão de Inquéritos Agrícolas de Angola, Luanda 1972.



Nogueira African provinces "more progressive"

Carried out in 1970-71, this praiseworthy inquiry produced 24,194 punched cards for the computerised handling of data relating to answers to questions collected in 153 *aldeias* or villages in rural areas of farming cultivation, and in 632 "nuclei" or settlements in areas where stock-raising is of primary importance. The overall inquiry took place in areas relating to rather more than half of Angola, inquiries in the rest of the country being prevented by what the volume refers to as "circumstances of *force majeure*", or, in other words, by the failure of Portuguese control in the face of nationalist military and political pressure. Most of the northern part of this vast colony was thus excluded from inquiry, and all the eastern part except the north-eastern region of Lunda District and the most southerly region of Cuando Cubango District.

No brief account can do justice to the admirably detailed information produced in this way, nor to the value of the implications which can be drawn, and which, one hopes, will be discussed in a later volume. Here, at last, we have keys to the beginnings of an appreciation of the colonial situation in Angola, and of the effects of colonial policy since Lisbon embarked upon its wars against African nationalism at the outset of the 1960s. One of these effects, for example, has been a massive effort to "re-group" the rural population into "new villages" where Portuguese police and military control could be enforced against "guerrilla infection". This is strongly reflected in the survey. Rather more than half the 153 *aldeias* (villages) where inquiries were made proved to be "younger" than nine years old, and as high a proportion as 30 per cent had been founded as recently as 1968.

Of these 152 villages, sixty-six were found to have a school of some kind, two of them had access to some elements of early post-primary teaching. In fifty-six cases the schools were less than seven years old, and in twenty-one cases less than three years old, another indication of the pressures set going by the nationalist movement.

Much of the information helps to give

the true measure of "acculturation" among rural peoples who form the overwhelming majority of the African population of Angola. A third of the "heads of families" questioned in the farming villages were found to have no knowledge of the Portuguese language; another third had "very little". The measure of linguistic acculturation among "other adults" was far smaller: 90 per cent of them were found to have no knowledge of the Portuguese language, four per cent had "little". Among heads of families, about 8.5 per cent could "more or less" read some language (not necessarily Portuguese), while 4.3 per cent could read "well". Among "other adults", rather more than 90 per cent could not read anything in any language.

The inquirers also asked a number of general-knowledge questions of a most simple kind. Inability to answer these questions was so great that one may wonder whether this was not a mere "playing possum" by African colonials. Asked "what is Luanda?", only 22.7 per cent of heads of families in the *aldeias* gave the right answer (capital of Angola). Among heads of families in the stock-raising areas the right answer was given by 5.9 per cent. Asked "what is Lisbon?" only 9 per cent of heads of families, and 1.9 per cent of "other adults", said it was the capital of Portugal, while the right answer among heads of families in the stock-raising areas scored exactly 0.728 per cent. To the question "what is Europe?", 94 per cent of heads of families in the *aldeias* were able to make (or at least made) no answer at all, while the same proportion for "other adults" was 98 per cent, and so on down the line. Running to a total of some 500 pages, the whole volume is packed with indicators of this kind.

These indicators have much to teach about the nature of colonial rule, as well as about the reality which has lain, and lies now behind the claims for Portugal's "mission of acculturation" made by pillars of the Salazarist régime such as Franco Nogueira. Many different implications may of course be drawn from them. The nationalists, on their side, will see confirmed their own claim that the real degree of "de-Africanisation" has been very small or even negligible, especially as concerns the nine-tenths of the populations which are rural. Amílcar Cabral has just made the same point, in his own incisive way, during a lecture written for a UNESCO seminar in Paris, but not delivered in person because, it seems, the French Government refused him a visa except for the mere duration of the seminar. "... In face of the destructive action of imperialist domination, the masses of the people preserve their identity, different and distinct from that of the colonial power"

Basil Davidson

² UNESCO Meeting of experts on the notions of race, identity, and dignity, Paris June 1972: Amílcar Cabral, Culture's Role in the Struggle for Independence (original in French).

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Letters to the Editor

Nigeria's Traditions

SIR The Federal Health Commissioner, Aminu Kano has called for a ban on foreign films and dress (August 25) because he wants us to show pride in our traditions. This is not a bad idea.

But is it not too soon to cast away foreign films at a time when Nigeria's film industry is in its infancy? Suppose we respond to his call, and tell the film proprietors, look, go away we want local pictures for a change. How many films have we produced to justify such an action? Or has the Commissioner better substitutes at present to take the places of the American 'western' or the British comedies? Furthermore, our TV stations will either close down for lack of films or be content with the dull local programmes there are at the present time.

Coming to dresses, Nigerians are a proud people. They like their native attire best when it comes to going to parties and foreign visits. But some prefer the good old suit, despite the hot weather. The majority of the clerical and managerial staff go to work in foreign dress which happens to be more comfortable for work than some of our native attire. Again, if we should ban foreign dress many people will go about half naked, for the simple reason that local industries cannot meet the present demand.

It is cheaper to buy a pair of cotton trousers or shorts than to have a tailor to make you a complete "Agbada" or the flowing "Okotiebo" style.

At the present state of our development, with many unemployed, it will be naive to ban foreign dresses. I would suggest we shelve this idea until when our economy is at an advanced stage.

London

P. OYAYEGHA DAOBRY

Kwara and the Judiciary

SIR Before the press announcement by the Kwara State Governor about certain people trying to create trouble within the state, little was known about the general trend of events there. It can be claimed that Governor Bamzaye, like his colleagues in the state government, has great responsibilities, and the expectation to govern successfully comes obviously from the governed. A military government rules by decree, but the say of the civilian must be respected.

Events in Kwara State need attention. People have been labelled as saboteurs for quoting classified official documents in letters to the government alleging corruption, nepotism and other malpractices. Logic teaches that if the allegations emanated from apparently reliable sources (government officers and houses of top civil servants and businessmen), they should not have been ignored.

It is disheartening to read of alleged government interference with the judiciary. But the merits and demerits of the state's government stand to be judged by posterity. Administration and political squabbles should give way to peace and economic progress. The task now for the state government is to address itself to the serious responsibilities. Proper and encouraging leadership to the people is required now in the name of democracy. The constant should be of a greater task ahead.

Kano

ISHOLA BADMOS

Courts and lawyers

SIR Your issue of September 8 reports Mr Richard Akinjide, President of the Nigerian Bar Association as recommending full salary for 12 for judges and criticising the order banning lawyers with less than seven years experience from appearing before the Supreme Court.

Mr Akinjide should note that justice has an equal role to play with other departments such as communications, defence etc in the government. As he described the concentration of all arms of government in one man as wasteful and dangerous, in my view, Nigeria runs a great risk with the national economy at stake if it places too much on one man. If a judge is allowed a full salary for life there is nothing to debar any Nigerian head who worked for the progress of the nation from the same right. Moreover, the salary paid to our judges is too low for them to be able to save for a rainy day. It we mean to unite faithfully in peace, a kind of selfish idea is unsuitable.

As Mr. Akinjide also criticised the order banning lawyers with less than seven years experience from appearing in the Supreme Court he should note that this is the highest court in the land and should be manned efficiently as such with the best lawyers to have. Also, in my own view if not included in the order, apart from seven years experience, the faithful contributions to the progress of the nation need also to be taken into account before a lawyer can be allowed to appear in the most respected court of law.

London

N. A. YESU

Songhai or Shanghai?

SIR Mr. Ogunleya's letter (August 25) calls for some remonstrance. There is no real advantage to be gained from re-naming a country and the fact that such practices are currently fashionable, and perhaps significant of something or other as well, do not necessarily imbue them with any particular measure of common-sense or utility-value. In any case, one must question Mr. Ogunleya's assertion that Nigeria stands in danger of being conflated with Algeria or Niger, there seem to be no grounds at all for this belief and, even if there were, Mr. Ogunleya must surely mean that the favoured name of Songhai might just as easily be confused with Shanghai - or a Siangri-La for that matter - so would change he proposes be of any real use anyway?

London

T. E. W. RAKOB

Rename the states

SIR In your issue of August 25, Mr Ogunleya suggested that it is high time that Nigeria given a new name. I shall like to add that geographical names given to some states in Nigeria should be changed as soon as possible. Thus, Western State can be baptised with a name such as *Oduduwa State*; Midwest State can be changed to *Benin State*; and Lagos State can undergo a similar baptism and have its name changed to *Kosoko State*. These are better than "European geographical names".

Before changing the names, however, statistical samples should be taken from the state. Each sample should be carefully assessed to ensure that the new name is in accord with the opinion and the wishes of the people of each state.

London

NOAH A. ADIYINJI

Commercial News

INTERNATIONAL COCOA CONFERENCE

Focus on producers' plans

Little optimism was reported from Geneva when the representatives of 47 cocoa producing and consuming nations opened their United Nations sponsored conference aimed at setting up an international pact for the commodity. The meeting is due to end on October 13.

Apart from differences of opinion on technical issues such as price levels and quota allocations, conference sources claimed that the West Germans and the Americans were not adopting a positive approach because elections were due in both countries this year and neither Government wishes to displease its respective manufacturers and dealers whom they were opposed to a pact. Opening the talks, the secretary general of the UN Conference on Trade and Development, Sr. Manuel Perez-Gamarral, said that a successful outcome would be achieved "given sufficient political will". Noting that an agreement was necessary to reduce erratic price fluctuations, he commented, "We have the necessary elements to come to the end of the road on this occasion. I think we can arrive at an agreement which would be workable and would be beneficial for both consumers and producers." He considered that the conclusion of an agreement "has become an acid test of international co-operation".

There is considerable speculation in Geneva that if the talks fail, the major producers will try and exercise a greater influence over the market by unifying their sales policies (the measure of co-operation already in existence is one of the main factors behind the 42 per cent rise in the cocoa price since the beginning of this year, after a six-year low was recorded in December 1971).

Before the conference opened, several days of talks were held in Abidjan by members of the Cocoa Producers Alliance. Major Anthony Selormey, Commissioner for Transport and Communications, discussed Ghana's position on cocoa with President Houphouët-Boigny of Ivory Coast and expressed satisfaction with the outcome. In an interview with the newspaper *Fraternité-Matin* he said that producing countries had to form a common front at the Geneva conference and he later announced that agreement in principle on this issue had been reached by Ghana and Nigeria. (The Alliance embraces Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Togo and Brazil).

Ghana's team to the conference was named as Major Roger Felli, Commissioner for Trade and Tourism, Mr. U. K. Hackman, executive chairman of the Cocoa Marketing Board, Dr. G. Agama, the Board's chief research officer, and Mr. Fred Gadzekpo, a research manager in the Trade and Tourism Ministry.

In an editorial comment on the talks, the *Daily Graphic* doubted whether cocoa-producing countries could get a fair price through conferences "cocoa is about the only commodity whose price is dictated by consumer countries while the producers virtually have to beg for better prices at round-table conferences". The bargaining power of the producers had been weakened by their dependence on cocoa, the newspaper said. Although welcoming the Ghana-Nigeria accord, it said that a union not including other producers could hardly achieve any purpose.

● Product prices in Nigeria remain unchanged for the 1972/73 buying season, at £N155 per ton for Grade 1 cocoa and £N140 for Grade 2. But the Western State Marketing Board warned that it sustained a loss of £N10m last season and would have cut the prices paid to growers but for the inflationary pressure in the country. Farmers were warned that their earnings might be reduced in coming seasons unless world market prices improved.

● Mam crop purchases in Ghana after the first week of the new season were estimated at 5,659 long tons.

● Minimum prices for cocoa beans have been abolished in Brazil.

● British imports of coffee from Angola rose from 295 tons in the January-July period of 1971 to 3,124 tons in the same period of this year. The increase coincides with a boycott movement within Holland against Angolan coffee. The boycott is a protest against bad labour conditions on Angolan plantations and because of the contribution to Portugal's military spending made by agricultural export earnings. Total British imports of coffee in the first seven months of 1972 fell by eight per cent, from 61,229 to 56,506 tons.

● The third annual meeting of the Africa Co-operative Savings and Credit Association has been held in Tunis.

More contracts from untied aid

Developing countries are competing for, and winning, a greater share of US foreign aid contracts as a result of President Nixon's policy of "untying" loans, according to data released by the US Agency for International Development, which indicates that the developing nations are now averaging monthly sales of about \$2.2m. under US-financed procurement contracts.

In October 1969, the Nixon Administration exempted the Latin American countries from the requirement that purchases financed by US aid be made only in the United States, thereby enabling them to buy from other developing countries. This measure was extended to the Asian and African countries the following year. By September 1971, the developing countries had won AID-financed contracts totalling about \$1m., in November they received \$1.5m. in orders, in December \$2.6m. and, in January this year, orders totalling \$3.3m. At the end of June 1972, cumulative US expenditures for procurement from the less developed countries amounted to about \$21.4m. Countries whose export industries benefitted from this US aid-generated business included Liberia (\$816m.) and Ghana (\$26m.). Nigeria was among the principal recipients of contract sales. Product areas in which the developing countries have competed most successfully are textiles, fertilisers, non-ferrous metals, leather goods, rubber and essential oils.

● The Technical Committee of Experts of the UN Economic Commission for Africa has held its third meeting in Addis Ababa at the beginning of the month. The Committee reviewed the activities of the secretariat in execution of the Commission's programme during the period 14 February 1971-31 August 1972, considered the Commission's programme of work for 1974-76, and examined the modalities for the evaluation of the Second Development Decade and Africa's Strategy for Development in the 1970s.

● To avoid serious problems developing countries must at least double their agricultural production, the director general of the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation, Mr. A. Buerma, told the FAO's eleventh regional conference in Kuwait. He pointed out that agricultural production rose by 13 per cent in 1970 but dropped heavily last year, falling below the rate of population growth.

● The N.V. Scheepswerf Damen shipyard of Hardinxveld-Giessendam near Rotterdam has received an order from Cameroon for the building of three pilot launches and two harbour tug work about £350,000. The vessels are for use on the Woun river and in the port of Douala.

Civil servants as corporation chairmen

The system of appointing civil servants as chairman of public corporations is a temporary measure until the Federal Government is satisfied that the posts can be manned by business executives from the private sector. Mr. C. Lawson, the new secretary to the Federal Government, told a delegation from the Association of Nigerian Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Mines The association's president, Chief Henry Fajemirokun, said that hundreds of prospective investors had shelved proposals as a result of delays in giving approval for applications for new industries. The Ministry of Trade and Industry was understaffed, which had inhibited investment and delayed industrial development. The establishment of a National Economic Advisory Council was an effective vehicle for close consultation and exchange of ideas but membership of the council had been too heavily weighted in favour of public servants.

Leading drivers from all over the world are expected to take part in the first-ever Lagos-Argungu motor rally next February, the North Western State's chief information officer, Alhaji Ade Yusuf, announced. The rally has been timed to coincide with the annual Argungu fishing festival.



• A British Hospitals Export Council sales mission is to visit Nigeria from November 19 to December 20. The mission, which will be led by Mr. Miles Hardie, director of the Hospital Centre in London, will probably consist of 20 representatives of hospital equipment manufacturers. They intend to visit all areas of the country. The Council is a non-profit export association and this will be its first mission in Africa.

• The average daily rate of oil production in Nigeria in June was 1,790,835 barrels, 0.55 per cent higher than the average for May.

Chatting to Mr. Frank Sanders, director of studies on the book selling and book distribution course held in London by the British Council, are, left to right, Messrs. D. O. Okoli of the University of Nigeria, bookshop, Nsukka; P. A. Kadir, manager of the CSS bookshop in Lagos; S. A. Olaniyan, manager of the Nigerian Educational Supply company, Ibadan; and I. O. Orji, managing director of Nigeria (Academy) Bookshop, Lagos.

• Mr. Anthony Karm, senior education officer of the Commonwealth Secretariat is on a three-week tour of West Africa during which he is having discussions with government and other agencies engaged in the production, provision and distribution of books in Nigeria, Ghana and Sierra Leone.

• Oxford University Press has appointed Mr. E. Emenango to take responsibility for all its Igbo book publishing projects.

• Berec Nigeria, battery manufacturer, are to offer 528,000 5sh. shares to the public at the end of the month. The chairman, Chief Agbaje, said that 48 shares would amount to 35 per cent of the company's paid up capital, and told reporters that the company planned to build a £690,000 factory scheduled to begin production next July. The company currently has 600 employees, and 16 of the 19 managerial staff are Nigerians.

• Raninex of West Germany is participating with the Midwest Government in the establishment of a £1m. farm project at Agbede. The State Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Chief Salubi, announced that 10,000 acres of land had been donated to the government by the Oba of Agbede and his people. Maize, rice and barley will be grown.

• Work on £2.5m. expansion programme for the Nigerian Cement Company, Nkalagu, will begin as soon as the company's board gives approval, the general manager, Mr. Adrian Kerwood has stated. The programme will increase the factory's production capacity by 20 per cent.



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A good year — for oil exporting countries

Primary producing countries shared in a substantial expansion of their combined balance of payments surplus in 1971, says the latest report of the International Monetary Fund. "Inclusive of SDR allocations totalling the equivalent of about \$1 billion, it rose to roughly \$8 billion in 1971 compared with \$4 billion in 1970 (when SDR allocations were somewhat larger). The increase reflected an unusually sharp expansion of capital inflows, much of it in short-term or unidentified forms, as the current account deficit of the primary producing countries rose again in 1971. For the less developed countries other than oil exporters, the rise in their combined current account deficit exceeded that in their net capital inflow".

The report says that the second feature of the large overall payments surpluses of the developing countries in 1971 was the extent to which the rise was centred on a limited number of a major oil exporting countries (including Nigeria). "In general, developing countries not directly affected by reasons of the international petroleum arrangements fared much less well with respect to balance of payments changes over the past year or so. Their combined surplus of \$1 billion in 1971 was substantially lower than that in 1970 and only the relatively favourable development of their capital accounts prevented more of them from slipping into overall payments deficit at a time of sagging demand for primary products in many of the industrialised countries".

Balance of payments positions were weakened in some African countries by expansionary fiscal and monetary policies. "There, too, a number of countries were vulnerable to the cyclical downturn in world market prices for industrial raw materials, as well as to the drop in coffee prices. Aside from the very large surplus of the Libyan Arab Republic, which accounted for the bulk of the regional surplus in 1971, the collective balance of payments experience of African developing countries was thus not particularly favourable. Even with the supplement of SDR allocations, their combined reserve increases were smaller in both 1970 and 1971 than in 1969. Moreover, the two largest surpluses after that of the Libyan Arab Republic were those of Algeria and Nigeria, both of which were also beneficiaries of petroleum price developments. On balance, the payments positions of the remaining African countries were moderately in deficit for 1971, after having been substantially in surplus for the two previous years. This deterioration reflected larger increases in current account deficits than in capital inflows".

● Japan has removed all restrictions previously imposed on Japanese purchases of overseas real estate and Japanese investments in enterprises abroad.

WEST AFRICAN SHIPPING NEWS

ELDER Dempster Lines

SOUTHBOUND - From Liverpool: FOURAH BAY due Tema Sept. 24, IBANI sig. Port Harcourt Sept. 20, KOUJIMA sig. Sept. 21. From London: FULANI sig. Sept. 21; BHAMO sig. Sept. 22.

From N. Continent: DARU due Warri Sept. 15, FREETOWN due Bremen Sept. 16. KABALA sig. Hamburg Sept. 28. From Southampton: AUREOL due Las Palmas Sept. 18.

NORTHBOUND - To London: FALABA due Sept. 24. To Hull: DEGEMA due Freetown Sept. 16. To Avonmouth: KUMBA due Bathurst Sept. 16.

To N. Continent: PATANI due Sinec Sept. 15. To Poole: CLEARWAY due Sept. 17. **WESTBOUND** - To USA/Canada: MORIAS due Jacksonville Sept. 21.

EASTBOUND - From USA/Canada: AKOSOMBO due Dakar Sept. 21, DUMJARRA sig. New York Sept. 15; FIAN due Tema Sept. 16.

Eastern Service to West Africa: ERNEBANK due Appa Sept. 16.

BARBER Lines

OUTWARDS - FERGATE due Douala; FERNLAND sig. Baltimore Sept. 26, New York Sept. 29. From Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/ Appa, Douala.

HOMEWARDS - FERGATE ldg. Ghana, Abidjan/Monrovia end early Oct. FERNLAND ldg. Lagos S bound Oct. 16, Sapele Oct. 18. Douala Oct. 20, Ghana Oct. 24. Abidjan/Monrovia end Oct. Abidjan/Monrovia end Oct.

'K' Line

WESTBOUND - From Japan via Hong Kong to Lobito, Luanda, Matadi, Port Harcourt, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Abidjan, Pointe Noire, etc.: TENNESSEE MARU sid Japan Sept. 5 due Lagos Oct. 13.

EASTBOUND - From Port Harcourt, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Abidjan, Pointe Noire via Hong Kong: TENNESSEE MARU sig. Port Harcourt Oct. 12, Lagos Oct. 20, Tema Oct. 23, Monrovia Oct. 26, Freetown Oct. 29, Abidjan Nov. 3, Pointe Noire Nov. 9 due Japan Dec. 8.

WOERMANN Line

BIANCA sig. Dunkirk Oct. 5, Rouen Oct. 9, Le Havre Oct. 10, Bordeaux Oct. 14 due Lome Oct. 24, Cotonou Oct. 26. USARAMO sig. Rotterdam Oct. 3 due Las Palmas Oct. 8, Pointe Noire Oct. 19, Matadi Oct. 21.

DAFRA Line

EASTBOUND - FRANKRIG sig. New Orleans Oct. 17 due Monrovia Nov. 3, Warri Nov. 9. **WESTBOUND** - BELGIEN sig. Takoradi Oct. 7 due Abidjan Oct. 8, Charleston Oct. 22.

GOLD STAR Line

WESTBOUND - NOGAI due Sept. 30, Keelung Oct. 11, Hong Kong Oct. 14. **EASTBOUND** - ANAT Singapore Oct. 3, Nagoya Sept. 29, Yokohama Oct. 28.

BLACK STAR Line/USNI/WEST AFRICA

WESTBOUND - OFFIN RIVER Abidjan Sept. 15, New York Sept. 30, Philadelphia Oct. 4. **BLACK STAR Line/UK/CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA**

SOUTHBOUND - SAKUMO LAGOON Rotterdam Sept. 19, Dunkirk Sept. 21; KADUNA London Sept. 29; SUNIN RIVER Newport Sept. 20, Dublin Sept. 23, Glasgow Sept. 29. **NORTHBOUND** - KAKWA RIVER Amsterdam Sept. 20, AFRAM RIVER Middlesbrough Sept. 25, London Oct. 3.

DELTA Line

DEL RIO sig. Monrovia Oct. 1 due Abidjan Oct. 3, Takoradi Oct. 4; DELTA PARAGUAY sig. Dakar Oct. 12 due Freetown Oct. 16, Monrovia Oct. 17.

PALM Line

NORTHBOUND - ILORIN PALM due Tiko Sept. 23, LOBITO PALM due Sapele Sept. 29.

N.Y.K. Line

WESTBOUND - SAIKYO MARU Lagos/Appa Oct. 12/15, Abidjan Oct. 25/26, Takoradi Oct. 27/28, Tema Oct. 29/30.

EASTBOUND - SAIKYO MARU Lagos/Appa Oct. 12/15, Abidjan Oct. 25/26, Takoradi Oct. 27/28, Tema Oct. 29/30, Japan first Port Nov 30.

MITSUI OSK Line

SALMBRIA MARU sid Kobe Sept. 19 due Lagos Oct. 21, ARIZONA MARU sig. Kobe Oct. 4 due Lagos Nov. 10.

MAERSK Line

INWARDS - From Japan via Hong Kong to Matadi, Lagos, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan: JOHANNES MAERSK sid. Hong Kong Sept. 16 due Luanda Oct. 8.

OUTWARDS - From Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan, Takoradi: SUSAN MAERSK sid. Lagos/Appa Sept. 20 due Tema Sept. 21.

FARRELL Lines

HOMEWARDS - AFRICAN CRESCENT sid. Luanda Sept. 2 for Lobito, Matadi, Abidjan, Monrovia, US ports: AFRICAN STAR sid. Lagos/Appa Sept. 14 for Port Harcourt, Douala Sept. 18, Abidjan, Monrovia, US ports.

OUTWARDS - AFRICAN STAR due Freetown Port Harcourt Sept. 15, Douala; AFRICAN MOON due Monrovia Sept. 6 for Abidjan. Tema Sept. 12, Matadi, Luanda, Lobito.

NORLLOYD - SWAL JOINT SERVICES BANDA sig. Hamburg Oct. 6, Antwerp Oct. 10, Rotterdam Oct. 11, Rouen Oct. 13. AMSTEL-HOEK due Boma/Matadi Nov 11, Pointe Noire Nov. 12, Luanda Nov. 15.

NIGERIAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE **SOUTHBOUND** - RIVER ETIHOPE due Tema Oct. 8, Lagos/Appa Oct. 10.

NORTHBOUND - KING JAJA due Avonmouth Sept. 21.

SCANDINAVIAN WEST AFRICA Line **NORTHBOUND** - CUMULUS sig. W.A. mid Oct. for discharge Scan. late Oct./early Nov. **INDIANA** sig. W.A. mid Oct./early Nov. for discharge Scan mid Nov.

IOEGH Lines

IOEGH BENIN due Port Harcourt Sept. 21, Douala Sept. 24, HOEGH BREEZE due Appa Sept. 24, Port Harcourt Sept. 28.

ROYAL INTERCOASTAL Line **INWARDS** - TARBON SPRINGS from Japan, sid. Aug. 18 due Luanda Sept. 22, Monrovia Sept. 27, Freetown Sept. 29, Abidjan Oct. 3, Tema Oct. 15, opt. Port Harcourt Oct. 13, Lagos/Appa Oct. 6. STRAAT FREMANTLE from Japan, sid. Sept. 18, due Luanda Oct. 17, Monrovia Oct. 22, Freetown Oct. 24, Port Harcourt Oct. 30, Lagos/Appa Nov. 2, Takoradi Nov. 7, Abidjan Nov. 10.

OUTWARDS - STRAAT FREMANTLE from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt., Hong Kong and Japan early Nov. STRAAT MAGELIEN from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt., Hong Kong Japan and Shanghai late Sept.

EAL EUROPE - AFRIKA Line GmbH ABOL VIMEN due Dakar Oct. 2, Abidjan Oct. 7, Lome Oct. 10, WERDERLAND due Sta. Cruz Oct. 2, Las Palmas Oct. 3.

NOPAL Lines

WESTBOUND - NOPAL LUNA sig. Cotonou Oct. 4 due Takoradi Oct. 5, Abidjan Oct. 6; NOPAL SUN due Luanda Oct. 20, Douala Oct. 26, Takoradi Oct. 28.

SOUTHBOUND AFRICA Line **WESTBOUND** sid. New Orleans Sept. 4 due Tema Sept. 24, Lagos Sept. 28, Luanda Oct. 2; **SOUTHBOUND** sig. New Orleans Oct. 2, Houston Oct. 7 due Tema Oct. 23, Lagos Oct. 26.

THE EAC Lines

SOUTHBOUND - SIMBA due Abidjan Sept. 24, Cotonou Sept. 27, Lagos Sept. 28, Douala Oct. 4; SARGODHA sig. Antwerp Sept. 22, Rotterdam Sept. 24, Rouen Sept. 27 due Dakar Oct. 4, Freetown Oct. 7, Monrovia Oct. 8, Abidjan Oct. 10, Tema Oct. 12, Cotonou Oct. 14, Lagos Oct. 15, Lome Oct. 22.

NORTHBOUND - PANAMA sid. Monrovia Sept. 14 due Amsterdam Sept. 23, Copenhagen Sept. 24, Bremen Sept. 26, Hamburg Sept. 29, Aarhus Oct. 1.

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The Internal Auditor will be based in Accra but should be prepared to travel extensively and frequently to the tobacco growing areas in the normal course of his duties.

Salary: -

Salaries will be negotiated according to qualification and experience, but persons applying for the position of Chief Accountant/Secretary should not be earning less than £5,000 per annum and those applying for the position of Internal Auditor should not be earning less than £3,000 per annum.

All applications should be addressed to: -

The Joint Managing Directors,
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STATUTORY CORPORATIONS SERVICE COMMISSION. Vacancy in the Nigerian Ports Authority Post Internal Auditor Qualification. A recognised Professional qualification in Accountancy or a University Degree in Accountancy and Auditing with at least two years post-qualification experience. Salary: SAP 1 to £N1,020 x 42 - £N1,104/£N1,290 x 55 - £N1,565/£N1,640 x 60 - £N2,060 per annum. Point of entry depends on qualification and experience. Method of application. Application forms are obtainable from any of the following offices: (a) The Secretary and Chief Administrative Officer, Statutory Corporations Service Commission, 30 Marina, Lagos. (b) States Public Service Commissions and States Statutory Corporations Service Commission Offices. (c) The Resident Commissioner, Statutory Corporations Service Commission (Branch Office) 2,21 Queen Elizabeth Road, Zaria. Closing date: Complete application forms with photostat copies of certificates and two recent passport photographs of the applicant duly signed at the back by the Applicant must be submitted to the Secretary & Chief Administrative Officer, at the above address, not later than 31st October, 1972.

PHOTOGRAPHY

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THE GAMBIA Vacancies in the Income Tax Department

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the following posts in the Income Tax Department -

- (i) Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax;
- (ii) Assistant Inspector of Taxes.

2. The essential qualifications for the post of Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax are: -

- (a) Aged under 40 years;
 - (b) Possession of a University Degree in Mathematics OR Commerce OR Economics.
- Preference will be given to applicants having post-graduate qualifications in Law and/or Accountancy.

3. The salary attached to the post is in Scale Dales 4,000 x 240 - D4,720; D4,950; D5,200; D5,600 x 240 - D6,560 - D6,830; D7,250 x 270 - D7,790 per annum (Note D5 = £1). Entry point in the scale would depend on the qualifications and experience of the successful applicant.

4. The essential qualifications for the post of Assistant Inspector of Taxes are: -

- (a) Aged under 35 years;
- (b) Possession of a University Degree in Mathematics OR Economics OR Commerce OR Accountancy OR officers in the Executive Grade or equivalent with a minimum of at least five years experience in any Tax or Accounting Department.

5. The salary attached to the post is in scale Dales 2,625 x 125 - D3,375; D3,500 x 150 - D4,250 per annum. Entry point in the scale would depend on the qualifications and experience of the successful applicant.

6. Both appointments will be on a trial period of three years and on completion, subject to satisfactory reports on work and conduct and medical fitness, the successful applicants will be confirmed in their appointments.

7. Applications which must be made on the prescribed Public Service Commission application for Appointment form, obtainable from the Commission's Office, should be forwarded together with certificates and testimonials to the Secretary, Public Service Commission, The Quadrangle, Bathurst, The Gambia, Not later than 30 September, 1972.

8. Applicants who do not possess the requirements will not be considered.

SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

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The experts and sea-going personnel must be ready to assume duty by 31st October, 1972.

For conditions of service of the personnel and the terms of consultancy agreement and other details, please apply to the offices of the Ghana Missions in London, Bonn and Geneva or to the following address:—

The State Fishing Corporation, PO Box 211, Tema, Ghana.

MEETINGS

URHOBO PROGRESS UNION
CARETAKER COMMITTEE, LONDON

The members of the above named committee hereby announce to the members of the Urhobo community in London that there will be a GENERAL ELECTION of the Urhobo Progress Union, London Branch, on SATURDAY 21st OCTOBER, 1972 at TOWNHALL, 28 COMMERCIAL STREET, LONDON E1, at 3 pm prompt as previously announced. Only registered financial members currently registered by the above named committee will be eligible to vote and be voted for.

The last general meeting of the committee and all the Urhobo people in London will be held in the said TOWNHALL on SATURDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER, 1972 at 3 pm. This will be the last day for registration and of enrolment of members for the said forthcoming general election in October. All Urhobos are invited to attend.

M. O. Agidiyemi, Eng. Chairman
D. O. Anzob, Eng. Publicity Secy. Secy.
Tottenham Road, London N24.
Tel. 01-892 3724

OSHUN DIVISIONAL UNION
OF
GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

GENERAL MEETING of the Union will be held on 22 September 1972 at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn, WC1 from 5.30 p.m.

Omission from List of Officers for 1972/73 published recently —
Legal Adviser — Mr. H. O. Kusumoto
Enquiries to Gen. Secy. T. Akamp, 29 Hamilton Park, Highbury, N5 1GH
01 226 9991

DANCES

NIGERIAN WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The above league will hold
A DANCE
on
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ANNIVERSARY OF NIGERIAN
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MEETINGS Cont.

NIGERIAN INSURANCE
STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
OF GREAT BRITAIN

At the Annual General Meeting of the above Association held on Sunday 27th August 1972 at 3 Coleridge Road, London N4 the following were duly elected as Officers to run the Association affairs for the current year 1972/73.

The President *Mr Ola Egbeyemi*
Vice President *Mr Funso Omo Ogunkeya*
General Secretary *Mr Mathias Orugolu*
Ass. & Fin. Secretary *Mr A. Adeniyi*
Treasurer *Mr Tayo Opanuga*
Auditor *Mr Dayin Dgusu*
Sec. & Pub. Secretary *Mr Kehinde Alatshie*
Ex-officio Members *Mr J. M. Akintayo*
Mr Biodun Thomas
Mr Bade Sarimi
Mr G O Uddin

Please contact the General Secretary at 18 Greenway Road, Croydon, (Tel. 01 684 2636) regarding any enquiry concerning membership or otherwise.

O Egbeyemi, President
K. Alatshie, Sec & Pub. Sec.

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STUDENTS UNION

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L. A. Adeniyi — Publicity Secretary

R. O. Adeniyi — Social Secretary

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Dateline Africa

GHANA

Yendi chieftancy enquiry

The NRC has appointed a committee, under the chairmanship of Nii Ama Ollenu, the retired Supreme Court judge and Speaker, to enquire into Yendi skin affairs. Other members are: Nana Sir Tsohu Darku, Omanhene of Assin Atankor Traditional area, Nana Atakora Antwiawpong II, Omanhene of Mampong-Ashanti Traditional Area, and Togie Adja Tekpor VI, Osie of Avatime. The committee will ascertain the correct custom and customary procedure for the nomination, selection and enskinment of a Ya-Na, Paramount Chief of the Dagomba, including "the correct list of candidates". It will also enquire into the circumstances leading to the enactment of the Declaration of Customary Law (Dagomba State) order of 1969 and its subsequent revocation.



Ollenu heads enquiry.

the advisability or not of its re-instatement and whether or not the purported enskinment of the Ya-Na, Andani III, was justifiable. The committee will also enquire whether or not the method adopted in declaring and enskinning the late Mahamadu Abdula as Ya-Na after acceptance of the recommendations of the Mate Kole committee report conformed with Dagomba custom.

A correspondent writes:

At the time of the 1969 general election the Yendi skin was vacant. In the Dagomba constituencies the real issue soon became not what the parties stood for nationally but which candidate for the skin a party supported. The Progress Party man was identified with the Abdulai family claimant and the NAL man with the Andani family claimant. After the PP victory the Andani claimant became Ya-Na Andani III. That was not,

however, the end of the matter. Serious fighting broke out between supporters of the two candidates when the new Ya-Na was being enskinned and in restoring order the police and the army were reported to have shot nineteen people and seriously injured some 30. A state of emergency was declared.

- A ministerial commission for Ghanaian and Togolese co-operation has agreed to ease border controls and work more closely in the fields of agriculture and industrial development. The Commission was led by Maj. Gen. Aferi, Commissioner for External Affairs, and the Togolese Rural Development Minister, M. Louis Amega. It agreed to keep the border post at Afao open 24 hours a day and recommended that both governments accept identity cards for travellers between the two countries. The commission also decided to submit for study a project for commercial agreement and announced that both countries intended to harmonise their industrial and agricultural development programmes. Two final recommendations were that Ghana and Togo should hold annual friendship sports tournaments and exchange cultural programmes.

- Speaking at a workers rally (see last week's issue) Col. Acheampong said that but for the dynamism of the late Kwame Nkrumah, Dr. Busia's intrigues would have halted the pace towards Ghana's independence. "We all know what he did after independence. Busia's claim is, and has always been, that if he is not allowed to rule the country then nobody else would be allowed to rule. For this reason he will do everything in his power to create confusion. This is exactly what he wants to do".

- A 240m. cedi project has been launched by Tema Development Corporation. Covering 104 acres the project, planned by Doxiadis Associates, entails rebuilding the town centre into a complex accommodating a town hall, courts, schools, post office, banks, offices, theatres and shops. To be able to execute the project the corporation is inviting private individuals and enterprises to undertake development on a lease basis. According to the master plan, 25 communities are to be built before 1985 to accommodate the estimated population of 250,000 by then.

- In a message of sympathy to Israel, Col. Acheampong described the killing of 11 members of the Israeli Olympic team as "a sad commentary on human conduct". The Ghana United Nations Association also sent a sympathy message to its Israeli counterpart.

Ghana brought home one bronze medal from the Munich Olympics, Prince Amartey, the middleweight boxer, lost his semi-final to a Finn, R. Virtanen, who was knocked out in the final by the Russian, V. Lemechev.

- Mr. Modesto Apaloo, 52, the former politician, and 13 other people have pleaded not guilty at a circuit court to a charge of possessing 35,900 forged American dollars, 21,692 forged CFA francs and 30,000 forged Nigerian pounds. They are also charged with possessing five paper frames with negatives for 5,000 franc notes, 29 sensitised plates and a quantity of paper cut to the size of various currency notes.

- Three top officials at Tema Development Corporation, Mr. F. K. A. Jigge, managing director, Mr. D. O. Annan, development officer, and Mr. John Quashie, acting Chief Accountant, are to be redeployed said a government white paper on the report of a committee of enquiry into alleged irregularities and malpractices at TDC. The NRC said that due consideration had been given to recommendations for removal of the officials but was unable to accept the recommendations having regard to the evidence before the committee. The committee, under Mr. George Ofosu-Amaah, who is currently on trial for alleged subversion, was set up in November 1969.

- Tiny Rowlands, Managing Director of Lonrho, has arrived in Accra to take part in talks with the government over its participation in Ashanti Goldfields, which Lonrho bought for £15m. in 1968. The government already has a 20 per cent stake in Ashanti and an option on a further 20 per cent for £3.7m. Ghana is said to be seeking a 55 per cent stake in the company.

- Lt. Col. Pumpuni, Chairman of Ghana Airways Corporation, was in Britain for the Farnborough Air Show. He will also represent Ghana at the 28th general meeting of the International Air Transport Association in London later in the month.

- The Omanhene of Shama Traditional Area, Nana Kwaw Fraiku III, has been elected president of the Western House of Chiefs in succession to Nana Kwamina Anasie IV, Omanhene of Sekondi Traditional Area, who died on July 1.

- Since January 13 the Central Revenue Department has collected a record 47,396,420 cedis in taxation. This, said the deputy Commissioner of Income Tax, was part of a total of 77,896,420 collected between July 1971 and June 1972.

● A National Economic Development Council is to be established to take over the functions of the economic committee advising the NRC. Members of this "high-powered" council would be drawn from all sectors of the community and would include economists and persons of related professional disciplines.

● Mr. Stephen M. Doo, Director-General of the state-owned Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, has resigned. The announcement said that Mr. Miodoo was returning to the University of Ghana from which he was seconded to GBC in 1970. The Director of television services at GBC, Mr. A. A. Opoke, has been appointed acting Director-General.

● South Korea's ambassador to the Ivory Coast, Mr. Chul Nam, has paid a four-day visit to Ghana. He met the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, Maj. Gen. Atern, and discussed with the Commissioner for Agriculture, Maj. Gen. Addo, the progress report of a technical agreement on a rice project.

● Dr. W. A. Hachter, Professor of Journalism and Communications at the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed head of the new Institute of Journalism and Communication Studies at the University of Ghana. The Institute is to offer post-graduate courses in journalism and in-service training courses for practising journalists.

● Rewards are soon to be announced for those who genuinely contribute to economic growth. Managers of state and private enterprises would also be honoured but those in the public sector who persistently lose money would be dismissed.

● The government has approved 1.5m cedis compensation to be paid to all those whose farms and property have been destroyed as a result of the building of the Barakese dam. The 4m cedi dam will supply drinking water to Kumasi and surrounding towns.

● The first African area seminar of the Commonwealth Society for the Deaf has taken place at Legon University. The four-day seminar was attended by Lady Templer, Chairman of the Society.

● The 6m cedi Salipond Ceramic Factory is scheduled to start production in December, producing at the initial stage over 1,500 tons of wall tiles and 600 tons of sanitary ware.

● Ghanaians aged over 16 are to be issued with identity cards starting early next year. Groundwork for the operation is being carried out by the Electoral Commission.

● A circular from the NRC has directed hotels and catering houses to serve more Ghanaian dishes. Ghana Airways is to introduce Ghanaian dishes on its international flights.

● Major Agbo, Commissioner for Trade and Industries, is leading a five-man goodwill and trade delegation to Yugoslavia and China.

● A full report of Col. Acheampong's first budget will appear next week.

SIERRA LEONE Opposition arrests

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Silla Jusu Sheriff, and nine other members of the Sierra Leone Peoples Party were arrested following the alleged killing of one government supporter and the injuring of others by an SLPP Land Rover. The nine are Mr. M. S. Mustapha, (the party Chairman), Mr. T. A. Bona, Ex-Paramount Chief Shekara Yumkella, Mr. A. B. Palla, Kandom Bureh (the former SLPP Minister), Mr. I. M. Jabari, Member of Parliament for Bo Central, Mr. Moses Fatoma, Mr. Ansumana B. Fortune and Mr. Manoh Kpaku, MP for Putehin East. Mr. Berhan Macauley, QC appeared for all the arrested.

● Addressing Paramount Chiefs and elders of Bo district the Vice-President said the SLPP had destroyed itself by splitting into three irreconcilable factions, but the numerous calls from influential people for a one-party system would have to be tested by the ballot box. In a welcome address the Chiefs reminded the Vice-President of earlier resolutions passed by Paramount Chiefs for a one-party system.

● The President and the Vice-President visited the Connaught Hospital mortuary in Freetown to see the body of Mr. Simeh Conteh, the APC man alleged to have been killed by an SLPP Land Rover during the Kailahun by-elections.

● The nation-wide State of Emergency which was declared in October 1971 following political disturbances has been suspended in Bo and Kono Districts to allow by-elections to take place. It was similarly suspended in the Kailahun District where three government supporters were earlier returned unopposed in by-elections. In Kono and Bo government candidates were also returned unopposed.

● Over 50 foreigners were arrested in an Army-Police exercise in the Kono diamond district. There were several nationalities, including Ghanaians, and were to be deported. The police say that almost all the 1100 foreigners arrested during a drive in Kono earlier this year are slowly being deported.

● In its interim report for the first half of this year De Beers Consolidated notes that the diamond market is "firm and the sales are continuing at a high level". Nevertheless "the production of certain quantities of small diamonds is still in excess of demand and the surplus is being stocked by the Central Selling Organisation" in London.

● Under the interim arrangement agreed by the International Coffee Council for 1973-75, Sierra Leone's first quarter quota is 27,751 bags. This is somewhat greater than the quotas for Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria, and the same as the

quota for Guinea, but must be met with Zaire's total of 240,634 bags. Ivory Coast's 677,000 bags.

● At the 12th Annual Congress of Sierra Leone Students' Union of Britain and Northern Ireland, in Leeds, the new High Commissioner, Rev. J. A. C. Davies, said that it was a student the seat of power in London and students sought to influence opinion there. Now the seat of power in Sierra Leone.

● During "International Literacy Week" which takes place this month, one literate person should try to teach at least one illiterate person, said the Acting Education Officer, Dr. Taylor-Pitso. Literate people could begin by teaching their own servants. Sierra Leone's target of 50 per cent literacy by 1991 continued. Over 5,000 adults already enrolled in literacy classes, the figure at the same time last year.

● Two hundred and five cartons of sugar stolen from the Queen Elizabeth Quay went through the main goods delivery slips for greeting cards, as prosecution when five men were in connection with the theft.

● Answering questions in Freetown the Vice-President confirmed the government intended to change the name of Sierra Leone when it had recommendations from a representative committee.

● Barclays Bank Sierra Leone approved an interim gross dividend of 10 per cent for the six months to June.

LIBERIA Tolbert in Greece

At the end of President Tolbert's three-day official visit to Greece, he announced that representatives of two countries had been discussing for general economic co-operation development of tourism. The President remaining in Greece for a private visit interrupted a holiday in Geneva for the official visit, on which he was accompanied by the Minister of Planning and Economic Affairs and the Deputy Foreign Minister. The Greek Premier accepted an invitation to visit Liberia.

Among matters discussed during the visit was the question of Greek sailing under the Liberian flag, of which there are some 1,300 with a total net of 20m. It is understood that Greece wished to discuss legislation covering insurance of crews.

Mr. Tolbert noted that this was his first official visit to a European country since he took office, his first official visit outside Africa, and the first visit ever by a Liberian President to Greece. He said that Greek know-how would create great opportunities in Liberia. Tolbert also said that Liberia is determined to expand its international contacts and that foreigners could be in Liberia with complete happiness.

East Africa's summit

Among the heads of state at the East and Central African six-nation summit in Dar es Salaam were Presidents Bokassa of CAR and Nguabi of Congo-Brazzaville. President Maelu Nguema of Equatorial Guinea was due to attend but did not come at the last minute (it was believed that the controversy with Gabon over off-shore islands caused his absence). Both Equatorial Guinea and Gabon were represented by ministers, as were Chad and Zaïre. It was the first time Gabon was represented at the conference, which meets annually (the other members are Rwanda, Burundi, Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, Zambia, Malawi, Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania).

Among resolutions was one pledging increased assistance to liberation movements, as well as free transit of men and war materials over the states' territory to the "war front" conditional on their own security. It was also resolved to initiate programmes of political orientation and adult education to popularise the liberation issue among African people. The final communiqué urged other African states to back Zambia in its role as the main support base for guerrilla organisations, and promised military and economic aid to any state subjected to aggression or economic pressure by the white minority régimes.

The conference also heard OAU Secretary-General Nzo Ekangaki praise such "good neighbours" summits as this one. The OAU believed in the work of regional gatherings and the eight-year old tradition of summits in East and Central Africa was a source of pride to the OAU. A Kenyan proposal that the summit be held once every two years instead of annually was adopted. The next summit is to be in Brazzaville in 1974.

After the talks Mr. Ekangaki said that one of the OAU's most important missions was to mobilise international opinion in favour of the colonised people in Africa, and to help them directly. African states in the UN would play an "efficacious" role in fighting apartheid during the next UN session. The Secretary-General also described the recent decision to exclude Rhodesia from the Olympic Games as a "victory for commonsense".

CHAD

The "bad citizens"

The Chad News Agency says that the Action committee (formed in August to combat subversion with President Tombalbaye as its head) has been meeting for more than a month considering the cases of "bad citizens, who have committed very serious offences", misleading Chadian patriots. They are soon to be tried in public, says the Agency, and "the public will learn about the crimes committed by these compatriots who have gone astray and will then have a clear idea

of the situation". During "public interrogations of the troublemakers, the various organs of the Chad Progressive Party and social and administrative organisations from the districts, towns and villages will be invited to hear the statements of the accused so that they will be in a position to express their opinion fairly on each of the accused. There is no doubt that the verdicts will be perfectly just. The Chad people, who are anxious to survive and progress, will not hesitate to apply the punishments deserved by the corrupt elements who took an active part in the various attempts to demolish the Chad régime". It is not yet known who will be tried, but the list will almost certainly include former Prime Minister Ahmed Koullallah, and former ministers Antoine Bangui and Marc Dounia.

TOGO

The Government and University

The University of Benin in Lomé is to open colleges of agriculture, industrial mechanics, administration and business studies in an effort to bring higher education into line with national needs. The university will also open an Institute of Education and Sciences, and a school for medical assistants in time for the new academic year starting in November.

The decision to enlarge the university was taken at a cabinet meeting, at which members of the Political Bureau of the ruling RPT were also present. A statement said that the government deplored the fact that courses available at the university did not reflect the economic characteristics of the nation. A certain distortion existed between the education provided by the University of Togo and national economic structures. The government intended to set up a council of scholastic orientation answerable to the Minister of National Education, and a Directorate of Studies and Programmes at the university.

Minister of Education Benoît Malou said "the present structure has been effective in the past but does not correspond to present economic and social reality in Togo". In future more emphasis would be placed on practical courses that would allow graduates to take their place immediately in the economy.

• The African Development Bank has lent Togo 475m CFA francs (£574,000) to finance an expanded mining programme by the Benin Mining Company. The expansion is expected to increase phosphate exports by 30 per cent. About one third of Togo's export earnings already come from phosphates. The new mine should raise annual output from 1.8m tons to 2.4m tons.

• Fifteen Togolese journalists and technicians who will run the future TV service scheduled to start operations in November are in Kinshasa for two months working for Zaïre TV.

CAMEROON

France and Cameroon have signed six aid agreements under which France will supply 1,636m CFA francs (about £2,340,000) for projects, including a communications satellite station, railway stations, a radio station, an educational institute, a biology laboratory and a students hall, and equipment for a civil engineering project.

• Communist China and Cameroon have signed agreements on economic and technical co-operation and trade, at the end of the "friendly visit" of Foreign Minister Vincent Efon.

• According to the statistical service in Garoua, the trade of Northern Cameroon in 1971 is put at over 1,000m CFA francs (£15m.). The region trades especially with Nigeria, Congo, CAR, France and West Germany.

• A government statement in Yaoundé said that the decision of the International Olympic Committee to withdraw its invitation to Rhodesia to participate in the Munich Olympics, now over, was "one of the first great victories of OAU".

• Cameroon is to open diplomatic relations at ambassador level with Uganda, Tanzania and North Korea (she already has relations with South Korea).

UPPER VOLTA

A number of former ministers jailed after the fall of the Yaméogo régime have been amnestied. They are former ministers Sibiri Salembere and Tiemoko Kabore, and former under-secretaries Ahmadou Ouedraogo and George Ouedraogo. All their land and moveable properties have now been returned to them.

• The newspaper of the Upper Volta trade union federation, *OVS*, has been suspended for six months by a decree of the Minister for the Interior. The reason given was that the paper was being sold publicly before it had received a licence.

• Upper Volta is to receive 47,700,000 CFA francs (nearly £80,000) from France to prospect for bauxite in the Kaya Kongoussi region north of Ouagadougou.

MALI

Students seeking a government bursary to study abroad must, in future, sign a contract with the Education Ministry undertaking to pay back the loan. A student who does not return to Mali at the end of his studies must promise under contract to pay 20m Mali francs (about £1,600) to the government. The contract is designed to lessen the "brain drain" from Mali to Europe. The newspaper *L'Essor* claimed that there were more African doctors in the suburbs of Paris than in the French-speaking African states.

IVORY COAST

Usher and "dialogue"

The Ivory Coast Government still favours dialogue with South Africa but is waiting for a "positive sign of goodwill" from Premier John Vorster, Ivorian Foreign Minister Arsene Usher said in an interview with the opposition English-language *Rand Daily Mail*. This sign of goodwill was needed to enable his Government to convince other African countries of the desirability of a rapprochement with Pretoria.

The interview was exclusive to the paper's editor Raymond Louw, first South African journalist to be received by a member of the Ivory Coast Government since President Houphouët-Boigny's dialogue offer in April 1971 (*The Mail* backs the Progressive Party led by Colin Eglon and Mrs. Helen Suzman).

M. Usher explained that he would regard as a positive sign Mr. Vorster's acceptance of a compromise solution on Namibia within the framework of the talks between the South African Government and UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim last March. He said Pretoria should drop its plan to divide Namibia into "independent nations", whose survival would be uncertain. He suggested a federal solution under which the Namibian "provinces" would have central representation in a confederation on a footing of equality. He also called on the South African Government formally to reject all racial discrimination and declare its recognition of the equality of all human beings.

M. Usher made it clear that Ivory Coast would not act on its own in any dialogue with South Africa so long as Pretoria did not furnish the proofs of goodwill expected of it. Any direct contact between the Ivory Coast and

South Africa would be premature at this stage, he said, since Abidjan could not act without the agreement of its African partners. But he considered the Waldheim-Vorster talks a useful preliminary contact which - if it brought positive results - might open the way for inter-African contacts at head of state level. An agreement between Mr. Vorster and Dr. Waldheim in the spirit of the UN attitude, he added, would be a spectacular demonstration of goodwill by South Africa.

Commenting on the South African plan to give independence separately to the ethnic groups of Namibia and by extension to the Bantustans (African homelands) of South Africa, M. Usher said "I am sure South Africa will agree with us that very small nations cannot exist on their own and therefore one cannot and must not divide what was united before. A division would not be in the interests of the peace which we wish to establish". His suggestion was that provincial States should be set up within a federation, as was the case in Cameroon and Mexico. By this he meant that account should be taken of the ethnic distribution already existing in Southern Africa. "You have States which are almost entirely Black and you have the White areas with large Black populations", he said. "Everyone in each should be on an equal basis, the Whites and Blacks equal in the White States". The Ivory Coast President's view, M. Usher recalled, was that the White South Africans were "Africans" by right. He pointed to the Lusaka Manifesto as proof of the African States' agreement not to throw Whites out of Africa by violence.

- All workers are to have a 30-day annual holiday. This was announced at ceremonies for the 10th anniversary of the Ivory Coast General Workers Union (UGTIC) by the Minister of Labour Albert Vanie Bi-Tra.

GUINEA

New invasion alarm

President Sekou Touré has accused France of preparing a new invasion of Guinea. In a broadcast he said that in the near future a French minister would be visiting Bissau, with the intention of preparing an action against Guinea. To French ships have been directed to Guinea-Bissau, and mercenary leaders have recently been visiting the capital of neighbouring countries before going to Bissau. "The French neo-colonialists are giving military training to a group of Guinean mercenaries; they are arming these renegades and traitors with deadly weapons. They have corrupted them financially and given them the task of re-conquering Guinea, one of the great symbols of African dignity. Contacts are being made with some African governments, the management of some enterprises in Guinea, the Portuguese Government and the inhuman authorities of Guinea-Bissau. The enemy does not want to reveal his hand in the matter. It is therefore using his utmost to find stooges and double elements who are a Guinean nationality".

The coup which the imperialists were preparing against his régime, said President Touré, was more serious than those of the past. It would probably be the occasion of the national celebration at the end of September. "Let them come", he said, "and they will find their tombs wide open".

In France official circles denied the any minister was intending to visit Bissau.

- Speaking at a university student seminar, President Sekou Touré said "We must reject any aid that does not help us to become self-sufficient... we must reject any aid that helps to create a class of *petit bourgeois* and exploiters in Guinea, and any that taints our dignity. He also said that Guinea viewed with great concern "the association of some African countries with the European Economic Community. The relations between those countries and the Community can only be colonial. It is unthinkable that this horse and rider association can ever ensure the development of any of these underdeveloped countries whose very underdevelopment has been caused by the capitalist nations. We will not make any attempt here to prove this statement because the recent UNCTAD meeting has already done so authoritatively".

- President Mobutu of Zaire is to visit Guinea for the November 22 ceremony marking the defeat of the 1970 attempted invasion of Guinea. He will leave Conakry on November 23, in the company of President Sekou Touré arriving in Kinshasa in time for the seventh anniversary of his own 1960 coup on November 25.

DAHOMY

Maga and the Arabs

In the Beirut paper *Le Sarr* M. Hubert Maga, member of the three-man Presidential Council, appealed to Arab states to help development in Dahomey. "We are not, as some want to believe or lead others to believe, against the Arab states", said M. Maga. "We have proved this on numerous occasions with our votes at the UN and the OAU. But we intend to remain neutral - at least to safeguard our friendship with one party or the other". Israel had offered important aid to Dahomey, and contributed "substantially to the development of our agriculture, particularly the growing of maize and fruit trees. Why do the Arab states not show equal interest?" Appealing for Arab technical co-operation, he said "there is a lot to do in the sphere of petroleum, where the technique and experience acquired by the Arabs could manifest itself. We are open to the Arab

world and favourably receive all initiatives to co-operate with the countries of the Arab League".

- The USA is lending Dahomey about £3m to help finance renovation of the road from Parakou to the Niger border. Total cost of the 271 mile road is put at about £6m. Negotiations are under way for the World Bank to provide the rest.

- Three prisoners and a gendarme were injured and a number of prisoners escaped during a mutiny at Cotonou civil prison. *Dahomey Express* said trouble began when a habitual criminal broke into the chief warden's office to complain that a gendarme had prevented him from picking flowers from the prison flower-bed. The gendarme was also injured, and a fight broke out. Other prisoners took advantage of the situation, but order was restored after the arrival of armed police.

NIGERIA

Lagos buses a "danger"

The 100 second-hand Scania buses bought from Sweden two years ago by Lagos City Transport Service have been taken off the road following persistent breakdowns and a shortage of spare parts. The chairman of Lagos City Council, Col. Kehinde Sho-Silva, said that the buses were withdrawn from service in the interests of public safety. "Apart from the fact that they often break down on the road, the buses constitute a danger to the public because they can easily catch fire."

When the buses were bought through local agents two years ago there was great controversy over allegations of inflated costs.

Withdrawal of the buses further complicates the acute shortage of public transport in Lagos. The chairman of Lagos City Transport Service, Lt Cdr M. A. Bieghede, said that the current fleet has been reduced from about 400 to 280.

• Bus fares in Lagos are to be increased because the service is currently losing £1,300 a day, the chairman announced.

• Nigeria is still faced with a shortage of executive, technical and management staff and needed foreign skilled personnel to train and upgrade its manpower resources. Chief Henry Fajemirokun, President of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce, has said. He stressed that arbitrary cuts in expatriate quotas would be inimical to planned training and career development. The expatriate quota system was devised by the government to check the number of foreigners coming to Nigeria for jobs. Chief Fajemirokun said that before the expatriate quota of any company is reduced it should be informed and allowed to say whether such reduction would damage its operations.

• Eighteen airports are to be redeveloped under a programme to modernise and improve the communications network. Each state capital is to have an airport and work on the programme is expected to be completed within four years. Other airports will be developed at Yola, Makurdi, Zaria, Warri and Oshogbo. Construction is expected to start soon.

• Captain Berner Bansa has been appointed air force commandant of the military forces at Ikeja Airport in succession to Captain Johnson Ajibulu, who is on an advanced training course in Britain.

• Lynching of suspected kidnappers has been condemned by Gen. Gowon, who has warned that "this ignominious lawlessness should not be allowed to spread and must be eradicated with unmitigated ruthlessness." At least 10 people have been killed by mobs since the current kidnapping scare began.

• The Federal Government will not embark on a national health service until sufficient Nigerian medical and paramedical staff have been trained to man the medical services, the Commissioner for Health, Alhaji Aminu Kano, has said. But he noted that hospitals and clinics currently giving free medical services would form the nucleus of a future national health service.

• Over 800 legal practitioners are listed in the Federal Gazette as having paid practising fees for the first quarter of this year. 276 are in Lagos State, 231 in the Western State, 83 in the Mid-West, 142 in East-Central State, 25 in Rivers, 21 in South-East, and 58 in the six Northern States.

• The appointment of Dr. Clement Ison as Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria has been renewed for another period of five years by the Federal Government. Also announced was the appointment of Professor H. M. A. Ountiri, Director of the Nigerian Institute for Social and Economic Research at Ibadan, as a director of the bank for a three year term.

• Nigeria produced nearly 54,000,000 barrels of crude oil in June alone. This amount is a daily average of nearly 1,800,000 barrels, about 0.55 per cent higher than the average for the previous month. The Ministry of Mines and Power says crude oil exports for the same month amount to nearly 53m barrels, 2 per cent higher than the previous month.

• Gas from the Mobil terminal at Ighona in the South-East State, which is now being burnt away, is soon to be made available for domestic use. The Mobil public relations officer has said his company would install an electric gas compressor at the terminal.

• The police force is short of between 6,000 and 7,000 constables, Mr F. Igbe, deputy commandant at the Police College, has said. The overall strength of the force is about 30,000.

• Dr. Adetoro, Federal Commissioner for Industrial Affairs, has paid a four-day visit to Belgium. A Belgian spokesman said that the possibility of organising trade relations between Nigeria and Belgium on a more permanent basis was discussed between Dr. Adetoro and the Foreign Minister, M. Henri Fayat.

• His visit to Nigeria had "laid the first foundations of a true scientific co-operation... opening the door of dialogue in the scientific field between English-speaking and French-speaking Africa", said the Ivory Coast Minister for Scientific Research, M. Jean Loruogoun Guede, on his return to Abidjan.

• The Interim Common Services Agency is still functioning because the assets and liabilities of the former Northern Nigeria Government have not yet been divided among the states, the organisation's former secretary, Alhaji Adamu Fika, said in Maiduguri.

Kwara Governor explains

Addressing an emergency meeting of the Kwara State Conference of Chiefs, the State Governor, Col. David Banigboye, explained that the aim of the recent house-to-house search of top state officials has been to close the leakage through which Government secrets were escaping to reckless and irresponsible "ghost writers". These writers were dissatisfied elements who had resorted to "crude, cowardly and unpatriotic" methods of writing and circulating slanderous anonymous letters in which executive council decisions and classified documents were being freely quoted to the embarrassment of the government. He noted that since the exercise there had been remarkable improvement and relative progress in the state's public life.

• Following his visits to Australia and New Zealand (see last week's issue) Dr. Arkipo, Commissioner for External Affairs, travelled to Indonesia and Japan. On arrival in Jakarta Dr. Arkipo said that Nigeria was interested in the civic mission work done by the military and hoped that Indonesia would help Nigeria to carry out such projects. During his stay in Jakarta Dr. Arkipo held talks with several ministers on ways of promoting economic relations. Before leaving for Tokyo Dr. Arkipo said that his talks had been very valuable. "We have things in common and we can learn much from each other," Dr. Arkipo said that he was impressed with military men doing non-military jobs. In Nigeria, many officers were also given civilian jobs, he added.

• A mass rally organised in Lagos by the Nigerian Moslem Council approved a resolution stating that Moslems throughout Nigeria would be prepared to join hands with their brothers in Arab countries to fight for the recovery of all sacred places still held by the Jews. The rally was held on the third anniversary of the burning of the Al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem.

• The Lagos consumer price index for the lower income group stood at 186.5 in April, compared with 168.7 in April 1971. The index for the middle income group rose from 162.0 in April 1971 to 176.4 in April this year.

• Col. James Oluleye, commanding officer of the Second Infantry Division, was appointed acting Governor for the Midwest, Kwara and Western States while the three governors attended the Munich Olympics. He told reporters in Benin that military-civilian relations had improved tremendously and said that a recent fracas at Umunede in the Midwest had been an isolated case. He hoped that the need for the compulsory enlistment of civilians into the army would no longer arise. On corruption, he said that a number of army officers in his division who had been found guilty of misappropriation of public funds had been sentenced to imprisonment.

From 1973 the school year will begin in September and end the following June or July. It previously commenced in January.

Mr. Richard Akinjide has been elected President of the Nigerian Bar Association for a third term.

Nigeria and Senegal have opened talks on economic and cultural co-operation based on the 1971 cultural agreement.

Miss Adaora Lily Ulasi has been appointed Editor of *Woman's World*.

The East Central State Housing Development Authority has spent more than £250,000 since the end of the war, but about £20m. is needed for future projects in Enugu and Onitsha, the organisation's public relations officer, Mr Chike Akosa, announced. More than 55 per cent of the houses in the state had been destroyed in the war and almost all the remainder had suffered from inadequate maintenance or minor damage.

The East Central State Government has accepted the report of the Ijere committee on the reorganisation of agricultural services in the state, the Administrator, Mr Ukpa Asika, announced. The recommendations include a proposal for the production and supply functions of the Ministry of Agriculture to be placed under a new organisation, the Agricultural Develop-

ment Authority. This new arrangement will come into force from January 1. Mr. Asika also said that new rent edict for the state was almost ready.

The East-Central State receives more than the normal share of revenue from the Federal Government, bringing considerable improvement in its financial position announced Mr. Asika, he said that the State is now able to release funds for development. Mr. Asika added that the building of a modern market in Enugu is included in the State's four-year development plan.

The Military Governor of Lagos State, Col. Mobolaji Johnson, has again said it will be necessary for his government to establish its own radio station. He added that it was, however, considering the possibility of closer co-operation with the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation.

More than £3m. will be required to resettle Lagos citizens who will be displaced as a result of the reconstruction of the Agege Motor Road, Col. Johnson announced. The Federal Government has been asked for assistance.

A warning to the people of Lagos State not to introduce religious politics into the administration of the state has been made by the Governor.

Alhaji Umaru Gumel, Kano State Commissioner for Finance, has died, aged 59.

Names of primary and post-primary schools in the Mid-West which by religious overtones are to be changed by State Commissioner for Education, Mr Akpata, said that a commission has been appointed to suggest new names of historical and cultural importance.

Chief Thompson Salubi has resigned as Midwestern State Commissioner of Agriculture and Natural Resources "as a result of a query".

Calabar's Housing Shortage

Work on the housing estate in Calabar was being intensified to try to allay the shortage of housing and high rents said the South Eastern State Governor, Brig. Eusebe. He added that when secretariat buildings were completed residential buildings currently occupied by the ministries would be released for private occupation.

Inadequate electricity supply may cause the Calabar Cement Company to close, the chairman, Mr J. M. Essien, warned.

South Eastern State is to build £53,000 central medical store in Calabar.

A council is to be set up in the Rivers State to advise the Ministry of Education on all matters concerning the development of education in the state.

The Rivers State Tourist Corporation is to operate a boat-hire service with Capri and three Bermuda boats, due to arrive in October.



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