

DRUM

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NIGERIA EDITION 20 KOBO
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FEBRUARY 1974

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 - 3 BENJAMIN OHAJANYA, 7 AKINDELE STREET, AMUKOKO—APAPA, LAGOS
 - 4 SOLA FOLARIN, HIGH COURT OF LAGOS STATE, JUDICIAL DIVISION, LAGOS
- WHO SHARE THE FIRST PRIZE OF N800.00.

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2. The winner must mark the exact centre of the ball. If no cor-

rect entry is made the prize will be added to the next contest. If more than one person marks the correct place the prize will be divided.

3. Not more than 12 crosses are permitted per coupon.

4. Entries will close on Feb 21 and the winner's name will be published in March.

5. The judges' decision will be final and no correspondence about the contest is allowed.

6. Employees and families and persons connected with DRUM Publications are not allowed to compete.

7. Postal orders are not to be signed or entries may be disqualified.

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The African engineer who found that travelling to the UK via KLM and Amsterdam is an experience he'd certainly like to repeat.



When I called in on KLM they showed me how easy it was to fly to Manchester via Amsterdam. On Tuesday and Saturday from Lagos and on Wednesday from Kano*. A few days later I was flying from Lagos on KL 582.

Throughout that flight I was made really comfortable. The

* In co-operation with Nigerian Airways.

cabin crew were so friendly and the stewardess had the most delightful way of explaining what was what on the menus. Then, sitting in my seat I found this map of Europe. Funny, but I'd never realized Amsterdam was such an ideal gateway to Europe.



The next morning I took a trip round the canals and harbour in one of the special glass-topped boats.

Like floating through a very entertaining history lesson, we passed the magnificent houses of the 17th-century merchant princes.

I was booked on a KLM DC-9 straight to Manchester.

I went to the airport early because I wanted plenty of time to wander round the famous Tax-Free

Shopping Centre.

This is said to have the largest selection of goods in Europe and some of the world's lowest prices. I looked at the huge range of cigarettes, liquors, cameras and watches - and I think they're right.

Later, relaxing over coffee on the 70 minute flight to Manchester, I thought going via Amsterdam is certainly an experience I'd like to repeat. And soon.

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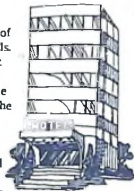
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Amsterdam Airport I found an exceptionally modern complex. Obviously designed to be enjoyed rather than endured, getting from the plane to finding a porter is very simple and then it's only a 20-minute ride to central Amsterdam.

My hotel overlooked one of those quiet canals. The magnificent facade was straight from the Golden Age of the 17th century, while inside everything was comfortable and completely up-to-the minute.

I decided it was time to try a little nightlife. Once again I was surprised. Behind those narrow, rather serious looking facades and through a speakeasy door I stepped straight into the amazing beat of 20th-century Amsterdam.



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When it comes to introductions, what do we say?

SHOULD we begin an address to ladies gatherings of people with "Ladies and Gentlemen" like Europeans or, in line with African custom, give precedence to men and start with "Gentlemen and Ladies?"

Leo Kings, Nnukka.
You give the impression that African culture treats women with little or no respect. That is not true. In the past women were not often invited to important gatherings. But times have changed. Let us encourage women instead of keeping them in the background — Editor.

Christians do not rob neighbours

IN recent issue of DRUM you carried a report about bandits in the East Central State. At Enugu, a state capital of considerable importance, one would expect to find a high standard of security, both for life and property of its citizens. The reverse is the case as your article indicated. The most disheartening thing about it all is themselves as "Christians" and robbers with violence even though they bleed.

But, actually, are Christians allowed to rob a man of his possessions? These men have in upside down.

J. H. Nicodemus, Kakuri Kaduna.
You can trust the gangs of armed robbers in that part of Nigeria for their sense of humour — Editor.



Lovely Irene Kafoodi is a girl with real taste. Not just at the fashion sense, either, she is the ripe young age of 20 kitchen and is now studying in London for a degree in cooking. And after that she hopes to return to Uganda, her home country. Understanding more than one palate when she gets there.



One Amin is enough?

'Two Amins' needed in Africa

RECENTLY, some 400 innocent people in Mozambique were killed by Portuguese soldiers and the OAU looked on without raising a finger. I wonder what it would look like if Africa could produce about four other heads of state like General Idi Amin of Uganda. Wide domination of any part of Africa would then be a thing of the past.

Ndu, Manife, West Cameroon.
The OAU has not shirked its responsibilities. It is just another matter of time. Two African leaders like General Amin would certainly be too much for Africa! — Editor.

Bring on the boys, Mr. Editor

AFRICA is crying out for equality between the sexes but DRUM insists on publishing only cover girls. Why should women be denied the pleasure of looking at DRUM cover boys? Boys are beautiful, you know. How about it, Mr. Editor?

Unisex, Dar es Salaam.
Over the years we have received hundreds of letters calling for cover boys. So DRUM has pleasure in announcing its latest competition announcing the most "beautiful" boy in Africa! So chaps, if you're in Africa! So chaps, if you're interested send a really glamorous black and white picture of yourself to the "Boys Beautiful", DRUM, Private Mail Box 2128, Lagos, or DRUM, Box 43372, Nairobi. We'll publish the most gorgeous picture in the magazine — and let our readers judge about your claims to our cover. — Editor.

Speaker who spoke after Uhuru

I THOROUGHLY enjoyed your excellent historical article ("DRUM," "Mrungu's Paradise" (Aug. 1973, August). However, I would like to

take issue with you on one small point. Your caption next to a photograph of Malcolm MacDonald shaking hands with Sir Humphrey Slade said that Sir Humphrey Slade said that Sir Humphrey was speaker of the colonial Parliament. The impression was that he left Kenya after Uhuru.

Sir Humphrey was also an example of how some enlightened Whitemen came to terms with Black nationalism.

After Independence in 1963 Sir Humphrey stayed on as Speaker to the House of Representatives. In February 1967 he became Speaker in the National Assembly, which was a great tribute to his ability. **J. Elmes, Kenya.**

We are sorry for giving this wrong impression. — Editor.

Young have fresh enthusiasm

MEMBERS of the Nigerian Youth Service Corps should be grateful to the Federal Nigeria Government for many things which I am sure some people have overlooked.

The perennial graduate unemployment has now become a thing of the past. The spirit of national awareness among young people has been established. From all this love and inter-state marriage will flourish.

Joseph Adedokun, Kaduna.
That apart, the Youth Service Corps should be called Nigerian Unity Corps. It is a most effective weapon for national unity. — Editor.

New laws can cure ladies' upsets

YOUNG men in Adadama town have a social problem which could only be solved through legislation. These days young women in the area prefer to remain single or take up the thriving trade of prostitution, rather than marry any of their men whose educational attainments fall short of a university degree.

If there is no law to curb this lapse among our women, then young men of Adadama town of Rivers State might resort to marry from other towns in Nigeria.

Joseph Agbor Ituli, Adadama.
That is a great pity. But young men from want to marry only one not helping to promote Nigerian unity. The important thing is to marry the man or woman you love. Where he or she comes from is not important. The same goes for Editor.

Still be reading you in 2002

YOUR December issue of DRUM was tremendous. Congratulations on your 21st birthday. DRUM has served for one, look forward to the year and, you celebrate your 50th birthday. I promise you I will still be your most faithful reader, even though my eyes will probably be a little Abraham Penza, Nairobi, Kenya.



President Kaunda: Man of the people in a one-party state.

Zambians have entered a 'new era'

BY adopting the one-party system of government, Zambians have entered an important new era in their political history. The "Westminster", or two-party system, was unsuitable for Africa, mainly because it wasted so much political talent. Now, all the best politicians and representatives of the people can work together in harmony (one hopes). Tanzania has shown that we can work a one-party system and still be democratic. For these even ministers and backbenchers have been kicked out of office at election time.

Steven Zaza, Livingstone, Zambia.



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LETTERS — Continued

'Time joke' makes me see red

BECOME enraged when I hear the expression, "African Time". The expression is very misleading. Lateness, or poor response to calls or assignments, is not peculiar to Africa. I would suggest change "African Time" to "Fool's Time".
Sumbo Akinbo, Oyo.

Now for a change in styles

I AM in favour of the call made by a former Nigerian Federal Minister, Alhaji Inuwa Wada, that to an end.

Nigerians should bear in mind that army rule is an emergency one and, therefore, the earlier the soldiers make room for elected representatives of the people, the better for everybody.
W. O. Oehife, Oturkpo.

People don't know the value of what they've got until they have lost it — Editor.

Superstar Zambian on the way

ZAIRE is now through to the World Cup Finals in Munich. What a terrific achievement for the country and I notice that the President of Zaire has rewarded the team with a free car, house and 15-day holiday in any part of the world.

But I would like to stand by that the continent's "superstars" were Zambia. Really, I loved that article because until you wrote about it few people knew how seriously we take soccer.

I think that in years to come Zambians will not only beat the rest of Africa but also take on the world's best teams.

Thank you, Mr. DRUM, for bringing attention to us. When we are holding the world cup above our heads one day in the future we will talk first to a reporter from DRUM. OK? Steven Kabwe, Zambia. Skisholeka.

— Editor. Kabwe, — We'll take you up on that offer.

Full marks for our police forces

THE role being played by the Nigeria Police in this country is commendable. Since this country is in Civil War, they have done a lot to maintain law and order and tackle successfully and organically. Shortly after, it was armed robbery law-abiding citizens to take on the streets. Many people were on foot and that night they were on foot.

Let us give the police a thumbs up back for the police beats.
Uduha Akpan, Botswana.

You can trust the Nigerian Police. Let us hope the Police will continue their droves to other parts of the country as kidnapping and other will be with equal efficiency.

SECRETS OF NIGERIA'S CHILD BRIDES

ou are the kind of man who likes to ogle eyes at girls, you would live long if you visited some parts of the Abakaliki area of the East Central State of Nigeria.

ere, it is traditionally a capital offence to commit adultery or attempt to do so. In the Ezza and Ilwo districts, it is a serious offence even to ask if a girl is a serious offence even to ask if she is to be your friend, especially if she is approaching the age of 10.

approaching the age of 10, it is from this age that she is deemed to be ripe enough according to custom, to be engaged to the man who will be her husband. The future bridegroom, who may be as old as the bride-to-be's grandfather, is most likely to be the closest friend of the girl's father.

Any man who tries to woo the girl before the engagement ceremony is deemed to be guilty of adultery. The penalty is death — in the hands of the infant bride's suitor. The usual instrument for the "execution" is a machete. It is an act of gallantry for the suitor to kill the offender, if he so desires, but cutting off his head.

It is common to find in the Abakaliki area a girl of 10 years of age already married to a man of 50 years.

The first step towards getting the consent of the girl's father is to inform him of your wish to become his son-in-law. Your request should be accompanied with a gallon of palm wine. The father is not bound to give his answer immediately you have made your wish known.

To win over the girl's father, you have to work on the man's farm a few times and lend him a hand at domestic chores. This gives the father a chance of finding out whether you would be an asset to his family.

Although the girl's mother is supposed to have no say in the matter, you will be well advised not to ignore her. One way to signify your appreciation of her influence is to make your first inquiry through her. Custom demands daughter bearing the name you have mentioned. Your next approach will be to the girl's father. He too will reply that he has no such daughter.

The suitor is expected to make six such inquiries, each time offering a gallon of palm wine to the prospective father-in-law, before the existence of his wife-to-be is acknowledged. The girl is then called out to set eyes on the suitor and withdraw from the meeting almost immediately after.

From this stage onwards, the girl's parents take care to ensure that the girl is not tampered with by another man. The parents will now start to teach her the virtues of marriage and lecture her on her future marriage functions.

The girl is then free to live with her future husband at intervals. Any man who plays with her beyond reasonable limits does so at great peril to his life. For example, if a misproud rival touches her breasts or her buttocks, he may find his pleasure short-lived.

When a father offers his daughter to a friend for marriage, the procedure is even more fascinating.

The father first makes his offer with the gift of a live goat. Then he sits back to await the reaction of his friend to this noble gesture. In response, the



JUST MARRIED: 13-year-old Nwideyi and a friend of the family, Mr. Ede Edeani, aged 46, who also has two wives. In this ceremony the couple drink palm wine from the same glass after sharing

Young love between boy and girl is taboo in the Abakaliki province of Nigeria. For when they reach the age of ten, girls are betrothed to men who might be as old as their grandfathers. Any young rivals who dare interfere may lose their heads once and for all at the end of a cutlass. Elaborate rituals help brides over the emotional shocks of their betrothal — and also help to groom a groom's ardour by squeezing endless gifts out of him. Here INNOCENT EZEM, recently married to a 46-year-old man, who is a lifelong friend of her

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The groom goes on giving . . .

continued
 lucky future son-in-law replies with a keg of wine and a load of tobacco. This exchange is followed with merriment to mark the new turn in men's friendship. The father will now invite his wife to witness the new relationship between him and his friend, and finally the girl will be ritually introduced to her husband.

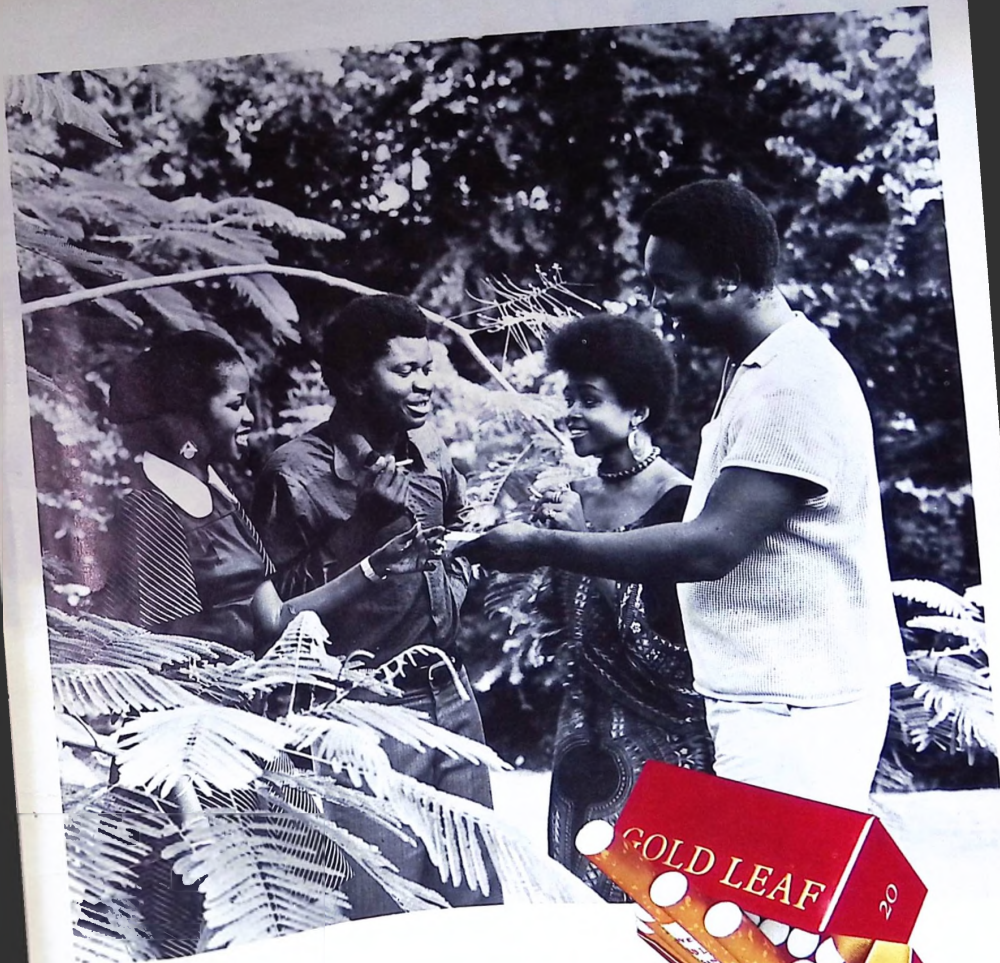
A few weeks after this initial ceremony, the father sends a message to his son-in-law requesting him to pre-sent the family wine (*Mmanyu Umun-na*) which is worth 10 Naira. This will be followed by payment of the actual bride-price which is normally 40 Naira and a sow.

All the members of the bride's family will openly express their approval of the bride-price and members of the groom's family, including any relatives he might have, will openly express their approval of the bride. The father will call on his son-in-law to offer the family two grass-rodent-like kola nuts, a load of fish and two types of cloth, a red iron-bar and two yams for the end of a fortnight, the father must make sure that he physically comfortable in the formal of native gin. Once a year, the son-in-law must bring forward two goats, a load of tobacco, two bottles of Aj, to the son-in-law's house. After a visit to the bride's house, the father will continue to visit her and her family. The bride's stay in the fattening-room where she is kept is a mild form of slavery. The husband must make sure that she is physically comfortable in the formal of native gin. Once a year, the son-in-law must bring forward two goats, a load of tobacco, two bottles of Aj, to the son-in-law's house. After a visit to the bride's house, the father will continue to visit her and her family. The bride's stay in the fattening-room where she is kept is a mild form of slavery.

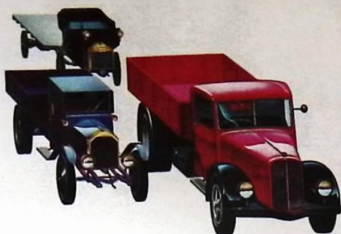
A FATHER of bride, Mr. Mboyi Ukwu (left), offered Nwideyi to a lifelong friend who will still have time to do domestic work for her. Says 13-year-old Nwideyi:



STAG PARTY as the groom, Mr. Ed Nwideyi. He told us he couldn't find about two months stay with her again. The husband goes back to parents-in-law after another late a month with four Naira's worth of fish and coconuts to request the father slughters a goat for his son-in-law and the relations. The girl too will have groups friends and come her. At the end of the



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ON THE BEAT NO. 1 as Ishola Adepoju leads his group in song.



ON THE BEAT NO. 2 Ishola Adepoju back on police duty.

The singing policeman bowls them over

His stride brisk and his uniform smartly pressed, Nigerian Police Inspector Ishola Adepoju looks like any other senior cop when you pass him in a Lagos street. You'd never guess that behind his facade of authority is a musician struggling to get out.

And it's been a most successful struggle. Today Inspector Adepoju heads one of Nigeria's most popular bands, which has performed on radio and sold thousands of discs.

He is leader of the Nigerian Blues, an 11-man musical group which he formed in 1958. They remained unknown for five years until they

were discovered by the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation, which, in turn, introduced them to Philips the recording people.

Within five years, the band had waxed ten records, many of which were quickly sold out. Later, they switched over to the Gbalaya recording organisation and made another seven records.

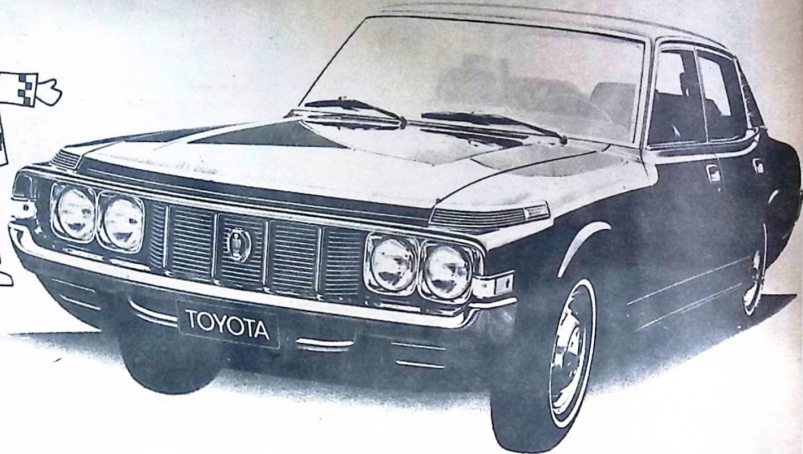
Ishola Adepoju and His Nigerian Blues sing in one of Nigeria's dialects, Ekiti — and much of their music is a colourful blend of Oro Osanrin, Ogbela, Adamo and Osirigi tunes from four important festivals in Ekiti.

Apart from the microphone system, the group does not use electronic gear, because Ishola wants the band to be truly indigenous. It thrives on a limited collection of home-made instruments like the gong, clefs, marracas and drums — all topped by the vocal ability of Ishola Adepoju himself.

The cornerstone of the Nigerian Blues' sound is Raphael Adelaye on bass drum, with Raab Aderyemo on gong, Babatunde Adesoye on marracas, Kazem Bola on bongo drum

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Top Cop praises Ishola's sound

continued

Oledipo Fatal on tom-toms and Ralpheal Olurufemi on ciefs. So superb is the sound and rhythm that even a non-Nigerian finds himself swaying his head and tapping the floor to the music.

Part of the group's popularity is their ability to embrace day-to-day life — as in their *A de omo Irun Ekiti* (about fellowship), *Adura Mose* (on a religious theme), *A kunle yan* (about homeseign philosophy), *a yo ju wan* (ambition) and "2nd All-Africa Games".

Ishola Adepoju says, "My musical life doesn't conflict with my police duties. My objective is to portray Nigeria's cultural heritage and the police are proud of this. This was obvious when the Inspector-General, Alhaji Kam Selem, expressed his admiration for my group's performance in 1971."

One of the future plans of the Nigerian Blues is to improve Nigeria's rich cultural image in other lands.

With the immense popularity of juju music in Nigeria, the task facing the band seems difficult. This fear was rejected by Ishola: "My band stands a very good chance amidst the large number of juju musicians because we are not involved in breakneck competition. We take music as a hobby. People judge us through our performances and at the rate we are being accepted, I can say with confidence that our band has a really bright future."

Bliti Olagunju

LEADING band, Police Inspector Ishola Adepoju also sings the vocals. Except for the microphones, he does without electronics — preferring the old traditional instruments. Generals, professors and top civil servants have all danced enthusiastically to his music and personally praised the Singing Cop.

GIRLS from a Lagos secondary school step out at a public dance to the singing Inspector's music. "We have made 17 records," says Inspector Adepoju, "and most of them have sold out."



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Top Cop praises Ishola's sound

continued

Oladipo Fatal on tom-toms and Ralphael Olorunfemi on clefs. So superb is the sound and swaying his head and tapping the floor to the music.

Part of the group's popularity is their ability to embrace day-to-day life — as in their *A de omo Irun Ekiti* (about fellowship), *Adura Mose* (on a religious theme), *A kunie yan* (about homespun philosophy), *a yo ju won* (about and "2nd All-Africa Games").

Ishola Adejolu says, "My musical life doesn't conflict with my police duties. My objective is to portray Nigeria's cultural heritage and to be proud of this. This was obvious when the Inspector-General, Alhaji Kam Seleni, expressed his admiration for my group's performance in 1971."

One of the future plans of the Nigerian Blues is to improve Nigeria's rich cultural image in other lands.

With the immense popularity of Juju music in Nigeria, the task facing the band seems difficult. This fear was rejected by Ishola: "My band stands a very good chance among the large number of Juju musicians because we are not involved in breakneck competition. We take music as a hobby. People judge us through our performances and at the rate we are being accepted, I can say with confidence that my band has a really bright future."

Bill Olagunju

LEADING band, Police Inspector Ishola Adejolu also sings the vocals. Except for the microphones, he does without electronics — preferring the old traditional instruments. Generals, professors and civil servants have all danced enthusiastically to his music and personally praised the Singing Cop.

GIRLS from a Lagos secondary school step out at a public dance to the singing inspector's music. "We have made 17 records," says Inspector Adejolu, "and most of them have sold out."



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Meet the new Big noise in town!

Believe it or not, the seemingly quiet little chap in the large hat in our picture (right) is a real Big Noise. Within his small frame, his lung-power is awesome. And it helped his group of similarly endowed boys — known as the Little Fala Group — to win the Juniors' cup in the traditional Legos noise-making competition.

What started as a deliberate act of noise-making some years ago in Legos has given birth to a popular sing song competition in the Nigerian capital.

It stems from the custom in which groups of Muslim youths tured their residential areas making noises to rouse up fellow Muslims from their beds and up prepare to eat the first of two meals a day permitted during the annual 30-day Ramadan fast. The noises were produced from empty cans.

The groups later formed themselves into choral societies. When the groups met in the streets, they began to hold impromptu song competitions — but, alas, some competitions ended in fist-fights.

So a society known as 'The Muslim Rambler Stars' was formed to regulate all the choral groups and form a code of conduct.

The latest contest was held on the 28th night of Ramadan at Legos City Hall in which 52 groups took part. Seven groups got to the final.

Four groups reached the finals in Division II: International Lucky Star, Fuji Lawa, Agidi Lawa and Jolly Lawa. International Lucky Star Group led by Alfa Gariyu Akanda won first place. In Division II, the eight finalists were: Ipaye Lawa, Dolly Lawa, City Lawa, Milliki Lawa, Alada Lawa, Rover Lawa, Awawa Lawa, and Salimoo Salami competed. Group and Salimoo Salami Group led by Alfa Raima Fuji Lawa Group led by Alfa Raima Ayilinde came first. The overall winners' trophy was won by Rover Lawa led by Alututan.

photographs by Dapo Saba



LITTLE noise-maker Akanda who led the Little Fala Group collects the winning cup from Assaji H. A. B. Isuro, Clerk and chief executive of Legos City Council

WHITE CLAD group called the Salimoo Salami Group (far left) singing in the Division II. Their performance was a highlight of the night. (far right) group called the Salimoo Salami Group

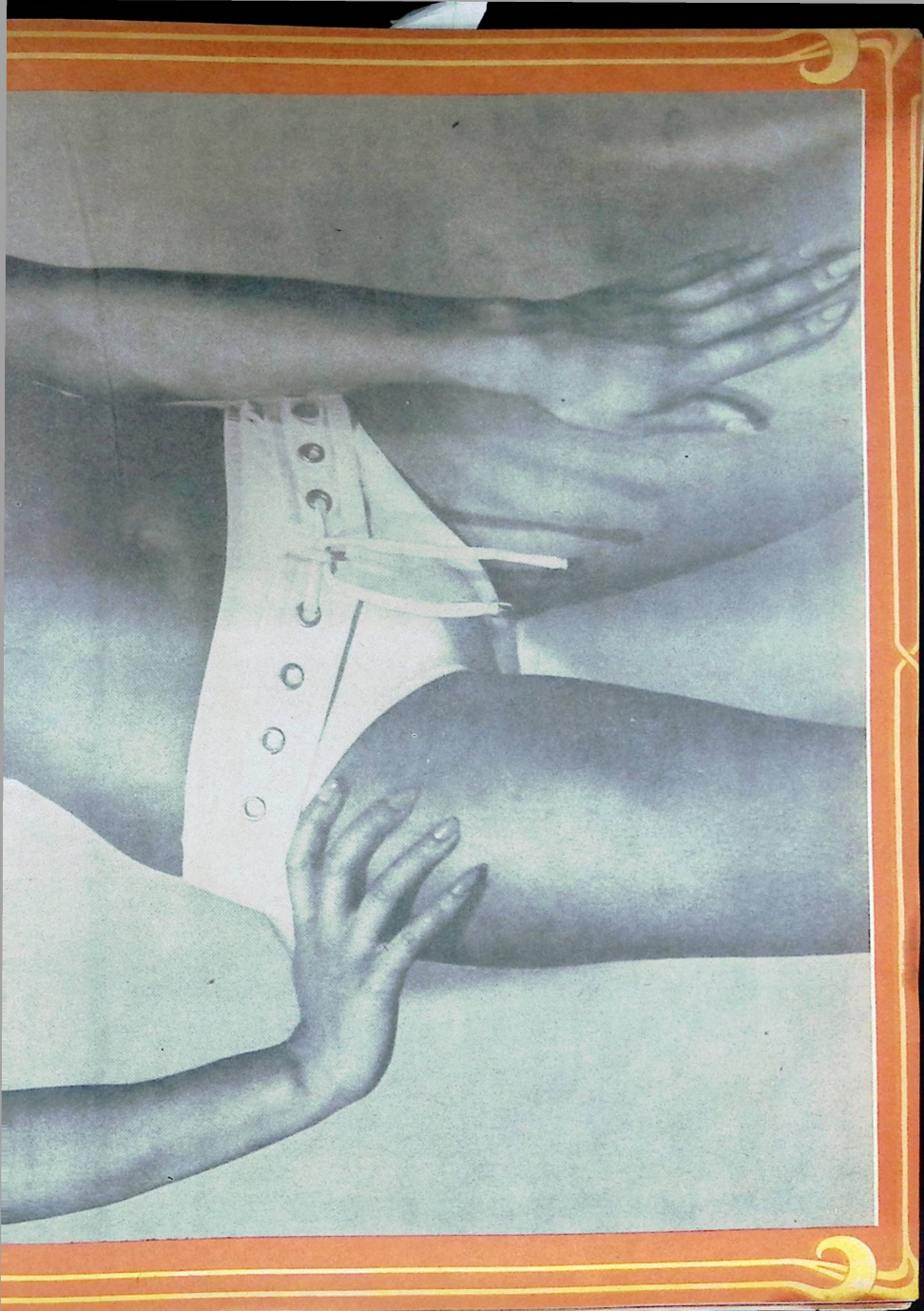
GROUP called the Salimoo Salami Group (far left) singing in the Division II. Their performance was a highlight of the night. (far right) group called the Salimoo Salami Group



DRUM

1974 CALENDAR

JANUARY		FEBRUARY		MARCH	
S	6 13 20 27	S	3 10 17 24	S	3 10 17 24
M	1 8 15 22 29	M	1 8 15 22 29	M	1 8 15 22 29
T	1 8 15 22 29	T	5 12 19 26	T	5 12 19 26
W	2 9 16 23 30	W	6 13 20 27	W	6 13 20 27
T	3 10 17 24 31	T	7 14 21 28	T	7 14 21 28
F	4 11 18 25	F	2 9 16 23	F	2 9 16 23
S	5 12 19 26	S	2 9 16 23	S	2 9 16 23 30
APRIL		MAY		JUNE	
S	7 14 21 28	S	5 12 19 26	S	2 9 16 23
M	1 8 15 22 29	M	6 13 20 27	M	4 11 18 25
T	2 9 16 23 30	T	7 14 21 28	T	5 12 19 26
W	5 10 17 24 31	W	1 8 15 22 29	W	5 12 19 26
T	4 11 18 25	T	2 9 16 23 30	T	6 13 20 27
F	5 12 19 26	F	3 10 17 24 31	F	7 14 21 28
S	6 13 20 27	S	4 11 18 25	S	1 8 15 22 29
JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER	
S	7 14 21 28	S	4 11 18 25	S	1 8 15 22 29
M	1 8 15 22 29	M	5 12 19 26	M	2 9 16 23 30
T	2 9 16 23 30	T	6 13 20 27	T	3 10 17 24
W	3 10 17 24 31	W	1 8 15 22 29	W	5 12 19 26
T	4 11 18 25	T	2 9 16 23 30	T	6 13 20 27
F	5 12 19 26	F	3 10 17 24 31	F	7 14 21 28
S	6 13 20 27	S	4 11 18 25	S	7 14 21 28
OCTOBER		NOVEMBER		DECEMBER	
S	6 13 20 27	S	3 10 17 24	S	1 8 15 22 29
M	1 8 15 22 29	M	4 11 18 25	M	2 9 16 23 30
T	2 9 16 23 30	T	5 12 19 26	T	3 10 17 24
W	3 10 17 24 31	W	6 13 20 27	W	4 11 18 25
T	4 11 18 25	T	7 14 21 28	T	5 12 19 26
F	5 12 19 26	F	1 8 15 22 29	F	6 13 20 27
S	6 13 20 27	S	2 9 16 23 30	S	7 14 21 28



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THE TWO WORLDS OF THE PRINCE OF BENIN

IN many parts of Nigeria, the selection of traditional rulers has often been marked by bitter rivalries, sometimes resulting in life-long enmity and bloodshed.

Benin, capital of the Mid-West State of Nigeria, is one of the cities in Nigeria which is clearly an exception.

The eldest son of the traditional ruler, the Oba, is heir apparent to the throne. When the throne becomes vacant, he automatically becomes Oba of Benin.

The Oba of Benin, at the present time, Oko Godfrey Edokparnogbuymunwun Basimi Eweka was born in 1899. When he goes to sleep, as the death of many Nigerian natural rulers is referred to, his eldest son Prince Solomon Igbinghoduwa Aisiokuoba Akenzua will be crowned as the new Oba.

Igbinghoduwa means "I am under the protection of God"; Aisiokuoba means "One does not pray to have an Oba as one's enemy"; and the surname Akenzua, according to the Prince himself, is a corruption of the original surname Okonzua, meaning "Though ignorant, he wisely chose prosperity".

Born 50 years ago on June 22, 1923, in Idunwu-Ivbiawo quarters somewhere in the heart of Benin City, Solo (as his close friends call him) is the son of Olori Eson, the most senior wife of the present Oba of Benin.

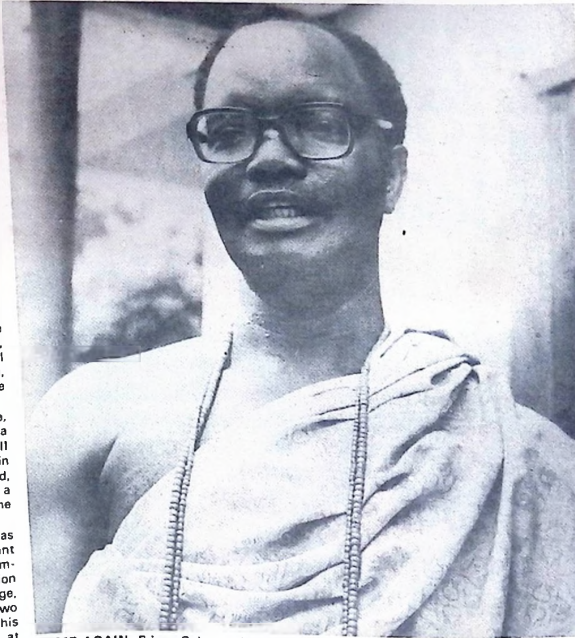
At quite an early age, Solo's grandfather Oba Aigubasimwin Eweka II (1914-1933), a trusted friend, the care of Solo to be a herbalist, as has been the custom through the ages.

At the age of six Solo was enrolled at Government School, Benin, where he completed his primary education and went up to Edo College, and went up to Edo College, and went up to Edo College, and went up to Edo College.

He completed his secondary education at Government College, Ibadan. He then studied at the Higher College, Yaba, in 1946 and 1947.

The following year he travelled to England to study at King's College, Cambridge, and passed the LL.B. examination. Solo stayed for a one year extra to take a course in Public Administration.

Oba Akenzua II wanted his heir to obtain a Ph.D degree in law, but the Prince felt that he had studied enough. He says "I must have disappointed him a bit, but he did not comment". Solo returned home in 1952 to start a career in the civil service as an Assistant Secretary in Lagos.



HOME AGAIN. Prince Solomon leaves the corridors of power for a traditional role in Benin. Two worlds meet in the regal person of Prince Solomon Akenzua, heir apparent to the ancient and powerful throne of Benin. With a sophisticated legal training, and after testing experience as a Nigerian civil servant who was at the Aburi talks and later observed the wrangling over oil, he now plans to settle in Benin. There he will perform the important traditional functions of the Edaikan. In the next two issues of DRUM he talks to Editor OLU ADETULE about his life.

His schedule of duties at the Colonial Government Secretariat enriched his knowledge about the various problems of the public which they expected the government to solve for them. He was given a job which involved dealing with petitions for government action.

The man I was attached to, Mr. S. A. Odukale, was

very helpful to me. I shared his work with him. We also shared the same room. He taught me the intricacies of government business, office routine, and procedures, financial instructions and, of course, the method of 'minuting'.

Solo later worked as a Clerk Assistant in the then House of Representatives as Private Secretary to the then

Central Minister of Labour, Dr. E. M. L. Endeley of the Cameroons (at that time Cameroun) was administered as part of Nigeria) and also as Private Secretary to Mr. M. T. Mbu, who was Labour Minister after Mr. Endeley.

In 1954 the Prince was asked to report at Enugu where the Deputy Governor of the then Eastern Provinces assigned him to be an Assis-

tant District Officer in Ahoada division.

The Prince was on leave in Benin when the transfer order came to him by telegram from Lagos. He showed the telegram to his father who, contrary to the Prince's fears, encouraged him to take up the challenge. Before he left for Ahoada, he called on his father to take his leave.

"He prayed for me and my family," said the Prince, "and advised me not to travel on Miliken Hill (the approach that Enugu) at night, adding that he had travelled on it and found it a death-trap."

"He also advised me not to break any of our family traditional 'don't's'; one of these is that I should not eat in public. He advised me to treat with respect and understanding the elders of the area where I was going to be work, and above all to be honest in everything I did."

In his new position, as Prince, Magistrate and Prison Officer, and did a great deal towards the improvement of the people of the division.

"By the time I left Ahoada division, the new local government system had been fully established there. The District Officer, and expatriate District Officer, and two of us who were his A.D.O.s, had responsibility for one District Council for Etchie District, Council, which had the highest proportion of Ibo in Ahoada division. The other two Councils were for areas populated mostly by Iwkeres, who regarded Ibos from Aba and Owerri as strangers in and among them. There was a third group, who called themselves Ekeke. There were also people further north who called themselves Engennes, and claimed to have migrated from Benin."

After a two-year stay, the Prince was transferred back to Enugu in 1956, by which time the old Eastern Region had been firmly established. He then stayed in the region's Civil Service and served in a number of Ministries: Works, Trade, Finance, Local Government and the Public Service Commission. The Prince, then 32 years of age, had risen to the rank of Principal Assistant Secretary, a position then next to that of Permanent Secretary.

In 1962, the Prince was transferred to Anang Province as Provincial Secretary. I perform the functions of Assistant, as his post was called under the colonial administration. Ikot Ekoonu was his headquarters, but he was there for only six weeks before being recalled.

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National

continued

Enugu to act as Permanent Secretary, Eastern Region Ministry of Education. He later served in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Local Government.

In April 1965, the Prince asked to be transferred to the Federal Public Service in Lagos. He was assigned to the newly created Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, as Deputy Permanent Secretary. Because a Permanent Secretary had not been appointed to take charge of the new Ministry, it was necessary for the Prince to perform these functions. Thus he was instrumental in establishing the ministry, but towards the end of 1965 he was transferred to the Cabinet Office in Lagos.

He was transferred to the Ministry of Industries shortly after the first military coup of January 1966. The Prince was to play a leading role in a matter which changed the course of the country.

The late General Aguiyi-

Ironsi appointed the Prince as Secretary to the Tribunal set up to investigate the causes of the May 1966 disturbances in parts of the then Northern Region. The Tribunal was headed by Sir Lionel Brett, an expatriate judge of the Federal Supreme Court. It was to sit in Kaduna.

How I learned of the coup

Looking back on the events, the Prince says: "I went to Kaduna in advance of the Tribunal members, about the middle of July, to set up the Secretariat and make arrangements for the Tribunal's sitting. In the course of meeting with people and obtaining information, I called on Major Osalgbovo Ogbemudia (now a Colonel and Military Governor of Mid-West State) who was then Brigada Major in Kaduna. I was sitting in his office when a telephone call came through. The caller informed him that there had been a coup.

"Within the next 48 hours, communications ceased and all air flights were cancelled. I managed to contact Sir Lionel to enquire what should be our next move. He said that it was quite obvious that the Tribunal was off and that I should therefore make my way back to Lagos.

"But even before the coup, discussions with people revealed to me that the Tribunal would have met with great difficulty. The question which everyone asked me was: 'How are you going to get witnesses? Suppose people refuse to speak?'"

"I learnt later that the Tribunal would not have been able to sit because there were plans to disturb its work. Nobody told me from which quarter the disturbances would have come."

Back in Lagos, the Prince was posted to the Cabinet Office again, this time to assist the Secretary to the Federal Military Government. He was head of the Political Division of the Executive Council Secretariat.

"In my new position, all political matters were referred to my division: constitutional issues, boundary issues, regional government problems and petitions of all sorts. During the civil war years I served as Secretary to most of the meetings. I was also at the famous Aburi meeting in Ghana."

Towards the end of 1968, he was posted to the Ministry of Mines and Power as Permanent Secretary. Here he faced the greatest challenge of his civil service career. His new job required what he calls "forthrightness and firmness of purpose".

Was it a war for oil?

"I knew that even in normal circumstances, oil always played a significant role in the politics of an oil-producing country. So you can imagine the increased importance of oil during a war, especially as some people concluded it was in fact a war for Nigerian oil."

There were five petroleum exploration companies from various countries operating in Nigeria at that time, mainly of American, British, Italian and French origins.

"I don't know how some oil people played their politics, but one thing I found in my own experience in the Ministry was that they were in the habit of dealing which each government agency without informing other agencies of the same government

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WIFE of Prince Solomon shows that she too can adapt to the traditional life of ancient Benin with old-fashioned grace.



PRINCE OF BENIN

continued

of the negotiations. The result was that very often various government agencies concerned with oil were speaking different languages. As a result, there was no unity of approach.

"Fortunately, during this period, maturity in the service prevailed and none of us took a false step as some of the oil people probably expected.

We learn to speak with one voice

There are four Federal Ministries concerned with oil: Mines and Power, which had constitutional responsibility; Finance, a very big and powerful brother for obvious reasons; Industries, which is interested in the by-products; and Trade. Indirectly, the Ministry of External Affairs, which deals with expatriate quotas, is also concerned.

"At the first available opportunity after any dis-

cussions with oil companies, we in Mines and Power quickly consulted other ministries likely to be interested in the issues discussed. It did not often happen that one would get representatives of oil companies to attend a meeting with all the ministries interested. But we usually met and agreed on a common approach. That way, we were able to avert speaking in different languages.

"Of course, we didn't always succeed. Some of us in the Ministry of Mines and Power had occasion to exchange harsh words with some of our colleagues from other Ministries".

The Prince recalled a confrontation with one particular oil company. "The company had struck oil offshore and wanted to build its storage facilities some 20 miles off the Nigerian coast. The Ministry of Mines and Power opposed the proposal on the grounds that it would be out of Nigerian territorial waters, which would make it difficult, if not totally impossible, for

our men to inspect the storage. We asked the company to put the storage facilities either on land or as near to land as possible.

The four million Naira lure

"The oil company did not like that. It reached a point where a representative made certain remarks which I considered to be very derogatory to the Federal Military Government. It was something about the government being unable to deal with what the representative described as 'Ojukwu's little aircraft.' I reported the representative to the government.

"From what I saw while in the Ministry of Mines and Power, money for buying people's conscience is part of the ordinary expenses of some oil exploration companies trying to compete with the honest companies. I say

this because I know the type of offers which were made to our countrymen abroad, who claimed to be one firm or another of government functionaries, by oil companies looking for concessions from Ministry officials.

"As much as 6,000,000 dollars (about 4,200,000 Naira) had been dangled before the eyes of a top official of the Ministry of Mines and Power, in a letter which that officer brought to my attention. It amused us a great deal because we also knew the Nigerian expatriate who made the offer, acting on behalf of a particular oil company. It was most strange to see the various sources through which this type of offer was made.

Next month Solo tells how, after playing his part to help stamp out bribery, he decides to take the traditional duties of a Prince and return to Benin. And he talks candidly about how many wives he may be expected to have!

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SON of the Prince of Benin, 18-year-old Eheneden (centre in sunglasses) leaves Ikeja airport to study in England. Behind him is his father, the Prince Solomon Akenzua, and shaking the young man's hand is an uncle, Prince Edun Akenzua.



REAL LIFE view of Amebo the village gossip, alias Radio Oja, who's Mrs. Ibidun Allison, a mother of two who prefers discretion to too much chat.

Radio Oja - the girl they love to hate

NIGERIANS know her as "Radio Oja" — because she's the incorrigible gossip of the village of Oja; always first with the munity. Oja, of course, is a fictional place. The setting of the popular TV programme "The Village Headmaster". And in real life "Radio Oja" is the most discreet and un-malicious of women — Mrs. Ibidun Allison, mother shown in our picture above.

Mrs. Allison plays the part of gossip, spy and conspirator so well on TV that viewers love to hate her.

Presently working as a senior executive with an advertising company in Lagos, Ibidun is not new to television. She began her career as an announcer in the Western Nigeria Radio and Television Service (WNTV-WNBS) in 1960 and later studied drama and worked in Britain. Back in Nigeria, she took part in the exciting radio programme "Shakey-Shakey and Alao", then became an NBC announcer before joining an advertising company in Lagos.

She says: "I did not even blush at the idea when I was asked to play the part of Amebo, the gossip pedlar. I regarded it as pure

drama, having nothing to do with my real life."

Ibidun has proved to be the perfect choice for the role. Just after a year in the cast, she has achieved fame. "People, especially children," she remarked, "usually confront me in the streets and ask me annoying questions about my gossip and if I enjoy it. My answer has always been that Amebo on television is just an act."

Ibidun has this plea to make: "It is not easy for me to speak for myself, but my friends and relations would vouch that I am not like that in real life. In fact, I am the opposite of Amebo in real life . . . I don't gossip. Not me."

"But, of course, I believe in entertainment and I am prepared to make people feel some sort of satisfaction."

Three times a week, she rehearses with the cast of the Village Headmaster to help maintain the high standard of the programme.

One of her two girls once asked her: "Why are you always lying on the telly?" Her reply was: "I do not lie . . . it is just that I am always the first to get the news either by eavesdropping or sheer coincidence!"



ON SCREEN, "Radio Oja" spreads the malice to Dr. Bassey Okon in TV's popular "Village Headmaster".

people in pictures

Rising Stars celebrate five years of brightness

Twelve boys aged between nine and 13 years, have just celebrated the fifth anniversary of one of Africa's most popular bands — the Rising Stars of Zambia. In November 1968 the boys gathered at a Christmas Party in Lusaka. They were led by a Roman Catholic Priest, Father Reginald Carriere. And from then onwards they have never looked back. "When I started the band," he told DRUM, "I never thought of going so far with my little musicians." The first tune the boys mastered was the Zambian National Anthem. But now they can sing in a variety of local dialects, also in French, German and English. In April 1971 they went on tour to Germany, Switzerland, Britain and Ireland. They have also toured several African countries, including Tanzania, Kenya and Malawi. And one of their biggest fans is Dr. Kaunda, Zambia's President.



Nairobi's oldest inhabitant celebrates 100 years

It is now 80 years since Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, was founded. But Njoroge Kamau, 100, who has lived in the area all of his life, remembers a time when this bustling East African capital city wasn't there at all. He was born in a Kikuyu settlement, right in the heart of Nairobi and when he was a teenager he bumped into a man called Captain Lugard — one of the pioneer colonialists in East Africa. Lugard was the first Whiteman seen in that part of the world. Today Njoroge is hale and hearty. His legs are a bit on the weak side but his memory is still excellent. Asked how he likes life in 1973, he told our reporter: "In my youth, before the Whiteman came, we had a great life. Life was carefree." Happy birthday, Njoroge.

Rivers chiefs get together

Some Nigerian traditionalists were a little worried in 1966 when the military took over the reins of Government. But now they have learnt to relax. Far from diminishing the powers of traditional rulers, the Government of General Gowon has taken steps to see that the chiefs play a useful and up-to-date role in the country's affairs. Our picture shows Chief C. D. Amange (right) of Brass Division of Rivers State with Chief G Baranieo at a recent conference of Rivers Chiefs. Their aim is to help development and boost traditional culture throughout the Federation.



Two men with one purpose

Dr. William Tolbert, President of Liberia, seems to be having a really good time in Dar es Salaam, where he went on a state visit to see his Tanzanian counterpart, Dr. Julius Nyerere, recently. The two men are close friends and, amongst other things, believe that self-reliance is the key to African prosperity. Wearing a traditional gown Dr. Tolbert shakes hands with Dr. Nyerere, at a reception.



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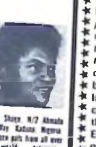
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ABOUT SEX

plays a very small part need to talk about it. It is not enough merely to accept the status quo.

People may find themselves thinking of ways to enhance sexual pleasure, and feel ashamed of these ideas. They think they are odd in some way, believing that the thoughts they have are an expression of personal peculiarity. They may be so ashamed they do not even tell their partners, however deeply they may love, however free conversation may be between them.

A downright statement of fact can be made here. No one has ever yet had an idea, fantasy or yearning about sex that has not been experienced by someone else. What is more, probably many millions of people have shared these ideas. Normally can be defined as a common experience; thus a man with three legs is abnormal. As there are no completely new ideas, all those we experience are normal.

For the purposes of this discussion of sex no marriage, it is proposed that there should be only one rule. That is: any behaviour which gives a married pair pleasure and does not distress one partner more than it pleases the other, is acceptable.

One point can be made here. It is possible that some readers will not find mention of their own ideas and fear that this means that they are the one in millions who really is right here. There just isn't space to explore every possibility.

How and when

Our qualified doctor continues our series by discussing the rôle of sex within marriage, and people's differing needs.

ONCE the honeymoon period is over, and the couple have become accustomed to the idea of being married people, the sexual relationship changes.

However, many couples, when they first embark on a sexual relationship, are so confused by their deepest feelings that they believe that only one form of sexual behaviour is possible. This is particularly true of those who have buried feelings of guilt concerning sex. They have to make a tremendous initial effort to overcome their guilt, and may do so quite successfully up to a point; that is, they learn to go on enjoying it for some time — perhaps a number of years — but after that the pleasure begins to diminish.

They are less stimulated by mere physical contact with each other. Also, other activities may cream off their energies. A wife may become deeply involved with child-rearing, or may try to use it as a substitute for sexual activity with her husband. The husband may use his wife in his career. There are drives in his career. There are couples who drift into a pattern of living in which intercourse is enjoyed only rarely — perhaps once or twice a month, or even less frequently.

Most people asked to describe the way their wife, thinks all is well, that her husband feels little or in a sex. But if, in fact, he still has a considerable need for sexual excitement, and is not finding it in his marriage, he may suddenly break away in search of it. A couple who have slipped into a life in which sex

This is a loving position, many ways. The couple can be during intercourse, and hold one other in their arms. It is also quite good biological position. The of the erect penis when the man prone equals with the angle of vagina in a woman lying supine. Semen is deposited immediately below the cervix, which is essential for the reproductive function of intercourse. It is also quite a position for the woman who seeks clitoral stimulation during intercourse because the root of the penis can touch the clitoris fairly easily.

MANY VARIATIONS

This is far from the only position possible, and far from always being the ideal and there are many commonly used variations. An obvious one is a simple reversal with the woman lying above her husband. In this position, she must be more acute (the partner who lies beneath is unable to be as active as the other). This position gives considerable pleasure to many couples.

A woman who needs clitoral stimulation in intercourse, in order to reach orgasm, may be helped with this position, because she can move her body against her husband's in such a way that she enjoys the most.

Another variation of the face-to-face position is for the couple to stand upright instead of lying down. Either partner can use a wall as a back support, while the other stands, also braced with the other against the wall, with feet each side of the partner's.

Many couples enjoy intercours lying on their sides, the wife lying on top under her husband's body. They find this gives very deep penetration and like it for the reason.

Yet another variation of the face-to-face position is the sitting up spread wide, the wife's own limited active movement, of course for a couple who very satisfying intercourse for a very long time.

Another group of positions in which the husband approaches, said to be the most "normal" in the eyes of animals, who unlike man do not stimulate sexually, obeying in the variations here are many.

It is possible that readers can which might please any of them both partners are able to enjoy their relationship.

In a developing sexual relationship, the love-play the power to excite. The couple need more and more stimulation. We have already seen the couple to mouth kissing, and caressing with the hands, is an essential part of such play. In time, kissing of man kisses areas. The couple are, and she likes it. The couple find this perfectly acceptable behavior, but are disturbed because they find themselves desiring more kissing in their erotic areas.

Studio photograph, courtesy of M. J. H.



Doctor Drum

PRECAUTIONS DURING PREGNANCY

PREGNANCY is a normal function but it does cause minor discomforts and ailments for which many women approach us to obtain advice. By following medical advice regarding the proper conduct of life during pregnancy, the patient can make sure of normal pregnancy and delivery. It is also important to know what minor ailments are caused by pregnancy and what can be done to ameliorate these symptoms and make sure of a more comfortable time.

least eight hours sleep at night. In addition, a couple of hours of putting her feet up every afternoon, preferably with clothes loosened, is good for her and baby.

Heart Burn:

In this condition there is a burning sensation in the lower chest and upper abdomen. This usually occurs in the second half of the pregnancy and is made more painful by eating fried, fatty and spicy foods. Usually, taking a cup of milk or a pinch of soda bicarbonate keeps the situation in control.

Constipation:

Constipation is a common complaint. In most cases plenty of fluids, fruits, vegetables and daily exercises will do the trick. A hot cup of tea on waking up may stimulate the bowels. Only as a last resort may laxatives be taken, and they must of a mild variety.

Cramps:

These are painful muscles in the stomach and legs, and it is generally agreed that they are caused by lack of calcium and Vitamin D. Milk, cheese and butter contain calcium and Vitamin D. These usually help and if not there are tablets available with these substances.

Backache:

This is usually the result of fatigue and is therefore more common in a mother who has to combine a job, work at home, and other children to care for. The factors that aggravate the condition are poor muscle tone and high heels. Extra rest, suitable clothes and footwear, muscular relaxation and exercises usually take away the backache.

Travelling:

In the case of previous miscarriages, it is better throughout the whole pregnancy to avoid long, tiring journeys and travelling on bad roads.

Clothes:

There are three requirements for clothes during pregnancy: they should be warm enough to prevent chills, thin enough to prevent perspiration, and free enough to allow movements of the limbs.

Finally, lots of women ask us at what stage they should avoid intercourse with their husbands. As a rule medical opinion allows intercourse almost up to the last week of pregnancy. Because of the size of the female abdomen, change of position is advised and gentleness on the part of the male is absolutely necessary.

course, there are other causes. You should see your doctor for a check-up and treatment.

Vanishing urge

At 19, I had thought I should be able to make love to a woman at least four times within an hour. But it is embarrassing for me to think of a second round, because the urge immediately disappears after the first act.

Wasted, Nigeria.

You probably have a mass in one of the two testes or in the scrotal sac. This might be the cause of your reduced potency. Visit your doctor immediately for an investigation.

Two-year problem

How do you explain the cause of my frequently passing blood with my urine? This has been with me for over two years now, and I am embarrassed.

Embarrassed, Lagos.

If you are passing blood in your urine you should not be ashamed to tell your doctor.

Can a prophet help?

Sometimes I suffer from epilepsy. Many of my friends believe that I

have been attacked by some evil men, and that my help lies only in the hands of a prophet. Please help, doctor. I am 26 years old. Suffering, Tanga.

Epilepsy can be cured, or at least put under control, but only if handled by competent medical practitioners. You will gain nothing from a prophet.

Hard advice

I am a great lover of sports, but to my disappointment, my doctor advised me to avoid engaged in strenuous exercise. I find it difficult to comply with the doctor's advice.

Sportsman, Entebbe.

It is hardly likely that his advice was given without good reason. You should obey in your own interest.

Need for fitness

I want to know more ways to keep fit through sport. I am a regular victim of headaches and general weakness of the body.

Anxious, Port Harcourt.

Eat well, take part in sports which give you relaxation, and go to the doctor.

PLEASE TURN OVER

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Irregular bleeding

I am afraid that I may never be able to have my own baby, since all efforts to cure the case of irregular bleeding which has long been with me have failed.

Afraid, Nigeria.

Pregnancy itself is a common cause of irregular bleeding. But, of

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Diet: As a general rule, for a healthy woman there is no need to make drastic modification in usual diet. Because of conher usual morning sickness, emaitant amount of food will not some items of food will not agree with a pregnant woman, especially in her first two to four months of pregnancy.

Conversely, she may develop a desire to eat odd items, and if there are no obviously harmful foods, there is no need to restrict them. The important thing is to make sure that the diet contains an adequate amount of protective foodstuffs such as meat, fish, eggs, butter, milk, vegetables and fruit. These items also contain vitamins and minerals and help prevent deficiency disease in both the mother and the child. Pregnant women are particularly liable to become anaemic, largely on account of the demand of the baby growing inside pregnancy, lean meat, iron such as liver, leafy vegetables like spinach, and iron. The doctor, if he finds it necessary, may add reinforcing doses of vitamins, iron and calcium in tablet form.

Violent exercise, such as tennis, riding, cycling and swimming, are to be discouraged. On the other hand regular mild exercise such as walking in the open air is good for the woman. This helps digestion, improves sleep and encourages a very healthy outlook.

Rest and Sleep: Rest and sleep are extremely important, especially in the latter half of the pregnancy. The amount of rest to be should have at

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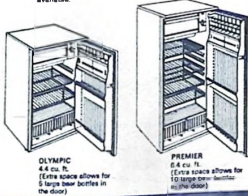
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to bed on time to have a sound
sleep. But avoid over-exertion, and
do not participate in sport if you
are feeling at all unwell.

Skin blemishes

I have a number of scars on my
chest and I would like you to send
me a prescription to make them
disappear. I have a lot of pimples
also and would appreciate your ad-
vice.

Seated, Dar es Salaam.

Scars will not disappear with
medicine; they can only be removed
by surgical means. As for the
pimples, there are several
preparations on the market and a
chemist will provide you with a
right type of cream.

Is this an ulcer?

I am suffering from pain in my up-
per abdomen. I feel very tired and
weak and I have lost a lot of
weight. I wonder if I have an
ulcer or tumour.

Pauline, Kano.

It seems that you may have an
ulcer. An X-ray will confirm the
diagnosis and appropriate treat-
ment will be prescribed.

Regular sneezing

I sneeze every morning when I get
up. Please advise me.

Lutaya, Bulu, Uganda.

It seems that you are suffering
from an allergic condition. It may
be due to dust in your room or
pollen from the garden. I think a
change of room or bed may help.

Why this discharge?

I am an 18-year-old girl who was
married a year ago. I find that
when I finish my monthly period I
get a certain amount of discharge. I
think this has been going on for
four months. I wonder if this will stop
me from having children?

Mary, Zambia.

You are suffering from a very
mild vaginal infection which can be
easily treated, and there is no
question of not being able to have
any children. The best thing is for
the discharge to be examined under
a microscope in order that the
correct medicine can be given.

Delayed action

My problem is that I do not go to
the toilet for many days. When I
do the motion it hard and occa-
sionally makes me bleed. What is
your advice?

Constipated, Kaduna.

You are suffering from habitual
constipation, which is a result of
the bowels becoming very lazy. If
you eat green vegetables, fruits and
fluids in your diet and complete
regular exercises, you will cure
yourself. If this does not help, you
can take very mild laxatives when
required.

Still suffering

I am suffering from a tapeworm
disease. I have received treatment
but without any success. What
shall I do now?

Anxious, Dar es Salaam.

There are many drugs to expel
tapeworms. I cannot give you the
names for ethical reasons, but if
you go to a doctor or a chemist
they will be able to help you.

Spastic colitis

I have been suffering from ab-
dominal pain for the last five years.

My last examination showed that
I have spastic colitis and this is causing
constipation. How can I cure
this?

Worried girl, Moshi, Tanzania.

I presume that the diagnosis of
spastic colitis was based on
medical examination and X-rays.
If so, you have nothing to worry
about. Eat more fruit, vegetables
and exercise regularly to avoid
constipation.

Facial hair

I am a girl of 22. My problem
that I have started growing hair on
my face and this makes me look
ugly. Can you please suggest what
I should do?

Haily, Accra.

If there are no other changes of
masculinity such as change of voice
or your body configuration and if
the hairs are few, all you have to do
is to get the hair removed by electro-
lysis. If, on the other hand, there
are other changes as mentioned
above present, you may be suffering
from an imbalance of the hormones
and I think you must consult a
qualified doctor.

Permanent disease?

I have been told by my doctors
that I have got bilharziasis and this
will last for the rest of my life. Can
this be true?

Bill, Ndola, Zambia.

You have not told me which part
of your body is suffering from
bilharziasis and whether the
diagnosis is based on laboratory
findings. There are many new
drugs which may help to cure you,
so don't worry too much. You may
wish to obtain the opinion of
another doctor in the future.

Did I miscarry?

I am a 25-year-old woman. I was
married in November 1971. I mis-
sed my period in May 1972 but
two months later. I started passing
clots of blood. Was this a normal
period or a miscarriage?

O.O., Kitame, Zambia.

It seems to me that when you
missed your period, you were preg-
nant but you lost your pregnancy
very early. Better luck next time.

Constant backache

Since my last confinement I have
developed a backache. This has
been going on for six years.
Sometimes, I cannot sleep because
of pain, and bending makes it
worse. Please help me, doctor.

In Pain, Mbombasa.

I feel that you have either a
slipped disc or a fallen ball of the
womb from the last confinement. I
cannot be sure what is wrong.
However, a visit to the hospital
would help a lot.

Too much wind

I am a 20-year-old girl and my
problem is a lot of wind in my
stomach. How can I cure this?

F.S., Mbale, Uganda.

I think there may be worms in
your stomach. A stool examination
should reveal this and appropriate
treatment can then be given. If the
stool examination is negative your
doctor can prescribe mixtures to
relieve you.

IF YOU have a problem, write
to Doctor Drum at either PMB
212B, Lagos (Nigeria readers)
or PO Box 43372, Nairobi
(East African readers).



In your dream, a neighbour is sick and has to have a special medicine. You offer to fetch it for him from a man who lives across an enormously wide river. The day is hot, the river is wide and its current strong. On the way back you pass a small island. On it you can see a small table and two chairs. On the table there are two bottles of cold beer, and as you watch, a beautiful girl appears and pours out a glass. She holds it out to you and invites you to land and drink. Tired and hot, you decide to accept. But as you row the last few yards something makes you look round, and you see that not only is the island surrounded by dangerous rocks, but the girl is no longer smiling and has been joined by two ugly looking thugs with clubs. Just in time youaving your boat row round and row home with the medicine for your neighbour. This dream shows how you are often prey to temptation, even though others may suffer. But usually you have the strength of character to resist — or look intervene to save you from yourself.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 —
FEBRUARY 20

You must guard against speaking or acting too abruptly or your motives will be misunderstood. Travel plans work out well. An encounter with someone of romantic or artistic temperament will stimulate.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 21 —
MARCH 20

In-laws show signs of genuine good will. So take their suggestions at face value for once. You will not regret it this time. Someone of a different race or background comes into your life, from far away.

ARIES
MARCH 21 —
APRIL 20

Everything to do with your working life will flourish this month, and your future hopes in that direction can be as high as you like. At home the affairs of relatives will need some sorting out.

TAURUS
MAY 20 —
JUNE 20

Those of you who are separated from loved ones and have been waiting anxiously for news of them will soon have your minds set at rest. Secret hopes will be realised. Casual friendships may grow serious.

GEMINI
MAY 21 —
JUNE 20

You will end the month in better spirits than you started and there are real signs of good times. Early on there is a risk of quarrels with people you see every day. Separations ahead for many.

CANCER
JUNE 21 —
JULY 20

Relatives or friends will call you away from routine, and social life takes on new interest. Try to avoid becoming involved in someone's secret affairs. Get out and about, for romance is linked with trips.

LEO
JULY 21 —
AUGUST 20

Important mail may be subject to delays but the news, when it does arrive, will be about benefits to come. Romantic affairs tend to come to some definite conclusion now. You will need clear understanding.

VIRGO
AUGUST 21 —
SEPTEMBER 20

Home affairs are on your mind more than work. You can expect more visitors than usual and you may acquire something beautiful for your house. A special invitation will come your way.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 21 —
OCTOBER 20

An elderly person will cease a dispute in the family circle, and all your tact will be needed, and regain a peaceful atmosphere. Whatever the stresses that make you feel on edge this month, avoid arguments.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 21 —
NOVEMBER 20

A person who has been standing in your way is now removed from the scene, and you can feel free to carry out your cherished scheme. Your personal magnetism and your opposite sex is stronger.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 20 —
DECEMBER 20

Your standing at work or in the neighbourhood where you live is about to be much improved. But someone whose decision is important to you cannot be made to hurry. More real companionship will occur.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 21 —
JANUARY 20

Postpone important decisions until you are in a more optimistic mood. Do not let things at present upset you. Far arguments upset you, your private wishes come true.

"Why did you do so badly in your history examination?" a father asked his son.
"Because most of the questions were about things that happened before I was born!"

"This morning I saw my neighbour treating his wife in a way you wouldn't do!"
"What was he doing?"
"Kissing her."

A child said to his father: "On my way to school this morning, I met a man who said he was a school pal of yours".
"What did he look?"
"He was tall, with grey hair, and a long beard."
"He is mistaken. There was nobody with a beard when I was at school!"

A man approached an old farmer sitting outside his dwelling. He pulled out his wallet and took out some notes.
"I've just killed your cockerel with my car," he said "And I'd like to replace it."
"All right" replied the farmer "You'll find all the hens at the back of the farm!"

Flattery brings friendship, while truth can bring enmity.
— Flavius Mvikaamba, Taita

One fleeting moment of joy could usher in months of misery. — Festus Aragba, Asapa

Life's reversals today serve to equip you to defeat tomorrow's problems.
— Elizabeth Iwerima, Lagos

Beauty is the flower of life but virtue is the fruit.
— Stephen Masaku, Kangundo

Often we ask for advice when what we want is approval.
— Pam Gilbert, Tanzania

Send any savings from your district to "Savings of the Wise," Drum Publications Ltd. (P.M.B. 2128, Lagos, for Nigerian readers or P.O. Box 43372, Nairobi, for East African readers).

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David Livingstone did not discover Africa, nor did Christopher Columbus discover America. Natives were living at both places before they arrived.

Animosity:

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If you're ever in California, sir, I do hope you'll come by and use my swimming pool. I'd love to give you some drowning lessons!



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continued

I start sweating. This perspiration of mine makes me sick—especially when we have been invited to a party. I always feel very stupid at these functions because I sweat like a pig. Many people say I sweat because I am shy. Is that true? If so, what can I do to stop it? Mrs. M.A.O. Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. I am astonished people can put it down to shyness, for it would be a most unusual person who did not sweat or perspire in the humidity of Dar es Salaam. You must not think of it as an affliction. The answer is to bathe as frequently as possible and use a well-known, reasonably priced deodorant. Plenty of eau de cologne or perfume after washing also would help to give you confidence. But do not fear the fact of perspiring—it is nature's way of helping us all to keep cool.

I love this girl, but . . .

I am in love with a girl of 18 and the chief problems I face are that she's far too fat and smells like a pig because of sweating especially when making love. Should I leave her? C.D.N., Ilubo, Kilifi. I should think so.

Is either of these girls right for me?

I am a working man of 28 with two girlfriends. The first one I married and after five months she gave birth and in accordance with our customs I sent her back to

her parents since I was not the father. The second girl heard of it and came to my home and convinced me sexually that she was the girl for me and is now living with me but my parents are against our union. They say she is far too promiscuous which of course I knew before. What should I do? S.K.L., Nakuru, Kenya.

The answer all centres around whether your new girl in fact is promiscuous because you tell me nothing that would indicate she is—and certainly your first wife was unfaithful before your marriage. I understand your dilemma but find it hard to advise you except to offer a word of hope: if there are many, many kind, faithful and loving girls who don't leap into bed to prove they would be good wives. Instead, they are prepared to wait until they are married to the right man. Maybe you will find a girl like that one day.

She still waits for her prophesied lover

I am 24 years old and have been friendly with a beautiful girl of 20 for over a year. Both of us hold school certificates and work together. When I approached this girl for love late in February 1973 she refused on the grounds that the man she would marry had already been foreseen by a prophetess and so she would not like to love any other man. She assured me, however, she would have loved me if she were free to love. It is incredible that in spite of her theoretical refusal this girl does for me everything one expects of a true lover. She helps at my house and almost all my hobbies and interests are hers. She was a virgin when I met her but we make love frequently now. Do you think she might love me or is she doing all this just to please me on the grounds: "A good neighbour is better than a distant friend." W.K., Kilifi, Kenya.

That's a question I would not like to answer. But I cannot see what you have to complain about. You have all the comforts of love without the responsibilities of marriage.

What should I do now the money is gone

I am engaged to a student aged 20 but my parents are unaware of it. I had money when I got engaged to her but now that the money is gone I do not know what to tell my girl and my parents. Please advise me. I am 20. Peter, Zaria.

If you feel you can no longer go ahead with the plan you made with your girl, you should tell her so now, for your parents, you should tell them the truth.

My girl friend's parents beat her

I am 21 and the girl I love and would wish to marry, after her course is 12 in the elementary school. Her parents beat her each time she visits me. I have not taken her to bed and I would not like to mistreat her. Please tell me how to win her parents. Tundl, Lusaka.

I do not blame the parents of your girl for punishing her when they see her with you. You will agree with me that she is still too young for the game and besides has far to go with her education. Give her time to study and if at the end of her schooling you both still wish to marry, she will then be an asset to you.

Now I have only half her love

Two years ago I fell in love with a girl and promised her marriage. Recently she told me she had fallen for another man. I admired her honesty and told her to choose between him and me. She said she would love us both but try to give the greater part of her love to me. Would you advise me to continue loving her? H.K., Mpwapwa, Tanzania. No.

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Published for the proprietors by DRUM Publications (Nigeria) Ltd., their offices at 27 Ikedara Street, West, Ebute Meta, Lagos, Nigeria. Distributed in Nigeria by DRUM Publications (Nigeria) Ltd., in West Africa by DRUM Publications Ltd., Ltd.; and in London by DRUM Publications (UK) Ltd., 40-43 Finsbury Street, London, E.C.4. Printed by Academy Press Ltd., Hesperus Industrial Estate, F.G. Box 3445, Lagos.

Nigerian Co. Directors: J. R. A. Bailey (Chairman), Chief F. R. A. Williams, A. K. Blanton, Bayo O. Akinwami, J. Olurami Domingo, Nelson Otishi. Editor: Olu Adedunni, P.M.B. 2128 Lagos.

Official overseas advertising representatives: Continent of Europe: Mihado Organisation, rue de Plantage Middenland 28, Amsterdam, Holland and subsidiary company at Antwerp, Belgium; and associated companies incorporating R.I.P.S.A., Paris, France; Publications Hamburg, West Germany; Publications S.A., Barcelona, Spain; Tri-Service Rubanach S.A., Geneva and Zurich Switzerland; Publications, Milan, Italy and Intervis, Stockholm, Sweden. U.S.A. and Canada: S. S. Koppe & Company Inc. 610 Fifth Ave., New York 10020, Japan and Far East: Sun Gain Shie Ltd., head office: 12 Shiba Park, Minato-ku, Tokyo.

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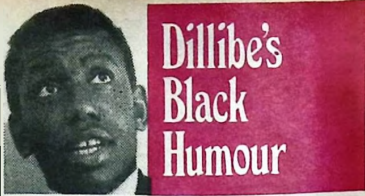
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Dear Dolly

Should I stay friends with her brothers?

I fell in love with a girl of 20. Her parents and brothers were very happy when they knew that I intended to marry her. But my girl has disappointed me. Do you advise me to continue my friendship with her brothers?

Christopher, Lagos.
Why not? After all you have not written anything to suggest that they were responsible for your girl's misbehaviour.

I'm mature but still I have no girlfriend

I am 20 and I have got no girlfriend. There is one girl who plays with me but I have not been able to approach her. I dream that I was kissing her. Does it mean that she likes me? Please, Dolly, help me.
Peter, Dar es Salaam.
I would not know but I would advise you to approach her and see!

I slept with the boss and now I'm alone

I started work recently. The head of my department always asked me for sex and after a long persuasion I gave in but I told him about my background and the consequence that may follow what he wanted me to do. He asked me not to worry. Since then, he used to take me out to night clubs and other places. I am now expecting his child and when I told him, he told me that he is married with five children and as such he cannot marry me. He suggested that I abort. I refused because my late mother warned me against it. Now my brother with whom I am living has rejected me and my boss has ignored me. Please help me.
Marilyn, Sierra Leone.

It is just a pity you had to learn your lesson the hard way and I hope other girls who read this letter will be careful not to fall victims of unscrupulous men. If the man who is responsible for your condition has come, he would maintain you. Get in touch with science, he would maintain you. Get in touch with science, he would maintain you. Get in touch with science, he would maintain you. Maybe they can appeal to his conscience.

My wife won't let me have any girlfriends

I am 23. I am blessed with a good wife and two children. My problem is that my wife prevents me from having girlfriends. I feel I married too early and thereby deprived myself of enjoying my youth. Should I divorce her?
Hadji, Dorado, Port Harcourt.
You sound very irresponsible. I agree with you that you married when you were too young to do so and even if you were advised not to then, you would not agree. My advice is that you try and be a good husband to your wife. You stand to lose if you divorce her because you may not get such a good woman again.

If you have a personal problem, write to Dolly at Drum Publications, P.M.S. 2128, Lagos, Nigeria (Readers in West Africa), or Drum Publications, P.O. Box 43372, Nairobi, Kenya (East African readers). And please do not forget to put a stamp on your envelope.

Do I qualify for this lovely girl?

I am 16 and in love with a girl of 18. She is in Form Four in a secondary school while I am only a primary school certificate holder. Whenever she writes to me, she asks me about marriage. One day, I sat down to think. I concluded that this girl is deceiving me and look for a girl with the same qualification as herself.
Feroil, Lusaka.
Yes.

These two wives cause me financial problems

I am 23 and I have two wives, each of whom has a child. My friends always sympathise with me when I tell them that I have two wives. As a matter of fact I find things difficult financially. Should I send one, or both, of them away?
Shadrack, Nakuru.
You knew what you were doing when you married these women. I presume nobody forced you. I would not advise you to send them away. If you make a sensible budget, you would be able to save something towards the education of your children and if you do Clinic is there for you.

Too shy to speak to the girls that I like

I am 20. When I write to propose to any girl I fancy, she does not reply and I feel too shy to speak to girls. People say I am handsome. Please advise me.
Arnold, Enugu.
Girls do not fancy timid boys, so sum up courage and tell the girl you fancy what you have in mind. She won't eat you, after all. If you fall with a girl, continue to try with others until you succeed.

Head over heels in love with sister-in-law

I have two wives aged 19 and 21 respectively. My sister-in-law aged 19 and I have fallen head over heels in love and we wish to marry. Please what is your advice?
David, Nakuru, Kenya.
I would not advise you to marry this girl. If at all you who is not related to either of your wives.

I'm in love with this Nigerian teenager

I am 22 and I love a girl of 13. We have been in love since 1971. My problem is that I do not know what to do with her. Please help me. I have not discussed marriage with her.
Hopeless, Lagos.
Continue being friends and if you feel you would like to marry her then you could propose to her but personally, I feel that a girl of 13 is much too young.

Wife's sister has given me big problems

When my wife delivered she sent for her sister to come and help her. When she came I found her very attractive and we started to have sex. Eventually she became pregnant. I have tried all sorts of drugs on her to procure an abortion but in vain. Do you think I should marry my wife's sister or run away from the country before my wife knows?
Willy, Kaduna.
Do neither. Stay and face the consequence.

I'm crazy over every beautiful girl

I am a Form Four student. I have two girls who I love very dearly. Despite my love for them I cannot take my eyes off beautiful girls. I love all beautiful girls. Please help me, Dolly. I am 20 and handsome.
John, Onitsha.
It is not unnatural that you should feel like this at your

age. You have not fallen in love yet. You are only infatuated. When you really fall in love, you will forget all other beautiful girls and concentrate on the one you love.

'Nothing wrong' but now I've lost this girl

I love my 17-year-old sweetheart so much that there is nothing I cannot do to please her. She is a student while I cannot do to please her. Her mother knows about us and she encourages our friendship. Recently my girl introduced a boy to me as her future partner, whereas she told me before that he was her classmate. Now she does not act towards me as before. When I was asked her what the matter was, she said to continue nothing wrong but that she was not willing to continue with me any more. I told her mother about it and she asked her daughter to apologise to me. Whenever she sees me since then, she behaves rudely to me. But now, Dolly, I am sick and tired of her. Do you suggest that I write her off because I am sure she won't make a good wife?
Sammy, Dar es Salaam.

I would suggest you leave the girl alone since she has made it plain to you that she does not care for you any more. There is no need for you to write her off but I am sure that if she does not see you, she would know that you have taken her word.

Love letters have left me rather lonely

She is 15 while I am 17. It happened that she saw the letters which I wrote to certain girls in her school. Now she has written me off. Please tell me what to do because I really cannot leave those girls.
Felix, Mombasa, Kenya.
You have already made up your mind so let the other girl go. She may be lucky and get a better and more responsible boy than you.

Should I take my wife's folks to court?

I am 23 and my wife is 20. We lost our baby four days after his birth. I was sent to attend to a case a week later, but when I returned, my mother told me that my wife had been taken away by her family. I have spent a lot on this girl. Please advise me whether I should take these people to court or leave them alone.
Obedrain, Oyo.
If you still love your wife and you want her back, I would advise you to go and meet her where she is and get her back; but if not, forget about what you have spent and get another girl.

Parted after an argument over property

She is 19 while I am 21. We were in love for one year when I decided to marry her. When she learnt that I had made my intentions known to her parents, she told me off. Among other things, she told me that I wanted to marry her when I had no room and no property of my own because I was putting my brother up. As a result of this we parted. Now that I have got an apartment of my own and I have decorated it, she wants to have me. She has even sent people to beg me to have her back. Dolly, do you think this girl loves me or my property?
Henry, Kaduna.
I don't think she is after your property. She did not want both of you to continue to stay with your brother when you are married. Now that you are on your own and she is sorry for her misbehaviour to you, I would join her in begging you to have her back.

My perspiration problem is ruining my life

I am a married woman with three children and my problem is that I sweat too much. I don't want to meet people in my house or do I want to go to their houses because I am ashamed. Whenever I talk with a visitor

PLEASE TURN OVER



continued

I start sweating. This perspiration of mine makes me sweat—especially when we have been invited to a party. I always feel very stupid at these functions because I sweat like a pig. Many people say I sweat because I am shy. Is that true? If so, what can I do to stop it?

Mr. M.A.O., Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

I am astonished people can put it down to shyness, for it would be a most unusual person who did not sweat or perspire in the humidity of Dar es Salaam. You must not think of it as an affliction. The answer is to bathe as frequently as possible and use a well-known, reasonably priced deodorant. Plenty of eau de cologne or perfume after washing would help to give you confidence. But do not fear the fact of perspiring—it's nature's way of helping us all to keep cool.

I love this girl, but . . .

I am in love with a girl of 18 and the chief problems I face are that she's far too fat and smells like a pig because of sweating especially when making love. Should I leave her?

C.D.N., Ibbu, Kiti, C.O.D., Ibbu, Kiti.

I don't think so.

Is either of these girls right for me?

I am a working man of 28 with two girlfriends. The first one I married and after five months she gave birth and in accordance with our customs I sent her back to

her parents since I was not the father. The second girl heard of it and came to my home and convinced me sexually that she was the girl for me and I now living with me but my parents are against our union. They say she is far too promiscuous which of course I knew before. What should I do?

S.K.L., Nakuru, Kenya.

The answer all centres around whether your new girl in fact is promiscuous because you tell me nothing that would indicate she is—and certainly your first wife was unfaithful before your marriage. I understand your dilemma but find it hard to advise you except to offer a word of hope: there are many, many kind, faithful and loving girls who don't leap into bed to prove they would be good wives. Instead, they are prepared to wait until they are married to the right man. Maybe you will find a girl like that one day.

She still waits for her prophesied lover

I am 24 years old and have been friendly with a beautiful girl of 20 for over a year. Both of us hold school certificates and work together. When I approached this girl for love late in February 1973 she refused on the grounds that the man she would marry had already been foreseen by a prophetess and so she would not like to love any other man. She assured me, however, she would have loved me if she were free to love. It is incredible that in spite of her theoretical refusal this girl does for me everything one expects of a true lover. She helps at my house and almost all my hobbies and interests are hers. She was a virgin when I met her but we make love frequently now. Do you think she might love me or is she doing all this just to please me on the grounds: "A good neighbour is better than a distant friend."

W.K., Kitale, Kenya.

That's a question I would not like to answer. But I cannot see what you have to complain about. You have all the comforts of love without the responsibilities of marriage.

What should I do now the money is gone

I am engaged to a student aged 20 but my parents are unaware of it. I had money when I got engaged but the girl but now that the money is gone I do not know what to tell my girl and my parents. Please advise.

No. 1

Peter, Zaria.

If you feel you can no longer go ahead with the money you made with your girl, you should tell her so that she can go to her parents. You should tell them the truth.

My girl friend's parents beat her

I am 21 and the girl I love and would wish to marry after her course is 12 and in the elementary VII. Her parents beat her each time she visits me. I'm not taken her to bed and I would not like to marry. Please tell me how to win her parents.

Tundi, Lusaka.

I do not blame the parents of your girl for punishing her when they see her with you. You will agree with me that she is still too young for the game and besides has far to go with her education. Give her time to study and if at the end of her schooling you both still want to marry, it will then be an asset to you.

Now I have only half her love

Two years ago I fell in love with a girl and proposed marriage. Recently she told me she had fallen for another man. I admired her honesty and told her to choose between him and me. She said she would love us both but try to give the greater part of her love to me. Would you advise me to continue loving her?

H.K., Mpwapa, Tanzania.

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FEBRUARY 1974

Registered at the G.P.O. as newspaper.

Published for the proprietor DRUM Publications (Nigeria) Ltd. Their offices at 37 Ikadan Street, West, Ebute Meta, Lagos, Nigeria. Distributed in Nigeria by DR Publications (Nigeria) Ltd., in Africa by DRUM Publications Ltd.; and in London by DR Publications (UK) Ltd., 40-43 Abchurch Lane, London, E.C.4. Printed by Academy Press Ltd., Hesperia Industrial Estate, P.O. Box 33 Lagos.

Nigerian Co. Directors: J. F. Bailey (Chairman), Clankor F. Williams, A. K. Blankson, Z. Akintunmbi, J. Oluwumi, Dan Nelson Oshin. Editor: Olu Ak P.M.B. 2128 Lagos.

Official overseas agent representatives: Continent Europe: Mithad Organisation, office: Plantage Middelenlaan, Amsterdam, Holland and associated companies incooper R.I.P.S.A. Paris, France; Publi Hamburg, West Germany; Publi S.A. Barcelona, Spain; Tri-S Rubenacht S.A. Geneva and Z Switzerland; Publicitas, Milan, and Interavia, Stockholm, Sweden, U.S.A. and Canada: S. S. Kopp Company Inc. 610 Fifth Ave., Sun 100200, Japan and Far East: Sun Gain Shik Ltd., head office: Shiba Park, Minato-ku, Tokyo.

DRUM Publications (Nigeria) Ltd. FEBRUARY 1974.