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EUROPE'S SUMMIT: What about Africa?



As was expected, the communique of the European Summit meeting in Paris on October 19-20 did not neglect the relations of the EEC with developing countries. The resolution on "External Relations", after dealing with the EEC's commitments to the Mediterranean countries, said that, in the same perspective, "in the light of the results of the UNCTAD conference and in the

context of the development strategy adopted by the United Nations, the institutions of the Community and member states are invited progressively to adopt an overall policy of development co-operation on a worldwide scale, comprising in particular the following elements: promotion in appropriate cases of agreements concerning the primary products of the developing countries with

a view to arriving at market stabilisation and an increase in their exports; the improvement of generalised preferences with the aim of achieving a steady increase in imports of manufactures from the developing countries; in this connection the Community institutions will study from the beginning of 1973 the conditions which will permit the achievement of a substantial growth

- Groping for African groupings
- Dr Isong and the speculators
- What role for the US?

target; an increase in the volume of official financial aid; an improvement in the financial conditions of this aid, particularly in favour of the least developed countries, bearing in mind the recommendations of the OECD Development Assistance Committee; These questions will be the subject of studies and decisions in good time during 1973".

All this amounts to a broad declaration of intent, reflecting some of the ideas which have been current at recent meetings concerned with relations with developing countries. The reference to the OECD is particularly pertinent. The DAC (a 17-member body comprising the most important Western aid donors and Japan) met in Paris only a couple of days before the summit meeting and agreed to adopt the target of an 84 per cent "grant element" in official aid to developing countries. It was agreed that the new target should be binding on all aid commitments made after January 1, 1973, and that no financial flow between a member country and a developing country with less than a 25 per cent "grant element" should be recorded as official development assistance. The only country not to subscribe to these proposals is Italy, apparently for both budgetary and domestic political reasons.

The intention behind the new emphasis on grants is to soften as far as possible the terms of aid made available to developing countries. The all-important "grant element" is defined as the

difference between the interest charged to a borrower in an under-developed country and the generally considerably higher interest rate a lender might have expected to secure on the competitive market, with some allowance for the maturity period and other conditions for the loan. The reference to the "least developed" countries also directly ties in with the DAC's resolution, suggesting that aid to these countries should be at least 86 per cent "grant element" or alternately that a DAC donor country's aid to the 25 countries designated by UNCTAD as "least developed" should be not less than 90 per cent "grant element" for the group as a whole.

Heath and the debts

Mr. Heath, in his speech in Paris made some fairly anodyne references to "our important responsibility to the developing nations of the world", and to the fact that "we can all agree that the problem of bridging the gap between rich and poor countries is likely to prove one of the greatest challenges of all to our imagination and statesmanship in Europe". But what he had to say about the urgency of easing debt burdens should be some comfort to Ghana.

On the Prime Minister's return, Mr. Wilson pressed him in the House of Commons for more details on Europe's attitude to the developing countries, and Mr. Heath said that, "although the point

was not embodied in the communiqué, we accepted that there could be an increase to 15 per cent in the goods coming into this country from the developing world". On Mr. Wilson's question about the Pearson Report's recommendations, Mr. Heath said, "We do not accept the 0.7 per cent for official aid. We have never done so and I never urged the Opposition to do so when they were in government. Our view has always been that we should accept the target of 1 per cent of the GNP as a combination of official and private aid".

Britain's percentage was 1.14 per cent of the GNP, and official aid had moved up from 0.37 to 0.41 per cent, and with the volume increasing that percentage would also increase. "But we are not prepared almost to double the amount of official aid... for the simple reason that we believe that private aid which carries a know-how as well, as I have often told the House, is in many ways more valuable to developing countries than is official aid".

More interesting were the references to developing countries in M. Pompidou's speech in Paris, unreported in Britain. The French President mentioned, on the subject of the EEC's relations with the developing world, two comforting themes: one regionalist, the other taking the world view. "I believe for my part that Africa and the Mediterranean must take a privileged place, for historical and geographical reasons, and because we are more suited to this effort. In particular, everybody knows the importance we attach to the Yaoundé Convention and to the natural need of the countries attached to it to see the rights they have acquired maintained, and reinforced. Taking account of the belief which is, I think, common to us, that is to say the necessity to increase Europe's effort in favour of the least favoured section of humanity, we must, in a more general fashion, define the principles which will allow us to fix the attitude of the Community to all the developing countries".

In the discussions, too, the French mentioned that they felt that changes began at home, and that the EEC should concentrate on the French-speaking African countries and the Mediterranean. But the French spokesman said there had been no confrontation. If anything the British went along with the French approach, relating it to English-speaking Africa and the Caribbean. They found common ground with the French in opposing the far-reaching Dutch proposal to devote 0.7 per cent of GNP to official aid to developing countries (this is the recommended UNCTAD figure).

What is interesting is that no mention was made of the Yaoundé Convention in such in the communiqué. Nothing that M. Pompidou said suggested that France was going to insist on this, in fact his talk of "general principles" indicated otherwise. But there were some reports prior to the summit that the existing associates had prevailed upon the French to keep up their defence of the "privileges" of the

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present Yaoundé, and the reference, for example, to generalised preferences, is something that can only make the Yaoundé states suspicious of how far the French are really prepared to go to defend their interests.

The communiqué as it stood would have been entirely acceptable to those members of the Labour Party, who in the debate on Britain's EEC entry in the House of Commons just before the summit had expressed suspicions of France's intentions in this field. There was, for instance, Mr Albert Oram, a former Overseas Development Parliamentary Secretary, who said, "we should make it clear that when the Yaoundé and Arusha agreements come to be negotiated we shall not be content with the mere linking up of associate countries with the existing Yaoundé and Arusha patterns of trade and aid. We must make it clear that our view of the developing world is a very much wider one than the view as seen from Paris or indeed from Brussels".

France's African Myopia

A publication produced in Brussels on the EEC and the developing world, Mr Oram continued, had been illustrated with a map of Africa, seeming to ignore Asia and Latin America. "It is Africa, and francophone Africa in particular it may therefore be one of the tasks which the Prime Minister has when he goes to Paris to seek to cure this acute myopia from which President Pompidou seems to be suffering in development policies". Mr Oram felt that the Germans and the Dutch would support any British criticism of the limited geographical coverage of the Yaoundé Convention. "It will still be a limited coverage even if all the associate countries join in association. If we turn as I favour to commodity agreements as the means whereby developing countries can be assured a steady and fair price for their crops, we may well find the French more helpful in this sphere." He hoped that the British contribution to the European Development Fund would not be made at the expense of aid which goes to, for example, India and Ceylon. If this is to be avoided "greatly increased amounts of aid will be necessary". Mr Oram's sentiments were echoed by the voice more influential in European circles, of Mr Roy Jenkins who put it more succinctly, but no less categorically: "there must be a greater European commitment towards the Third World and directed much less exclusively towards the francophone countries of Africa. This is absolutely vital for the whole future prospect of the Third World". (Mr Jenkins has since criticised the Paris decisions as inadequate)

How firm, then, is France's resolve to defend the interest of her former colonies? Guarantees that the existing associates will not suffer have been made by both the French, and by M. Deniau, the European Commissioner responsible for developing countries (who is expected to

continue with the same portfolio after January 1). But misgivings on the part of the associates still seem to exist. One area in which these uncertainties have already shown themselves, and will continue to show themselves is in the contacts which the associates and the associates have been trying to make with each other. Our correspondent who was in Brussels recently analysed some of the difficulties encountered in trying even to set up a meeting desired by both sides. The signs are that this is at least to take place, at ministerial level, in Brussels, on December 7-8. Certainly invitations have officially been sent to the associates by the associates, after the meeting of the latter's Council of Association in Luxembourg on October 10. The associates have yet to accept, and are due in any case to have another meeting of their ministers under the auspices of the Commonwealth Secretariat early in December. The importance of the Brussels meeting is that it would be the first attempt at inter-African consultation on the association question. The major task of the meeting will surely be to find the common ground which surely exists to overcome some of the more divisive mutual suspicions arising from the present blocs in Africa.

Speculating in Nigerian stocks?

Surprising accusations are made against firms in Nigeria in the annual report of the Central Bank for 1971. The report claims that when the Federal government announced in the 1971-72 budget its policy of import liberalisation there was "considerable cynicism" about whether the policy could be sustained. It was believed that there would be such a flood of imports that restrictions would be reimposed. Big import orders were placed but the importers on receiving the goods did not always place them on the market but stocked some in the expectation of windfall profits when restrictions were again imposed. When there was no sign of this reimposition, those who now found themselves with heavy stocks began to complain, for example, that liberalisation of imports was damaging local manufacturing. By the end of the year, according to the report, stocks were at the highest level ever known and this speculative importing was the main feature of commercial activity in 1971. The report expects inventory stock-piling of both consumer goods and industrial raw materials to decline during the current year, particularly as firms affected by the indigenisation decree would be cautious about further investment. The expected decline in imports should assist the balance of payments though having little effect on internal price levels.

There is no doubt that local industries, particularly the textile industry, have complained loudly against the "flood of imports", but they would have done that

even if they had not stockpiled raw materials in expectation of the re-imposition of import controls, since their products are so often uncompetitive. But even before the full implications of the indigenisation decree were realised, few head offices of big firms operating in Nigeria would have sanctioned the tying-up of large amounts of capital in stock in Nigeria. The bank report itself claims only that stocks of finished goods at the end of 1971 were 10.7 per cent up on those at the end of 1970, which is not a



Dr. Isong: Governor of the Bank.

surprising increase. The surprise is, perhaps, the increase in stocks of industrial raw material, 37.8 per cent - but in the previous year many factories were hampered by shortage of materials.

In spite of the flood of imports in 1971, the balance of payments surplus was almost twice that of 1970, says the report, while payments for imports were made promptly. Nevertheless, the report notes that if oil earnings were excluded the deficit on goods and services in 1971 would be over £410m., almost twice that of the previous year. One major cause was the decline in receipts from traditional exports, due partly to smuggling of crops outside Nigeria. The report also notes steep rises in the cost of food and rent during the year, a main cause of inflation. The government, however, had successfully financed its own expenditure from the budget surpluses and non-bank sources. The report also notes that experience had shown that import and exchange controls were not only very cumbersome to implement but led to illegal external transactions.

The bank lends its voice to those who have complained of the effect of the marketing board system on agricultural output. The boards' prices policies and the practices of buying agents have, says the report, failed to produce incentives for expansion of output. In some cases, too, the boards' accounts are several years out of date.

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Research for Ghana's Economy

Ghana must increase her food production by between 3.0 and 3.3 per cent during the 1970s to keep pace with the demands of the growing population, says "The Food Requirements of Ghana 1970-80", a report by the Crop Research Institute. This is one of the points made in the recently published Second Annual Report, 1969-70, of the Ghana Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. It emphasises that while much of the research going on in Ghana has "intrinsic scientific interests", the primary object is always to make an "impact" on the economy. For example, the first programme described is that of the Building and Road Research Institute, which has been studying the provision of low-cost housing, a subject receiving much attention from the NRC regime.

The Council was established in 1968 from the Research Division of the Ghana Academy of Sciences. Under its umbrella come the Animal Research Institute, the Building and Road Research Institute, the Cocoa Research Institute, the Crops Research Institute, the Food Research Institute, the Forest Products Research Institute, the Institute of Aquatic Biology, the Institute of Standards and Industrial Research, the Soil Research Institute, the Water Resources Research Institute, and the National Atlas and Herbs of Ghana projects. Like most research institutions the CSIR complains of lack of funds, and in this case far more important, of chronic shortage of personnel. "Although the overall staff situation continues to improve (primarily as a result of the Council's post-graduate training programmes) there are still major vacancies in practically all the Institutes and units", says the Report. Particularly pressing was the need to recruit experienced personnel to lead research divisions. The report stated that there were still vacant senior posts in such fields as plant and animal breeding, agronomy, statistics, horticulture, fish biology, engineering economics, soil mechanics, metallurgy, wood engineering, building technology, and environmental physics.

Foreign aid

The CSIR still depends heavily on foreign countries and organisations such as the UN, and a lot of postgraduate staff training takes place in overseas universities. As the Crops Research Institute (CRI) points out, it was a "matter of regret" that many vacant posts were advertised but remained unfilled because there were no suitable applicants.

The scope of each research body is very wide. One of the projects which had unfortunate results, however, was the

attempt to halt the defoliation of oil palms by the Weaver bird. "The avicide, 'Queletox' reported to be effective in the Sudan did not give the desired results when applied with a motorised sprayer because the noise drove off perching birds before the spray mixture touched them. Besides, both young and mature palms were severely damaged by the formulation. In the Sudan 'Queletox' is sprayed by aircraft on to birds in flight, or perching or those about to roost". The division still has not come up with an answer to this problem.

Both low cost housing and rural development were high on the list of the Building and Road Research Institute (BRRI). In low-cost housing research covered the whole spectrum, from socio-economic problems to design and construction. Research of the Forest Products Research Institute (FPRI) has some bearing on this project. Since 1967 it has tested 44 species of timber to investigate the suitability of waste-wood for manufacture of wood-wool slabs. These are made from wood shavings, Portland cement and calcium chloride. The Institute confidently asserted that the manufacture of cement bound wood-wool slabs on a commercial scale for low-cost housing would be economically sound. Since then wood-wool has been used in some housing schemes and recently there has been controversy in Ghanaian newspapers as to the merits and demerits of the system, since certain unforeseen teething problems have appeared.

Accident analysis

The BRRI also published an analysis of traffic accident return forms which culminated in the publication of "Analysis of traffic accidents on Ghana Roads, 1969", which showed that 46 per cent of accidents involved pedestrians, 71 per cent occurred on straight stretches of roads, 65 per cent occurred during daylight and 85 per cent on reasonably good roads. A spot speed study in the same year produced a number of interesting facts e.g. the mean speeds for vehicles on the Accra-Kumasi and Accra-Takoradi roads ranged between 40-60 mph and 40-46 mph respectively.

"Considerable" progress has been made on the National Atlas project, with more than 80 of the estimated 120 sheets past the drafting stage. But perhaps one of the most interesting projects undertaken under the auspices of the CSRI is the Herbs of Ghana Project. Its aim is to produce a book, *Herbs of Ghana*, which would be a companion volume to *Woody Plants of Ghana* by the late F. R. Irvine. The projects deals only with useful herbaceous plants and about 300 species

belonging to 40 families were treated during the report's period. There were many classifications for their uses including edible herbs, medicinal herbs, herbs used for land reclamation and as sand binders, manure and cover crops, herbs used as weather signs and sacred herbs. In a similar connection the CRI has been co-operating with an American university in the supply of sweet berry, miraculous fruit and wild red berry for the possible extraction of a sweetening principle which could serve as a substitute for synthetics which are considered suspect.

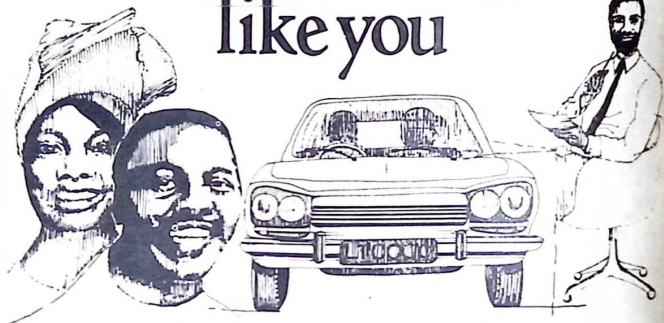
Cocoa research

Although the Cocoa Research Institute was responsible for the International Cocoa Research Conference held in Accra in 1969 the report has little to say about the institute's work, although this is of fundamental importance for Ghana's economy. The work of the Crop Research Institute on other crops is, however, reported at some length. For example, the highest yielding late sorghum varieties for the northern and upper regions have been identified. Experiments were conducted on the "spacing" of tobacco plants to give maximum yields, on the response of cotton to various fertilisers, and on the results of soaking coconut seed nuts for varying periods.

The Food Research Institute has received considerable assistance from the UN. The institute deals with private business as well as state organisations. Its work has included, for example, assessment of quality of imported and locally produced canned tomato concentrates. It was found that the local products were inferior in quality to seven of the nine imported varieties tested, a conclusion justifying the institute's attempts to develop varieties suitable for canning in Ghana. It was also found that tomato production in the upper and northern regions was not sufficient to support both the ordinary market and the factory at Pwalugu, which, in any case, could not compete with other buyers for supplies.

Experiments were conducted into the preservation of palm wine and the institute is collecting Ghanaian recipes for publication in a book, of which the first part, dealing with soups, is already in draft. There has also been a countrywide study of beliefs of Ghanaians concerning the effect of food on health. Although it was concluded that some of these beliefs are well founded, others are based on ignorance. Research among consumers has shown that of fish canned in Ghana the most acceptable are sardines in oil. There have also been studies of dehydration of vegetables.

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People

William Dambo, director of the Nigerian National Provident Fund, and Augustus Akinfenwa-Domus, the Fund's chief compliance officer, have been looking at social security arrangements covering retirement and unemployment in Britain. They expressed particular interest in general staffing and establishment matters in the Department of Social Security, the availability to the Fund and to employers of relevant statistical data from computer storage, the training of compliance inspectors and civil and criminal prosecution for non-compliance. The two executives have both visited Britain before. Dambo, a former deputy Accountant-General to the Federation attended a British Council course in government accounts and audit in 1968, among other visits, and Akinfenwa-Domus was on a British Council-sponsored visit to the Department of Social Security in 1966.

One of the most interesting delegates at the meeting of the committee on the Second World Black Festival of Arts and Culture which was held in Lagos recently was Dr. George Alakija from Brazil. A descendant of the Alakija family of Egba in the Western State, Dr. Alakija met the Western State Governor, Brigadier Rotimi, and said that he was happy to note many similarities in the cultural heritage of the people of Bahia in Brazil and that of the Yorubas. Dr. Alakija, a psychiatrist, was accompanied to the Governor's office by two members of the Alakija family, Dr. Afelabi Alakija and Mr. Justice Adenekan Ademola.

For the first time, a northern Nigerian traditional ruler has been awarded an honorary doctorate of civil law degree by Ife University. Alhaji Usman Nagogo, Emir of Katsina, was given a tremendous ovation when he received the honour, smiling broadly and doffing his hat to the chancellor, Chief Obafemi Awolowo. Also conferred with honorary degrees at the university's convocation were Professor Oladele Ajose, the university's first vice chancellor, Chief Henry Fajemirokun, the businessman, Oba Adetoyese Laseye, the Emir of Ido in the Western State and Fela Sowande, the musician.

The controversy in Nigeria about the desirability of a quota system for university admission has been joined by the Federal Commissioner for Health, Alhaji Aminu Kano, who has come down firmly in favour of such a system, which he said was necessary to ensure even development throughout the country. He also called for a national language and for a reform of school syllabuses "to reflect African culture and tradition".



Presenting a gift for the Lord Mayor of London to the Mayor's private secretary (above) is Alhaji Garba Nautan Hamza, president of the Organisation of Nigerian Indigenous Businessmen. Looking on are Johnson Sakutu, public relations officer for Alhaji Hamza's business interests and Johnson Anuyah, the manager of his London office. Before leaving Nigeria for his most recent trip to Britain, Alhaji Hamza accused some foreign-owned companies of inflating their expatriate quota demands under the pretext of importing highly skilled personnel. He claimed that the need for foreign experts had resulted in mechanics coming in as engineers, shop boys as office managers and ordinary clerks being imposed on Nigeria as accountants.

"Apart from the heavy cost to the country's foreign exchange earnings", he commented, "this fraudulent practice can reduce the Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Decree to a joke".

Chang Ping Hsun, who has represented Taiwan in Lome for more than 10 years has left for home following Togo's decision to recognise Peking. In an emotional speech before leaving, he told journalists how much he regretted leaving Togo. Mr. Chang has adopted a Togolese girl for whom he arranged a Chinese education. The embassy in Lome has now closed.

The first Soviet Ambassador to Niger, Gennadi Sokolov, has presented his credentials to President Diouri. Mr. Sokolov, the first Eastern European envoy to be resident in Niamey, is the third to be accredited to Niger (Poland and Rumania already have diplomatic relations).

Brigadier Jacob Esvuene, South Eastern State Governor, has suggested the deletion of the section of the national anthem which "seems to emphasise the fact that Nigeria is a country of many tribes and tongues". The anthem, he said, "should not remind us and posterity of the differences which it is our duty to eliminate and forget".



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Ghana's Subversion Trial

All nine persons appearing before the military tribunal have cases to answer, the tribunal decided after the close of the prosecution's case. The decision followed no submissions by counsel for seven of the accused and submissions of no case on behalf of Sgt. Nimako and David Afful Bimpong. However, the tribunal decided that David Afful Bimpong had no case to answer on two of the three charges: conspiracy to commit subversion and subversion. He now has only one case to answer: concealment of subversion.

The President of the Tribunal, Col. C. R. Tachie-Menson, has urged defence counsel to co-operate to enable the proceedings to be speeded up. The public, he said, was becoming impatient as a result of the delays caused by lengthy arguments over points of law.

Sgt. Opon-Nyantakyi was the first accused to give evidence in his own defence. He told the tribunal that the foiled coup was a mere "trick" to make money. The idea, he alleged, was first suggested by Major Zumah, a prosecution witness, during a meeting between the accused, W/O Kwadzode, also a prosecution witness, and Pte. Kwaku Oduro, one of the accused. Sgt. Opon Nyantakyi claimed: "To me, I know there was not going to be any coup. I know we were just bluffing and tricking people into giving us money." He said that at the

meeting Major Zumah mentioned the names of a Mr. Owusu Sekyere and Lawrence Oforu Amaah, both currently wanted by the police for alleged conspiracy to commit subversion, as likely targets of their plan. At another meeting at the house of Lawrence Oforu-Amaah, said the accused, George Oforu-Amaah

The nine persons, four civilians and five soldiers, accused of conspiracy to commit subversion, subversion, and concealment of subversion are: Mr. Emil Adzima, former press secretary to Dr. Busia, Mr. George Oforu Amaah, director of the Special Branch under Dr. Busia, Mr. Daniel Owusu Darkwa Attakora, Mr. David Afful Bimpong, Sgts. Kwaku Nimako, Wilberforce Agyare, Sandys Johnson Opon-Nyantakyi, Pres. Charles Adu Boateng and Kwaku Oduro. It has since been decided that David Afful Bimpong has no case to answer on the first two charges. The trial is being held in public before a military tribunal at Burma Camp. Members of the tribunal are: Col. C. R. Tachie-Menson (President of the tribunal), Maj. R. K. M. Dzakpasu, Maj. G. N. Goumi, Lt. Col. E. K. Utiaka, Mr. Justice D. F. Annan (Judge Advocate), Maj. Tern-Addy, Lt. Cdr. C. G. Lokko and Maj. Y. M. K. Adu.



Mr. George Oforu-Amaah

asked him and his colleagues who could do to bring back Dr. Busia.

Opening his defence Daniel O Darkwa Attakora denied all charges against him. He said that he did not know Bimpong through Opon-Nyantakyi when Bimpong called along with the latter, who wanted help out of financial difficulties.

Fifteen witnesses have been called to give evidence for the defence. They are to appear for Sgt. Nimako, Sgt. Opon-Nyantakyi, Pte. Kwaku Oduro, also expected to give evidence for George Oforu-Amaah, and two for Darkwa Attakora. Neither David Afful Bimpong nor Sgt. Opon-Nyantakyi intend to call witnesses.

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Letters to the Editor

Self-sufficient Ghana

SIR—The NRC has stressed its resolve to make Ghana self-sufficient. Whether this will be completely realised will only be determined by time. But the beginning is commendable, and worthy of national support. But we also hear rumblings of hoarding and smuggling of such commodities as sardines, corned beef and luxuries like whisky, as well as necessities like cotton prints from neighbouring countries. Traders only hoard food and clothing when there is not enough to go round. They do this either to sell to their favourite customers (like petrol and sugar during the War in the Gold Coast), or to create artificial scarcity and sell at exorbitant prices. But whatever the motive, it still underlines the fact that there is not enough of the commodity to go round. If there is a plentiful supply of sugar, sardines, or carbolic soap for everybody it will be madness for any trader to hoard or smuggle them and sell beyond the normal current price. No one will look into the shop of a trader selling a tin of evaporated milk for 24 pesewas, when the prevailing price on the open market is 15 pesewas.

What is the answer? I suggest the State makes itself supplier of the commodities badly needed until Ghana is self-sufficient. The real answer is government bulk-buying where those goods are produced, and supervising the distribution through State agencies or depots. We have ships and aircraft sailing and flying daily half-empty to and from Accra; they could carry these things to Accra. This will also eliminate middlemen, import duties and keep prices within manageable proportions.

How do we pay for this, in the face of the present serious shortage of foreign exchange? However precarious our foreign exchange situation, it cannot seriously be suggested that we as a nation have nothing in our coffers to pay for imports. Besides, gold, the international medium of exchange, is produced in Ghana.

Does anyone seriously suggest we should sit by and see the supply of our people's needs thwarted, because we cannot afford the foreign exchange to finance them? Is that a serious proposition? I cannot believe it!

J. ACKAH YANKSON

The Nigerian Press

SIR—After the seminar during which senior Nigerian editors tried to rediscover the various areas of their responsibilities, it is hoped that one of those rediscoveries is the invaluable role that a critical press can play in the healthy economic and social life of a developing nation; and that it is the editors' responsibility to render Nigeria this vital service.

This service means applying the critical razor to every fabric of Nigerian society. It should include telling our "cooping" (sleeping on the job) public employees and our dozing local governments that Nigeria is not a secure state and that it is time they wake up from their slumbers. It means unequivocally denouncing bribery, corruption, nepotism, mismanagement and misappropriation of public funds and all the myriad forms of individualistic malfeasance rampant in Nigeria, asking directors of corporations and

companies, senior civil servants, "broke" expatriates and businessmen to curtail the bacchanalian spree they stage ever so often. It means spotlighting incompetence, apathy and laziness in government and private sectors; reminding the government not to overdevelop urban at the expense of rural areas.

In the past, some editors have unabashedly shirked this responsibility. Others did not seem to be aware of it. Others still, had been governmentally harassed out of it. These latter found through official persecution that it does not pay to play the Jack Anderson of the Nigerian press.

That Nigeria missed this essential stimulant in her march of the 20th century is partly the fault of some of the governments. Most Nigerians (including the journalists) not only like their motherland and wish her well, but also have great confidence in her military administrators. So many serious observers are perplexed by the jittery way some of the governments react to press criticism and go about journalist-hunting. Does this imply a lack of confidence in themselves? For not every critical journalist is a "saboteur". The Nigerian press, although relatively free on the African scene is heavily bridled by world standards.

The press today is not merely to report news (which is two days late in many Nigerian papers) and act as the unofficial mouthpiece of the governments. It is also the national god, the "ombudsman", voice of the silent majority.

If human resources can be resuscitated and mobilized, Nigeria will not be the country of the much-talked about bright future. But for her to make her debut into the age of technetronics, as she seems to anxiously aspire to, the nuisance value of muckraking press is an indispensable catalyst. It is time senior editors put this heaven into the Nigerian dough.

ADEM EMAIKWU S. J.

Kmshaa

Uganda's Asians

SIR—Where lies the racism in Amin's decision to expel the British Asians? Or is an African Head of State's concern for the welfare of his people an act of racism?

Everybody knows how the Asians got to Uganda. With independence, came the opportunity for their integration with the aboriginal people. But the vast majority opted for British citizenship and continued to exploit the indigenous population and transport the profits out of the country. From time to time overtures were made to them to accept Ugandan citizenship, in vain; they preferred to be identified with Britain.

Kwame Nkrumah taught us that political independence is meaningless if the economic infrastructure remains in the clutches of foreign exploiters. Uganda is just one instance of what is happening on the continent. From Kenya to Sierra Leone the position is the same; foreign minority communities control commerce, industry and what-have-you.

Mwalimu Nyerere's reaction was perhaps more astonishing than the British Government's. It is true that he too, like Amin, has a sizeable Asian population; unlike Amin however, Nyerere's Asians are well in hand. As socialists, we all know the grave harm Amin has done to the African cause by his overthrow of Obote. However, we must give the devil his due: as far as the Asian problem is concerned he has done the right thing.

The Asians are depicted as a "victimized people" who are being "forcibly uprooted" from their environment—a smokescreen to confuse the real issues.

Amin's move, and his steadfastness in face of economic blackmail and political pressure, are worth emulating by Africa's leaders.

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Matchet's Diary

The recognition game is something which gives rise to a great deal of diplomatic activity in Africa, whether it is the two Koreas, the two Vietnams, the two Germans or the two Chinas. The latter has been perhaps the most dramatic, with the slow trickle of those bowing to reality and moving over to Peking (the later Togo and Madagascar) contrasting with the continued support of a few old faithfuls for Taiwan, like the Gambian "real friend in need" was how a Togolese newspaper described Sir Dawda Jawara the beginning of his recent state and oddest recognition affair at the moment however, is that of the Cambodia of Prince Sihanouk. Following visits by a Paris-based envoy of the Peking-based former head of State of Cambodia, a number of West African states have recognised his government-in-exile. Beginning with Guinea and Congo-Brazzaville, which is not so surprising in view of the presence of Peking embassies in these states, the wave of recognition has spread to, first Mauritania and Senegal, and then, in the last few weeks, Cameroon, and even more surprisingly Gabon. What is behind this development? After all, only a part of the forces currently engaged in fighting the Lon Nol regime directly acknowledge the Prince as their leader. More than half the guerrillas are reportedly linked to the Viet Cong. The Chinese favour the Prince may have something to do with it, but the French are also very sympathetic to his cause. Some commentators link it to Sihanouk's Gaullist contacts (he was a great admirer of the General); others to a much more sinister old-boy network dating back to the Left Bank of Paris in the 'thirties.

Ban in Dakar

The *Lettre Fermé*, a news-sheet published in Dakar, which was written about on our Books and Publications a few weeks ago (*West Africa* Sept. 15), has, an informant in Dakar tells me, been banned. The reason is, apparently, an article written in Number 10 of the publication concerning doubts over the future of the Senegalese linguist, Pat Diagne, who faces the possible loss of his job at Dakar University. According to *Lettre Fermé*, his junior lecturer colleagues issued a ten-page memorandum that was more an appeal to the authorities than a denunciation. The reason for Diagne's possible dismissal, says the journal, lies in his attempts to promote Wolof as a national language, which threaten the "cultural stranglehold" of French. Hostility to Diagne is thus attributed to "the Co-operation". The journal has not had a single issue since.



Ben Enwonwu at his retrospective exhibition (see last week's diary), seen with the Nigerian High Commissioner (Alhaji Sule Kolo), Lady Carter, wife of the Guyana High Commissioner, and Dr Pius Okigbo (see below).

but it has been banned outright for putting in question the "general policy and basic principles of the government". The editor was notified, and the ban was published in the *Journal Official*. Although given the nature of the *Lettre Fermée*, a clash with the authorities was perhaps inevitable sooner or later, the affair renders the remarks of our reviewer on press freedom in Senegal unhappily premature.

Done in Business

Under the managing directorship of Dr. Pius Okigbo, university men in Nigeria's East Central State have come together to form a consultancy firm for the preparation of feasibility studies and the like. Dr. Okigbo is the former Economic Adviser to the Federal Government and Ambassador to the EEC. The other consultancy men include Dr. Sylvester U. Ugoh, an economist; Mr. Kalu U. Kalu lecturer in the Department of Finance at the University of Nigeria, as an accountant; Dr. Gordian O. Ezekwe, head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University; Dr. Dennis M. Ekpete, senior lecturer in the University's Faculty of Agriculture; Dr. Okefi W. Uzoaga, Dean of the University's Faculty of Business Administration; Mr. Lawrence C. Okigbo, former head of the Federal Forest Products Research Laboratory; and Dr. Jacob Ibhik, the lawyer who lectures at the University and was once Commissioner of Customary Laws in Malawi.

Soyinka and the book

The forthcoming book of Wole Soyinka, *The Man Died*, seems certain to cause ructions when it is published in November. Even to mention his name in some circles is to inflame opinion. Yet what the book actually says we still don't know, and the author himself tends to speak apocalyptically on the subject. Interviewed recently (in one of his favourite Greek restaurants in Charlotte

Street) he corrected an impression given in his publisher's hand-out on the subject of the book, that he was writing against military rule as such. A hero of his is the late Col. Fajuyi, whom he regarded as "incredibly open to new ideas". "If the original aims of January 15 had succeeded I cannot honestly say that I would not have supported it all the way, although not as a perennial institution. Military intervention is not necessarily evil, but the suggestion that military rule is the answer is an insult to most of the progressive régimes in Africa today". For instance, he says, you cannot compare Nyerere with people like Bokassa and Amin. Each situation therefore has to be treated as unique. On his reasons for writing the book, Soyinka says, "I believe a new society can be achieved only after a truthful clarification of the past, even if it means that the porcelain saints are smashed in the process. What I have observed over the three years since my release and the two years since my decision to write the book, is that the values entrenched in Nigerian society are the values which the first military *coup* tried to eradicate. These values are now being justified by the emotional value attached to military victory".

The subject matter of the book includes the January and July *coups*, and the Banjo affair in the Midwest, which Soyinka says has been distorted. "Nobody deeply proved what they were up to Banjo was betrayed on both sides". Yet, Soyinka claims, Banjo's was the first

attempt to set up a socialist government in Nigeria. Both the present government and the intellectuals are all "scared to come to grips with the demands of the Banjo movement, and prefer to ignore it". One of his big disappointments at the moment is with the former East: "you have a situation of government which was nothing but rubble, just rubble. This was an opportunity for experiment in development problems along socialist lines and it's not happening". Instead he claims, they too are embracing the old elitist politics. Soyinka criticises the indigenisation decree as it stands because its avowed object is to build a local bourgeoisie. The possibility of autogestion on the pattern of Algeria was not even considered. "Morally all such businesses belong to the people, not people who can raise a loan. In other words the old mafia is back in business".

No Elephant guns

Everybody must sympathise keenly with Mr. E. V. Okon, the Chief Conservator of Forests in Nigeria's South Eastern State, where elephants are reported to have done serious damage to a cocoa estate. Mr. Okon said that unfortunately his own rangers, who have been trained to track down and shoot elephants, were "incapacitated" because of the ban on fire-arms in the three Eastern States. The result was that he had to ask the army and police for help.

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Books and Publications

Groping for a grouping

West Africa's Council of the Entente, by
Virginia Thompson (Cornell University
Press, £6.45).

In her article on US Aid to the Council
of the Entente (the second part of
which appears on page 1461) Dr Tamar
Golan describes the Entente as "the
oldest surviving regional grouping of
independent Africa", which gives "the
appearance of capacity for action" (thus
justifying US aid). Elsewhere in the issue
(page 1472) we report an imminent summit
meeting of the Council of the Entente,
which has not met for some time
because of political difficulties: the aim
of the meeting is to reinvigorate the
grouping and "restore its influence" in
West Africa.

These two points illustrate very clearly
the two different levels on which a
regional grouping like the Council of the
Entente works, and which is one of the
main impressions to emerge from Virginia
Thompson's account of the grouping's
activities since its birth in 1959. On the
one hand you have a number of states
working out limited projects together,
such as the meat market, which was the
object of the first large US loan to the
Entente in 1971, or the projected lottery,
or the Loan and Guarantee Fund and its
related projects. And on the other hand
you have the political relationship
between the five states - the Ivory Coast,
Dahomey, Niger, Upper Volta and Togo
- which is the main subject of Miss
Thompson's book.

This she treats partly on the basis of a
country-by-country potted survey of the
kind which Adloff and Thompson have
made their speciality. Ivory Coast is
excluded from this individual analysis,
apparently because it is to be the subject
of a separate book in the same series,
"Africa in the Modern World", although
there is also to be a book on Dahomey,
which nevertheless gets the Thompson
treatment. The Ivory Coast, however, is
the focal point of the book, if it can be
said to have one at all, because the
Entente was very much the creation of
President Houphouët-Boigny, and it has
been his baby all along, as the first circle
of his various zones of influence in
foreign policy.

The section on the setting up of the
Council, in the chapter called
"interdependence", is perhaps the most
interesting section of the book, because
of the wealth of detail Miss Thompson is
able to marshal into a coherent pattern of
events. It is interesting to recall, for

instance, the behind-the-scenes
negotiations which led to the detachment
of Upper Volta and Dahomey from the
Mali federation by the Ivory Coast, and
the subsequent delicacy with which
Houphouët-Boigny had to tread
then in order to fashion a grouping
pattern he wished. Right from the
inception the grouping suffered from
suspicions of its members of
domination and Miss Thompson
gives pride of place to the diplomatic
of Houphouët-Boigny first in setting
grouping up at all at a moment when
fragmentation was the order of the day,
and in keeping it together in spite of
frictions between members. "Not only
did Houphouët have to tread softly,
he had to carry a big money bag",
she writes.

Here she mentions the creation of the
Solidarity Fund which was
financed by the Ivory Coast, which
provide loans for development
and outright gifts in emergencies. "The
[of Dahomey] was trunk to admit that
was thanks to the financial aid
offered by the Entente that his
hesitations about joining it had
overcome. Indeed the fund proved to be
not only Houphouët's trump card
forming the entente, but the major
has been chiefly responsible for holding
together."

Well, not quite. In 1966 the Solidarity
Fund was transformed into the Loan and
Guarantee Fund, which simply provided
the backing for loans as opposed to grants
or grants themselves. Miss Thompson
furnishes plenty of details of the fund
and how it works, but does not attend
the transformation to Houphouët's
disillusionment with the way the
fund had worked, or rather had
abused. The key point here is
Yameogo's conviction in Upper Volta
embezzlement of £1.2m had been
money taken from the Solidarity Fund.
It is disappointing to find that
Thompson in a footnote on Yameogo's
trial does not mention this fact, because
it tells you a great deal about the nature
of the Council of the Entente and the
problems that surrounded it.

I dwell on this because it is
symbolic of what is wrong with a book
that one hates to dismiss outright
of the usefulness of some of its parts.
The trouble seems essentially to be
subject. The Council of the Entente
certainly successfully continued to exist,
but its story as told by Miss Thompson

scarcely a catalogue of triumphs. This is seen in the chapter on foreign policy, which is characterised by a series of arguments among members - on "double nationality", on Biafra, on South Africa. Even where there was some unanimity, as in the campaign against Nkrumah's Ghana in 1965, the Entente conspicuously failed to stop or even dramatically to hamper the OAU summit in Accra.

Even the economic cooperation on which the Entente has more usefully concentrated has its limits. It has not pretended to be a customs union (although if the projected West African Economic community of francophone states materialises this may yet be realised in part, even if the Entente eventually submerges its identity in CEAO). Nor does there appear to have been any attempt to coordinate planning of industry. The classic example is the multiplication of national cement industries. As Miss Thompson points out in her chapter on "The Economic Base", the Ivory Coast is now developing on a large scale production of palm oil, copra and kenaf which will soon be strongly competitive with the longer established vegetable oil and fiber industries of Dahomey whose output the official encouragement of ranching in northern Ivory Coast will reduce if not eliminate, a vitally important market for the livestock industries of Niger and Upper Volta."

The limited achievements of the Entente cause one to ponder, what is the

Entente, and why is it worth bothering with? True, as Miss Thompson concludes it is a "going concern". It is something that it can still meet to consider its own reinvigoration. But the subject matter is undeniably thin. It might have been better to treat it from the point of view of, say, the Ivory Coast's foreign policy, which is a fascinating subject, on which the author clearly has a great deal to say.

With the subject treated like this, however, the book becomes repetitive (seen especially in the "Foreign Policy" chapter), and introduces matters which, while interesting in their own right, add little to one's knowledge of the Entente as Entente. This is especially true of the chapters on "Present Leadership and Traditional Authority" and on "The Modern Elites", which seem in this context to be padding. It is true there was friction over Entente students at Abidjan University but this could easily have been included in the "divisive issues" section. "The Modern Elites" concludes shatteringly thus: "Obviously in all the Entente states, time is on the side of youth, and the only questions that remain unanswered are whether the transfer of power will come sooner or later and whether it will be peaceful or violent".

The moral seems to be, choose a nebulous subject and you get a nebulous book.

K.W.

The South African Connection by *Ruil First, Jonathan Steele and Christabel Gurney (Maurice Temple Smith, £3.50)*

Many who utterly condemn South Africa's racial policies still wonder whether a commercial boycott of the Republic would really strengthen the non-whites and their political future. This is particularly true of the investment by "multi-national" corporations which are powerful enough, and sufficiently important to the South African regime, to be able to "modernise" the place of non-Europeans in the economy (which they would wish to do anyway because of the economic waste and inefficiency of discrimination), to give their staffs some degree of independence, and to raise living standards. This theory of "liberating the regime from within" is very attractive. And the book concedes that some industrialists believe it sincerely themselves. Against it is the view that it is only its international trade and the strengthening of the economy by international investment which shores-up a regime which would otherwise crack.

This book is a powerful argument for the second view. The authors are proudly partisan, but they back up their case with a mass of facts about external participation in South Africa's economic life (which alone would make the book valuable), virtually firm-by-firm, and about the failure of African living standards, particularly those of miners, to rise with the expansion of the economy.

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in this, in spite of its weaknesses, industry in particular has expanded remarkably.

Yet in the end the authors themselves conclude that only when "forces within South Africa, aided, possibly, by favourable international circumstances, effect a change in the control of the South African system will Western governments perhaps consider changing sides and trying to join the winning one."

They have, in fact, not convincingly shown that withdrawal of external investment or foreign boycott of South African trade would do more than register moral disapproval — important though that is. They have shown, instead, very clearly that economically South Africa offers such attractions that it is idle to ask external bodies to abandon them: the authors suggest, for example, that by 1980 Japan may be South Africa's best customer.

It is, in any case, only a guess that the economic consequences of international economic boycott would stimulate successful internal opposition to oppression, in view of the power of the system of coercion. There is also the revolution which could be due to the frustration of rising expectations which economic expansion brings. Nor do the great international companies consist only of rich directors. Cessation of their operations calls for sacrifice from their staffs at all levels. The authors also think that it is, after all, capitalism, whether native or external, which in the long run is the oppressor. So why should the

outside capitalists, condemned anyway, feel a special obligation to put themselves out of business in South Africa?

The big firms are in South Africa to make money not to change society. But the book must at least cause stirrings of conscience. It is unlikely to lead to changes of policy by governments or companies, yet it shows clearly that in spite of fastidious Western expressions of disapproval, and in spite of equivocation in their attitude to South Africa by both communist and third world countries, South Africa remains economically part of the Western World.

D.P.

The Maurice Case edited by Nancy Maurice (Leo Cooper, £4.50)

At first sight this book's subject may seem to have very limited interest. It concerns the abandonment of a promising military career by Major-General Maurice in May 1918 when, against all military rules, he published a letter in London newspapers accusing the then Prime Minister, Mr. Lloyd George, of lying about military matters. That clearly was the end of his career, but Nancy Maurice, his daughter, has ever since maintained that, as a patriot, her father was right to have done what he did, and now publishes his own diaries, together with two of Sir Frederick's pamphlets written at the time about the affair.

Today few people will worry about the politicians' decisions which General Maurice so strongly criticised. What really matters are the issues which General Sir

Edward Spears, whom Miss Maurice served devotedly for so many years, private secretary and whose wife she emphasises in his introduction brilliantly written, suggests that chairman of Ashanti Gold fields who have had a successful career as a polemic journalist. At the outbreak of 1914-18 war he became, although junior officer, British liaison officer to the French forces because he happened to speak perfect French. According to what he writes here he was not consulted much as he might have been about British policy, but what he really does is to the whole question whether a democracy with Prime Ministers and others can manage modern warfare. Already the reputation of Sir Winston Churchill however great it will always remain, has been assailed as a strategist. General Spears' introduction goes to demolish the reputation of Lloyd George as a strategist, even while reinforcing an opportunist civilian leader.

The Emin Pasha Relief Expedition 1886-1890, by Iain R. Smith (Leo Cooper, £6.50)

In his preface Dr. Smith notes that the expedition led by H. M. Stanley to relieve at the time of the Mahdist war the German who had become Emin Pasha and Governor of the Egyptian Province of Equatoria, was probably the best documented of any expeditions led by Europeans in Africa. For the expedition's history one does not depend merely on the record left by its leader, because in some form or other all the other Europeans who accompanied it kept accounts, while there is a great deal of material in the archives of the British responsible for mounting the expedition. Equally important, there is material in the form of letters to and from the Mahdist states and statements recorded by Emin's followers to give yet another view of the expedition. Dr. Smith has produced a clear and readable narrative but he has also made a contribution to the history of the colonial period in East Africa as well as to the diplomatic history of Anglo-German rivalry.

There are a number of photographs chiefly of the main actors in the narrative.

A Village on a Hill, by A. H. H. Stockwell, Ltd. (Leo Cooper, 63p.)

Fourteen years in the Ibo village of Nkpa near Uzuakoli seen through the eyes of a British missionary teacher. The author's observant eye, his disarming simplicity, and his quaint range of Anglo-Saxon terms of reference (Boni, Nichols, Willa Cather, Ursula Bloom, etc.), give the book a touching quality.

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Nuts and bolts of cooperation

By a correspondent

Following a two-day meeting of the France-Niger Co-operation Commission it has been agreed that the 1961 Co-operation Agreements between the two countries will be "re-examined" before the end of the year. A statement at the end of the meeting said that, after examining budgetary questions and taking stock of present French aid, the two sides went over future development programmes, particularly in the economic and development fields. France's delegation was headed by M. Billecoq, Secretary of State for Co-operation. Niger's was led by Mouddour Zakara, Finance Minister and Mai Mai Gana, Co-operation Minister.

The agreements of April 24, 1961 cover aid, trade and currency, foreign affairs, technical assistance, education, justice, sea and air transport, telecommunications and the Armed Forces. Another agreement signed in 1967 providing for exploitation of Niger's uranium deposits, and another in 1970 for special French aid to Niger's National Investment Fund.

Niger has been anxious to revise the Co-operation Agreements for some time. On March 22, 1969, President Hamani Diori sent notes to his colleagues in the Council of the Entente calling for a common position on renegotiating them. The departure of General de Gaulle delayed proceedings, but the subject was raised on a bilateral basis in 1969 (no further mention was made of a common Entente position).

Some of the agreements are simply out of date. Thus the provision for "joint commissions" has been superseded by a single France-Niger Commission since 1968. The Defence Agreement provides for a "regional defence council" at the level of the Council of the Entente (the defence council has not met since 1964). The economic agreement has been partly superseded by the 1967 uranium agreement, by which provides for aid independent of the *Fonds D'Aide et Coopération*.

It is also pointed out in Niamey that the preferential trading system between the two countries, with guaranteed prices, has been overtaken by the Yaoundé FIC Convention, which brutally ended the price subsidies. Likewise the monetary agreement provides for consultation on parity, but in 1969 the franc zone countries were not consulted before devaluation or before the dual exchange-rate was introduced last year. The Nigeriens would also like the question of repatriation of profits between the franc zone and France to be discussed. (This is an important topic in francophone Africa, as both Madagascar and Congo-Brazzaville have recently taken measures to limit currency transfers which go against franc zone practice.)



Hamani Diori, naturally moderate

The agreements on higher education and cultural co-operation are also expected to be modified, as these are considered still unadapted to African conditions. In a number of francophone countries, including Niger, a number of commissions have already been formed to consider this question. Such subjects as the use of non-French teachers and equivalence of diplomas will be discussed (Niger is on the brink of setting up its own university with French assistance).

Will the Defence Agreements also come under discussion? It is reported that the French, while still happy to include the provision invoking their assistance in the event of any outside attack on the African partners, are now having second thoughts about any provision for assistance in the face of internal threats. This has partly come about because of the admitted unpopularity of the Chad operation, which was officially brought to a conclusion in September with the departure of the French Commander, General Cortadellas (it will be recalled that in December 1963 certain French assistance was given to the government of Hamani Diori at the time of the attempted coup of Captain Diallo).

Clauses in the agreement said to link the Niger army to French equipment are now no longer applicable because, when the French refused to help Niger set up an engineers company to work on the road network, assistance was sought from West Germany. There is some feeling in Niger that the list of strategic materials to which France has priority should not include oil, although Niger agrees that uranium should be there.

The talks are reported to have taken place in a friendly atmosphere, in keeping with the statements of President Hamani Diori when he was in Paris in September. But the French Ambassador in Niamey who returned to France at President Diori's request earlier this year has still not gone back, and as a correspondent pointed out in *West Africa* of September 22, President Diori, naturally moderate, and anxious to preserving good relations with France has a lot of pressures from militants behind him. He also is genuinely keen on re-shaping relations with France to mutual advantage.

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Crisis in Development

In his first article surveying the discussion* on the 1969 conference on planning organised by the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University, Dr Green Nwankwo suggested that planners may not deserve all the criticisms now heaped on them since most of the factors with which they had to deal with are beyond their control. Here he concludes the argument.

It is often overlooked that the multi-purpose nature of the planning process decreases the effectiveness of the planners, particularly when their work has to be summarised into a plan document, masking conflicts between various planning roles! The need for the plan to be both an instrument for radical economic and social change and to be a source of stability and direction, particularly for governments aiming at decentralisation; the need for the planning process to provide the decision makers with a framework of practicable alternatives, without prejudging the stability of institutional or economic assumptions; and the need for the plan to promote efficiency by being realistic and to raise enthusiasm by aiming high. Even the relevance of the planning exercise in which the planner is invited to engage has come to be questioned by experience. "With little trumpeting and fanfare about economic planning and without much serious effort at macro-planning some countries, like Japan, Taiwan and Thailand, have achieved considerable success in development and modernisation; while some others, of which India and Pakistan are representative, which have taken to sophisticated planning techniques have achieved less conspicuous results on the whole".

Finally, is it really sufficient or helpful to couch the atmosphere of crisis and the feeling of frustration currently associated with planning in terms of the individual shortcomings of the main actors? And is the question one of crisis in planning or planning in crisis? Indeed it can be argued that the unfortunate air of crisis in planning arises from the excessively limited historical perspective. Planning, like other social innovations, is bound to take a generation to be properly understood and accepted. The disappointing experience over the past fifteen years or so can therefore best be regarded as a part of the learning process, and this experience is not without its lessons.

First, planning has come to stay as a deliberate attempt to bring about desired changes in the political, social, economic and institutional arrangements in the economy. Planning is therefore necessary; internally to impart discipline and enthusiasm to the pursuit of development

*The Crisis in Planning; edited by Dudley Sears and Mike Faber. Volume One, The Issues. Volume Two, The Experience (Chaito and Windus for Sussex University Press, £8 for the two volumes).

by both the public and private sectors of the economy; and externally to facilitate a greater degree of control over the external environment.

Secondly, and following from the first, national planning is from start to finish a political process — a process that can be initiated and carried through only by politicians who, undoubtedly, are the main actors in the planning drama; however, big a supporting role may be played by other actors such as administrators, the private sector or the labour movement. A plan, therefore, is as good or as bad as the political environment under which it is designed and implemented — a point that did not appear to have been fully appreciated in Sussex.

Thirdly, just as planning has come to stay, so too have planning models. Econometric models have no doubt made a great contribution to planning methodology, but in practice models have often been very badly mishandled. The variables in the models, especially agricultural coefficients, were often wild guesses. The variables outside the models, especially political and social ones, were often the ones that mattered most; but planners, happier with figures than with people, tend to ignore what they cannot formalise. But no particular approach can be said to be the essence of planning. Planning models can generate more ideas and solutions than the intuitive approach, but the intuitive approach may be needed to allow for variables that nobody had troubled to quantify, and to "correct" results based on misguided data. In the long run, good models are bound to replace intuition.

Fourthly, while it was certainly admirable to emphasise the creation of material and visible infrastructure at the early stages of planning, the developing countries should now place equal, if not more, emphasis on the creation of the educational-technical skills infrastructure in order to rid the geographical-political unit of the social-cultural drag which militates against development. Education, properly syllabus-ed, is the instrument by which the necessary shock can be administered to a people, in order to break away from the tradition and cultural postures which are inhibitive of economic development.

Finally, other lessons point to the dangers of too early addiction to Western ideologies of the Welfare state and trade unionism before the establishment of the economic and industrial base necessary to

sustain them, and of too heavy reliance on foreign aid and technical assistance. How much, for instance, is foreign aid obstructing or facilitating development? The answer obviously depends on the circumstances of each country. It was found for instance, that "however necessary aid was to some countries, in a case like Chile, it might be obstructing development by removing the urgency from (e.g.) fiscal reforms, by superimposing the priorities of aid agencies on policy . . . and by undermining the feeling of self-reliance". Foreign aid, in fact, has two bad effects: it enables governments

to take (or not take) decisions without having to assume full responsibility for the consequences of the decisions; and it tends to increase the supply of dedicated foreign experts who are well trained in macro-economics but who know little of institutional economics, usually have no administrative experience, and know nothing of the country's possibilities. Their marginal contribution is often negative.

There is certainly no doubt that the two volumes reporting the Sussex University Conference are the most comprehensive and most authoritative which have been produced on the subject of planning

They emphasise shifts of emphasis which have been occurring, perhaps half-consciously, in many different places where planning is practised - away from preparation of vast plan documents towards greater concern with execution and a lowering of the priority given to economic growth, as against social objectives. And they point the way towards the conventional wisdom of the future and to new forms of planning and areas for further research. Those teaching, researching and advising on development problems should find the volumes invaluable.

What Role for the US in AFRICA ?

Last week Tamar Golan drew attention to the shift in policy behind US aid to the African states of the Francophone Entente - Dahomey, Ivory Coast, Niger, Togo and Upper Volta - a shift towards aid to the region as a whole as opposed to individual countries. She gave example of the substantial sums which have been given. Here she discusses the issues raised for the Entente itself by this policy.

For the leaders of the region, the sudden money from heaven caught them without their vessels ready to collect and absorb it. The \$6m loan to the Livestock Community is a case in point. The livestock experts of the individual states and the ministers themselves could not reach agreement on the creation of the Community even after several conferences. The conflict between the interior and the coastal states resulted in a deadlock. They remained squarely opposed on matters such as the location of slaughter houses, fiscal and customs policy, prices for producers and to consumers, and investment priorities. Only when it became clear that the US loan would not materialise unless some structure was set up to justify the loan, did the Presidents sign the ordinance creating the Livestock Community (May 1971, in Ouagadougou).

Thus it soon became clear that it would take much longer than expected to render the Community operational. Now that there was substantial money to spend, the conflict between north and south, the Sahel & Coast, previously verbal, became real in the preparation of protocols and selection of investment priorities. To date, progress in the protocols has been impressive, but the really hard questions (e.g., customs and fiscal regulations) have to be faced.

Moreover, while each country had a long list of projects for which it was soliciting loans, they tended to concern the country's narrow internal interests. Co-ordinated planning was lacking, as, for example, in a project for disease eradication in Upper Volta. Even if efficiently carried out, its effectiveness would be severely hampered unless matched by similar projects in other states. It took a whole year from the time the loan for the Community was authorised in the US (March, 1971) until agreements for the first three projects were signed by the

Ministers of the Community.

In viewing these problems, one should not lose sight of the dominance of political factors. The Entente has been in quite serious trouble since 1970. A succession of crises have all but paralysed it. These began in November 1970, when the Ivorian Government, in the wake of the Guinea invasion and students' demonstrations, felt compelled to expel some 500 students belonging to the Entente states. The crises continued in 1971, when the Ivory Coast sought the support of members of the group for "Dialogue" with South Africa and secured only a lukewarm abstention at the OAU Summit in Addis Ababa. Matters were further complicated by the "desertion" of the Entente members, except for Niger, in the voting in the candidature of the Voltaic, Mr. Malick Zoromé, to the post of the OAU's Secretary General, in this year's OAU Summit. Discussion in Bamako last June on the creation of the CEAO (West African Economic Community) also split the Entente. These are but the main problems which have resulted in the present political paralysis. The Entente's last summit was held as long ago as May, 1971.

Political stalemate

The question is, of course, to what extent the political stalemate is effecting the operational side of the organisation. Mr. Paul Kaya, head of the Entente secretariat, sees no problem at all; in fact, the secretariat may even believe that when the politicians are "dormant", the real work can be carried out peacefully. But this clearly is only a partial answer. The Government of Mali, for example, applied more than eighteen months ago for membership in the Community without joining the Entente itself. Its

request is still pending.

The US-AID experts, for their part, consider the Entente experience as generally favourable. They see themselves serving as a catalyst in the advance of an important regional venture and in the strengthening of a regional grouping. Even though it has taken longer than expected, negotiations on the various projects were serious and revealed that the Entente possesses a corps of competent technicians. However, on the investment side, US expectations have not entirely been met. If the Entente is to be merely a political guise through which the US can conveniently channel resources, but without changing the area's economic patterns, then the whole idea of regional co-operation should be re-examined.

The influx of American financing may accelerate the process by which the Entente would become an economic entity; but what is to happen if this economic progress is not matched by the political will - and political action - of the Entente's leaders? The US may then find itself deeply committed financially without being able to secure political backing inside the Entente. It may even appear as if the US is "imposing" a rate of economic development not supported by the political realities of the region. If this happens, then each side may be faced with a predicament: for the US it will be the commitment of major resources which cannot be effectively deployed, and for the Entente leaders it may mean acceleration of political issues which they are not ready to face. Furthermore, if aid through the Entente is so difficult, can the US hope to find appropriate mechanisms for other groupings, where regional institutions are much less responsive? Should the US continue to emphasise the channelling of its regional aid through existing organisations, or, perhaps, should it look for another formula?

Commercial News

Cocoa pact doubts

An international cocoa agreement designed to prevent excessive price fluctuations will be open to signature during a two-month period from November 15. The pact, hammered out during a six week conference in Geneva sponsored by the United Nations will come into force on April 30 or within the following two months, provided it has been ratified by governments representing at least five exporting countries having at least 80 per cent of the basic quotas and countries taking at least 70 per cent of total imports.

Both the United States and West Germany, who together account for about 35 per cent of world exports, have indicated their unwillingness to sign the agreement for the time being. But pressure might be put on the West Germans by the other European Community nations. Closing date for signatures to the treaty is January 15 — which is after the forthcoming German elections.

A minimum-maximum price range of between 23 and 32 US cents per pound of cocoa was agreed at the conference (23 cents is about £200 a ton). An International Cocoa Council is to be established and provision is made for a 250,000-ton buffer stock and annual export quotas.

Agreement was reached as a result of a last-minute compromise plan forwarded by UNCTAD officials Mr. G. E. Myers of Britain, who was vice-chairman (consumers) of the conference, called the agreement "a fair and balanced packet" and said that there had been a good deal of give and take on both sides. The producers were more reserved about the final formula, and the Ivory Coast delegate was reported as saying that if the

agreement failed to get off the ground his government would turn its back on international trade co-operation.

An article in the *Financial Times* commented, "the key to its success lies not in the arrangements as set down on paper but the willingness of all countries to join in market regulation. As long as a significant proportion of trade remains outside its purview, it can amount to little more than a blueprint".

- Ghana's Commissioner for Trade and Tourism, Major Felh, has disclosed that 10 licensed buying agents owe the Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board a total of 12.4m. cedis and have therefore not been issued with purchasing licenses for the current season. He met representatives of the agencies concerned to warn them of the strong penalties facing them, including forfeiture of assets and imprisonment of up to 10 years. One company spokesman urged the Commissioner to give them licenses to operate as this would enable them to pay back the money, but Major Felh said that he had discussed this with the Auditor General's department and had learned that if they were allowed to operate they could not pay back the money within four months.

- South Eastern State Government has earmarked ₦800,000 for the establishment of a cocoa wine industry. A Hungarian firm, Komplex, has been engaged to design and manufacture the plant.

- Paterson Zochonis made a post-tax profit of £1,212,000 for the year ended last May, compared with £1,030,000 the previous year.

Bako on Plan failings

Speaking during the opening session of a conference of commissioners responsible for economic development and reconstruction, the Kano State Governor, Police Commissioner Audu Bako, criticised the lack of dialogue between the various governments in Nigeria during the preparation of the current National Development Plan. "This glaring oversight sometimes resulted in wrong decisions at the federal level, because those concerned are not aware of the local situation or the circumstances of the project involved", he commented. Recommending that "the misguided publicity given to the so-called performance ratio (of Development Plan implementation) will not be repeated", he explained that the purpose of these reports was to determine how the plan was going and to discover implementation problems, thus initiating action to remove the bottlenecks. The State had discovered, however, that a number of financial and technical problems requiring internal and external loans, federal government grants and technical assistance had not been met by the Federal Government, in spite of repeated requests. According to the time-table, he said, the third development plan would be in operation in April 1975.

Also speaking at the opening session, the Federal Commissioner for Economic Development, Dr. Adebayo Adedeji, said that two standing committees had been set

up to examine the Federal Government's economic and social policies and the Doxiadis Associates International had been commissioned to study the needs of the country's major urban centres.

A communiqué at the end of the conference said that the commissioners had agreed to recommend to the Federal Government that the national development plan should be launched on April 1 1974, immediately after the expiration of the present plan period. The next meeting of the Commissioners was fixed for February, in Enugu.

- According to a report in the *New Nigerian*, quoting a "dependable source", the Commissioners recommended a new marketing board system under which the boards would no longer constitute the revenue-earning source of the state governments. Produce purchase tax would be fixed by the boards and apparently he scrapped and the Federal Government would pay a subsidy to the state governments to cover their revenue losses.

- In an editorial commentary, the *New Nigerian* referred to complaints about the non-implementation of resolutions adopted at such conferences. It also observed that "vague" resolutions harmonised national policies were often passed which became "lethal weapons" in the hands of zealous federal officials. Out of the blue a letter comes from Lagos (referring to a certain resolution passed one or two years previously) laying down the details of a national policy having been worked out to the nth degree. States are therefore left with no alternative but to resist".

- A central planning agency is to be established by the Nigerian Government to assist the states in the planning and execution of projects requiring federal financial support, the Federal Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Dr. J. O. Okun, announced.

- A decree formally authorising the establishment of a petroleum training institute in Nigeria has been published.



Governor Bako.

Go-ahead awaited

The feasibility study for a rural electrification scheme in Benue Plateau State has been completed, suppliers have been contacted and a prototype organisation designed — only the signal to go ahead remains. This was stated by Sir Miles Clifford, chairman of the Nigerian Electricity Supply Corporation at the 43rd annual meeting in London recently. The State Government has taken a 20 per cent interest in the company and proposed that the company should manage as well as construct the rural electrification scheme. Added Sir Miles: "The main part of the scheme could be completed inside three years and the whole project in five, this, in time, should provide us with a useful load and the more welcome in view of the disappointing reduction in mining demand."

"With the completion of its new water supply Jos should be a 'natural' for industrial development. With the rehabilitation of the great Onitsha market which is provided for, Jos — its outpost — will grow and is indeed already growing and we can look for a steadily increasing demand from this source."

On Nigeria as a whole, the chairman said that although the economic outlook was encouraging, a "quite serious" unemployment problem existed, particularly among school-leavers. "These, as General Gowon remarked to me, seek only white collar employment and forget that Nigeria is essentially an agricultural country." There was a student call for industrialisation but this called for carefully planned industrial training, overseas investment and entrepreneurship "so that one can but hope that the Federal Government, as its finances improve, will do everything possible to ease the path of those who are able to help". In this respect the Corporation had a particular grievance — "We, like the Nigerian Electric Power Authority, are obliged to maintain a London office but our attempts to repatriate the essential costs to run it are unsuccessful.

There is, as I see it, no conceivable justification why we should be discriminated against in this way and I hope Government will soon remove this anomaly."

In conclusion, Sir Miles said that Britain should have a very close concern for Nigeria "for there was no such country before our time. What Nigeria looks for from us is true friendship and help. There are many ways in which this friendship and help can be given and there are few to whom it is more rightly due" (Last month, the company received a remittance of £544,430 from Nigeria, the balance of dividends declared to December 31 1970).

■ Bisicht Tin, the Nigerian tin and columbite producer, has bought the entire issued capital of Mineral Products, an investment holding company, and certain quoted investments, for £150,000 from London and Associated Investment Trust.

Aggrey chosen

Mr. Peter Aggrey of Ghana was elected chairman of the new Association of Port Managers which was formed at a meeting in Freetown earlier this month. The vice-presidents are M. Mamadou Gueye of Senegal and Captain Abraham Macauley of Sierra Leone, and the treasurer is Mr. D. F. Neal of Liberia. The member nations are Dahomey, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone. Other African nations are expected to join in the next few months.

■ Lagos is to have another ports authority vessel from the British yard which built the tugs Okelho and Bukuru which have been in service for about three years. The Federal Ministry of Transport has ordered an inspection vessel from the Charles D Holmes shipyard which is expected to complete the order by March 1974. The 130 foot vessel will be used for the inspection of offshore installations and buoys.

Shipping News

ELDER DEMPESTER LINES

SOUTHBOUND — From Liverpool: FOHRAH BAY sig. Oct. 26; DEIDO due Port Harcourt Oct. 10; KOHIMA sig. Appa Oct. 23. From London: EBOE sig. Oct. 24; BHAMO sid. Freetown Oct. 20. From Dublin: KUMBA sid. Oct. 21. From Glasgow: DEGEMA sid. Oct. 26.

From N. Continent: MACHAON sig. Hamburg Oct. 20; KABALA due Takoradi Oct. 20; PEGU due Appa Oct. 23. From Southampton: AUREOL due Las Palmas Oct. 23.

NORTHBOUND — To Liverpool: FULANI due Oct. 22; FALABA sid. Appa Oct. 22; DUNKWA due Oct. 22; EBANI due Oct. 21. To Glasgow: DUMBAIA due Dakar Oct. 23.

To N. Continent: FREETOWN due Hamburg Nov. 8. **WESTBOUND** — To USA/Canada: AKOSOMBO sid. Tema Oct. 26; DARU due Portsmouth Oct. 27; HAN due Montreal Oct. 26.

Eastern Service to West Africa: TEAKBANK sig. Douala Oct. 20.

BARBER LINES
OUTWARDS — FERGATE due Monrovia Oct. 30, thence Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/Appa, Douala, FERNLAND sig. New York Nov. 13 for Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/Appa, Douala.

HOMEWARDS — FERNLAND idg. Abidjan/Monrovia end Oct. 5 bound Nov. 5, Sapete Nov. 7, Douala Nov. 9, Ghana Nov. 11, Abidjan/Monrovia 3rd week Nov.

'N' LINE WESTBOUND — From Japan via Hong Kong to Lohito, Luanda, Matadi, Port Harcourt, Lagos, Monrovia, Freetown, Abidjan, MUNESHIMA MARU sig. Japan Nov. 5 due Lagos Dec. 13.

EASTBOUND — From Lagos, Abidjan, Freetown, etc.: TEXAS MARU sig. Lagos Nov. 18, Tema Nov. 21, Freetown Nov. 24, Abidjan, Nov. 30 due Japan Jan. 3.

DAFRA LINE — BELGIEN sig. EASTBOUND Nov. 13 due New Orleans Nov. 19, Monrovia Nov. 29.

WESTBOUND — HOLLAND sig. Angola Nov. 11 due Calabar Nov. 16.

BLACK STAR LINE/USNH/WEST AFRICA
WESTBOUND — BIA RIVER Abidjan Oct. 19, Montreal Nov. 2, thence Great Lakes.

BIG STAR LINE/UK/CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA
SOUTHBOUND — NASIA RIVER Bremen Oct. 16, Hamburg Oct. 13, Antwerp Oct. 18, Rotterdam Oct. 19, Rouen Oct. 21.

NORTHBOUND — LAKE BOSMOTWE Avonmouth Oct. 26.

P&O LINE
SOUTHBOUND — KATSINA PALM sig. Freetown Oct. 30; LAGOS PALM sig. Tema Oct. 30; WESTBOUND — IKEJA PALM due Abidjan Oct. 30; ILORIN PALM due Sherbo Oct. 31.

N.Y.K. LINE
WESTBOUND — SAITAMA MARU Lagos/Appa Dec. 13/16, Douala Dec. 17/18, Abidjan Dec. 24/25, Takoradi Dec. 26/27.

EASTBOUND — SAITAMA MARU Lagos/Appa Dec. 13/16, Douala Dec. 16/17, Pointe Noire Dec. 20/21, Abidjan Dec. 24/25, Takoradi Dec. 26/27.

MAERSK LINE

INWARDS — From Japan via Hong Kong to Matadi, Lagos, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan — JESPER MAERSK sig. Kobe Nov. 5 due Lagos Dec. 13. **OUTWARDS** — From Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan, Takoradi: JOHANNES MAERSK sig. Tema Nov. 1 due Monrovia Nov. 3.

MITSUI OSK LINE
SALAMBRIA sid. Kofe Sept. 27 due Lagos Nov. 1; ARIZONA MARU sid. Kofe Oct. due Lagos Nov. 11.

FARRELL LINES

HOMEWARDS — AFRICAN SUN sig. Lagos/Appa Nov. 12 for Port Harcourt, Douala, Abidjan, Monrovia, US ports. **AFRICAN STAR** sig. Matadi Nov. 27 for Luanda Dec. 7, Lohito, Abidjan, Monrovia, US ports.

OUTWARDS — AFRICAN SUN due Dakar Oct. 27 for Freetown, Monrovia Oct. 31, Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema Nov. 7, Lagos/Appa Nov. 9, Port Harcourt, Douala. **AFRICAN STAR** due Monrovia Nov. 13 for Abidjan, Cotonou, Tema Nov. 13.

NEDLLOYD — SWAL JOINT SERVICES

BALONG sig. Rouen Nov. 10 due Boma/Matadi Nov. 10, Pointe Noire Nov. 23, Luanda Nov. 30. **ANSTELSTAD** sig. Rouen Nov. 22 due Dec. 8, Pointe Noire Dec. 10, Luanda Dec. 13.

SCANDINAVIAN WEST AFRICA LINE

NORTHBOUND — HOEGH HEILON idg. W.A. mid Nov./Dec. for discharge Scan. mid Dec. ARIZONA idg. W.A. first half Dec. for discharge Scan. end Dec./Jan.

ROYAL INTERCOEN LINE

INWARDS — STRAAT FREMANTLE sid. Japan Sept. 18 due Luanda Oct. 21, Monrovia Oct. 25, Freetown Oct. 27, Port Harcourt Nov. 1, Lagos/Appa Nov. 4, Takoradi Nov. 10, Abidjan Nov. 13; STRAAT BALLI sid. Hong Kong Oct. 4 due Lagos/Appa Nov. 25, Cotonou Nov. 16, Lome Nov. 18, Tema Nov. 19, Abidjan Nov. 21, Monrovia Nov. 24, Freetown Nov. 26, Dakar Nov. 30.

OUTWARDS — STRAAT FREMANTLE from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt., Hong Kong, Japan early Nov. STRAAT BALLI from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt., Hong Kong, Japan, Shanghai Nov./Dec.

WESTWIND AFRICA LINE

WESTWIND sig. New Orleans Nov. 19, Houston Nov. 24 for Lagos, Pointe Noire, Freetown, BUENA FORTUNA sig. New Orleans Dec. 25, Houston Dec. 20 for Lagos, Pointe Noire, Freetown.

THE E.A.C. LINES

SOUTHBOUND — SIMBA sid. Bremen Nov. 2, Hamburg Nov. 4, Antwerp Nov. 7, Rotterdam Nov. 9, Rouen Nov. 12 due Dakar Nov. 19, Monrovia Nov. 23, Abidjan Nov. 24, Cotonou Nov. 27.

NORTHBOUND — SARGODHA sig. Abidjan Nov. 7, Amsterdam Nov. 11, Hamburg Nov. 13, Copenhagen Nov. 15, Aarhus Nov. 17, Bremen Nov. 20, Antwerp Nov. 25, Rotterdam Nov. 27.

Bumper coffee crop forecast

Unusually favourable growing conditions in a number of major coffee producing countries have enhanced still further the prospects for a relatively large world coffee harvest in 1972-73, according to the US Department of Agriculture's latest *Statistical Report*. It is now estimated that total production will be about 72.9m bags with approximately 53.6m bags available for export. "If this production level is realised, the coming crop would be the largest since 1965-66 and would represent an increase of more than 12 per cent over the average of the past five years".

The estimate for the 1971-72 harvest has also been revised upwards based on more recent and complete information. Total production is now estimated at 71.4m. bags, with about 52.6m. bags available for export. The *Report's* statistics for certain African countries are shown in the accompanying panel.

• A conference on little-exploited tropical forestry species has been held in Abidjan. Conference sources said that the meeting, attended by forestry specialists from European Common Market Countries and from Ivory Coast, was made necessary by the arrival of greater quantities of Asian timber on the European market and by the creation of wood-substitute synthetics.

• International economic organisations are to be approached for assistance in improving the world's rubber industry. The International Rubber Study Group announced. The group estimated that the world demand for natural rubber in 1973 would be about 3.3m tonnes and for synthetic rubber, 5.6m. tonnes.

• A two-day conference on agriculture in Zaire was attended by a number of foreign farm experts and representatives from the World Bank, African Development Bank and the UN Development Programme.

COFFEE: EXPORTABLE PRODUCTION IN 1,000 BAGS

	Average 1963-64/ 1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Angola	3,023	3,040	3,200	3,200	3,300	3,300
Burundi	236	270	235	345	395	345
Cameroon	965	1,070	1,170	1,125	1,220	1,270
Cape Verde Islands	2	2	1	-	-	-
Cent. African Rep.	164	155	195	145	155	165
Congo	17	19	14	14	14	14
Dahomey	20	16	13	14	14	14
Equatorial Guinea	120	115	110	115	115	115
Ethiopia	1,297	1,420	1,375	1,450	1,490	1,530
Gabon	17	18	18	14	14	17
Ghana	55	70	81	62	72	57
Guinea	140	175	190	170	170	170
Ivory Coast	3,743	3,350	4,535	3,950	4,325	3,925
Kenya	752	780	880	988	926	925
Liberia	58	63	70	80	70	75
Malagasy Rep.	832	785	710	1,175	835	865
Nigeria	40	43	30	65	40	60
Rwanda	162	190	135	230	195	215
Sao Tome-Principe	5	3	2	1	1	1
Sierra Leone	81	85	85	120	95	100
Tanzania	692	935	760	930	830	780
Togo	179	275	217	217	217	197
Uganda	2,606	3,320	3,335	2,985	2,830	2,830
Zaire	935	950	1,025	1,150	1,100	1,225
Total	16,142	17,150	18,387	18,546	18,424	18,196
WORLD TOTAL	51,041	43,410	48,078	40,025	52,632	53,579

• Two Ivory Coast officials, M. Konan Lambert, chairman of the State Sugar Company and M. Nuri Brou, director of the Department of Agriculture, have toured Lorrho's sugar installations in Mauritius at the invitation of the London-based multinational company. Lorrho is participating in a sugar project in Ivory Coast and Mauritian technicians have been seconded to the project.

• The Northern States Marketing Board has decentralised its operations with the five component states as areas of jurisdiction. The area officers have been upgraded and given more powers. Lagos has been designated an area office for liaison with and supervision of Board interests in the Nigerian Produce Marketing Company.

• Malam Muhammadu Damulak, Benue Plateau State Commissioner for Trade and Industry, has criticised the non-repayment of loans which had been made to small-scale industrialists. Court action was being taken to recover the money; the culprits included some rice and corn mill proprietors in Makurdi.

• Nigeria's trade surplus of £17m. in June, compared with £13.2m. in June 1971.

Science spotlighted

The increasingly important part being played by science and technology in community growth and development is the theme of the seventh meeting of the Commonwealth Scientific Committee which opened in Canberra on October 23. The Secretary of the Committee, Dr. Robert Glen, a Canadian, said before the conference that the Committee's biennial meetings were normally held in developing countries. But Australia offered special advantages. "Australia is the only developed country I know with a truly large tropical area of its own. This gives it a unique quality from the standpoint of our smaller countries because here is a developed land striving to develop its own undeveloped areas. How are they going about it? There is much to be learned here, and for a conference of this nature the situation is ideal. We can spend half our time around the conference table and the rest seeing for ourselves all that is being achieved and how it is being achieved".

Dr. Glen added that participants would be paying particular attention to the

relation of natural resource surveys to national planning "and this will inevitably lead to the vitally important question of the best use of land... Then there is animal production and tropical pastures. This is something which Australia leads and is extremely important to the developing countries".

• The Organisation of Employers Federations and Employers in Developing Countries (the OEF) has announced that

its operations will cease at the end of the year. The OEF, passing on its library and industrial relations records and associated information services to Employers' Conditions Abroad Inc. which will continue publishing the OEF Newsletter in a new form. Employers' Conditions Abroad has been incorporated by a group of international companies to provide an information service to its members on employment conditions in all parts of the world. There are now over 70 member companies from Britain, Scandinavia, Europe, Africa and Asia.

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SITUATIONS VACANT

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The African Development Bank, an international institution with headquarters in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, invites applications for interesting and challenging positions in its Operations Department which is involved in the preparation, and evaluation of projects, the negotiation of loans, and their supervision. Qualified candidates are needed in the following fields:

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Advanced degrees, M.A. or equivalent, are required. General economists must be able to evaluate the economic prospects and financial position of member countries. Project economists specialising in agriculture, transport and public utilities must be familiar with the techniques for forecasting demand, evaluating policies, measuring benefits and costs, and calculating the economic rate of return on projects.

Engineers

A university degree, B.Sc. (Eng.) or equivalent, is required. Specialists in power, highway construction and railway operations are needed. Experience in the preparation and execution of projects including the evaluation of proposed techniques, cost estimates, construction schedules and procurement practices is essential.

Financial Analysts

Specialists in agriculture, industry, public utilities and transportation are needed. Candidates must have basic training in accounting, finance and economics and preferably have a degree in Business Administration. Experience in preparing and analysing financial statements, forecasting financial results, and evaluating the adequacy of financial systems is essential.

Applicants must be of African nationality, between the ages of 28-50; proficient in English or French with preferably a working knowledge of the other language; have a minimum of 3 to 5 years of recent and relevant experience and an ability to write clear and concise reports. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Benefits include medical coverage, home leave privileges, and allowances for housing, dependants and education. Salary and benefits take into account that staff members are exempt from income tax.

Interested persons should send their curriculum vitae and photo-copies of diplomas and degrees, as soon as possible, to the Personnel Officer of the African Development Bank, B.P. 1237, ABIDJAN Ivory Coast.

SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

VACANCY

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2. Applications from Public Servants should be routed through the Secretary, State/Federal Public Service Commission (whichever is appropriate) who will be required to indicate whether the applicant will be released if successful. It will be possible to consider public Servants for secondment for a period of two years in the first instance.

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GHANA

Politics and the Supreme Court

The abolition of the Supreme Court should be a lesson to future politicians who might be tempted to interfere with the independence of the judiciary said the Acting Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Samuel Azu Crabbe, at a ceremony to mark the opening of the legal year. If Ghanaians wanted the judiciary to be the custodian of their liberty and dignity it should be made impossible for future politicians to manipulate or interfere with it. The independence of the judiciary had now been regained, said Mr. Justice Azu Crabbe: all judges should "keep pace with the revolution".

For the success of the agricultural revolution it was essential that disputes over land titles should not be unduly delayed and that the accused should not have to waste days waiting at the magistrates court instead of being gainfully employed.

Recalling the Sallah case the acting Chief Justice said that it exposed the hypocrisy and duplicity of those who after the fall of Kwame Nkrumah claimed to the world their faith in democracy and the rule of law. Some of the consequent events were "bewildering", he continued. "When a judge of the High Court ordered the release of a British subject who was being unlawfully held in jail, the Attorney-General announced that the Judges' decision was wrong and that he would not be released".

"The appointments made to the Supreme Court were a scandal and a disgrace", claimed Mr. Justice Crabbe. "Any judge of the Court of Appeal who had either resisted political interference in the Sallah case, or given an opinion unfavourable to the

Government became the victim of the policy of vindictiveness ruthlessly pursued by the Busia Administration and was ignored in promotion".

The Acting Chief Justice also said that the Court of Appeal may soon sit more or less permanently in the Regions, provided that there were centres where the court would have sufficient work, a court house and accommodation for three judges.

Govt. reshuffle

Major Kwame Baah, a member of the NRC and Commissioner for Lands and Mineral Resources, has been appointed Ghana's new Commissioner for Foreign Affairs in a reshuffle of cabinet posts. He replaces Maj. Gen. Aferi, former High Commissioner in Nigeria and India, who becomes Commissioner for Local Government. Col. Coker-Appiah, whose post Gen. Aferi takes over, becomes Commissioner for Works and Housing, replacing Maj. Gen. D. C. K. Amenu, who becomes Commissioner for Land and Mineral Resources.



During a recent visit to Britain the Ga Mantse, Nii Amugill, paid a courtesy call on the High Commissioner in London Mr. Henry Sekyi.

Col. Acheampong has sent a telegram to President Amin, saying that the report of an accusation by his Attorney-General, Mr. E. N. Moore, that Uganda was subjecting British Asians to inhuman treatment did not in any way represent his government's attitude to the Asian question, nor did the alleged accusation signify any change in the sympathy which the Ghana government had shown to the Ugandan government on the issue.

Col. Acheampong said that the Kenyan *Daily Nation* of October 12 quoted the Attorney-General wrongly as having accused the Uganda Government of subjecting British Asians to inhuman treatment.

The frigate ordered by the late President Nkrumah is being prepared for service in the Royal Navy, eight years after its launching. The 2,300-ton vessel will be commissioned into service with the name *Mlanda*. She was built as an anti-aircraft frigate to accommodate conventional arms and anti-submarine devices as well as luxury civilian fittings.

Last year, unable to find foreign buyers the British government relieved Ghana of the £5.8m. debt. When the National Liberation Council cancelled the order, Britain, which had provided a 90 per cent loan for the ship, agreed to take her off the Ghana government's hands.

Last April the frigate was towed from Greenock to Portsmouth and has since been taken to Chatham to be fitted out for naval service.

If the South African Government sincerely wished to conduct a dialogue with representatives of its black population, it should first release those now held as political prisoners, Mr. Harry Sawyer, Ghana's Ambassador to the UN said during a debate in the General Assembly's special political Committee.

Mr. Sawyer continued: "we believe that for a dialogue to be meaningful, it should be between the South African government and the true and accepted leaders of the people like Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu, who have been imprisoned for merely opposing apartheid, and not leaders chosen

for the people by the white government".

Mr. Sawyer said Ghana would like to see dialogue between South Africa and these leaders. "Until this happens, the government of Ghana cannot take seriously South Africa's expressions of willingness to conduct dialogue as a means of achieving rapprochement on the African continent."

The National Institute of Traditional Medicine is to start exporting locally made herbal remedies to neighbouring countries early next year, said Dr. Narley, acting Director of the Institute, at an exhibition of made-in-Ghana herbal medicines in Accra.

The exhibition was organised by the Ghana Psychiatric and Traditional Healing Association, which was formed in 1962 to co-operate with other organisations for the scientific development of herbalism. About 60,000 patients had been treated and discharged by the Institute of Traditional Medicine after treatment with local herbs.

Ghana and Guinea have agreed to resume diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level, and within three months Ghana will accredit one of its ambassadors either in Sierra Leone or Liberia to Conakry, the Foreign Affairs Commissioner, Maj. Gen. Aferi, has announced. Guinea would reciprocate by either accrediting an ambassador or having one resident in Accra.

More detentions ordered

The NRC has authorised the arrest and detention of 13 people under the Preventive Detention Decree. They are: J. M. Neku, S. K. Dzoh, L. W. Ayivor, Francis Adzaho, L. N. Odonkor, John Likpitie, Atiemo Yirenkyi, Kofi Agyemang, P. Ahlenyi, Oscar Oklu, George Taiwa, Bright Boateng and Bukari Alasani. An Executive Instrument said that the NRC was satisfied that their arrest and detention was in the interest of national security and in their own interest.

The caption under last week's photograph of the new Director of Information Services unfortunately read Mr. Godfrey Amin instead of Mr. Godfrey Anim, due to a printers error.

EDITOR

Students at Cape Coast University have called for the establishment of a military cadet corps there. Such a corps would not only instill discipline and national consciousness into the students but also arm them for the struggle to free the African continent, they said. A speaker at the inauguration of the Volunteer force for African Freedom, a wing of the All-African Students Union, appealed to all students to register.

Any student found smoking will be sacked and not readmitted to any of Ghana's educational institutions, the Commissioner for Education, Lt. Col. Paul Nkegbe has warned. Speaking to secondary school students in the Eastern Region, Col. Nkegbe said that the NRC was determined to uproot all vices which militated against educational advancement. A new set of education regulations would soon be introduced, he added.

Professor Ofoosu-Appiah, the director of Encyclopaedia Africana, has appealed for more financial aid from African countries. Speaking in Lagos after talks with the Nigerian government, Professor Ofoosu-Appiah said that the project will set up regional headquarters in Africa.

Encyclopaedia Africana was set up by the OAU to gather material on African personalities who have influenced the history of the continent and to compile dictionaries of African biographies.

The NRC rejected the academic view that "democracy is only secure and assured when the people are led like swine, once every five years, to vote in their rulers who proceed to ignore all their fears and aspirations", declared the Commissioner for Transport, Maj. Selormey at a durbar near Hohoe. "This is the time to practise democracy and translate the will of the people into reality". Ghana could not afford any more changes of government, warned Maj. Selormey, so the NRC would deal ruthlessly with saboteurs and confusionists.

Lt. Paul Nkegbe, Commissioner for Education, has appealed to the Christian churches and Muslim organisations to observe three days of prayer for the nation monthly or quarterly.

Fela Ransome Kuti, the Nigerian band leader, and Oyedele Banigoro, a member of the band, have been acquitted of an assault by an Accra magistrates court for lack of evidence.

Madame Martha Appiah, a widow of the late Asantehene, Nana Prempeh, has died.

The government has authorised the seizure of the Osu stool property. Last month the government cancelled the ent stoolment of Nii Kwabla Noi-Owuo as Osu Mantse.

SIERRA LEONE

Mines policy

The government will be "realistic" in implementing its new policy of taking a controlling interest in mining companies and will not "kill the goose that lays the golden eggs", said the President to the Chairman of the Zurich-based Swiss Aluminium Company (Alusuisse), Mr. Emmanuel Meyer, Dr. Paul Muller. Mr. Meyer is also Chairman of Sierra Leone Ore and Metal Company (Sieromoco), wholly-owned subsidiary of Alusuisse, and major supplier of bauxite for Alusuisse plants.

The two men were in Sierra Leone to assess progress by Sieromoco since its inception in 1963, and to visit areas in the Northern and Southern Provinces where the company is considering expansion. The company is also considering establishing a vegetable canning plant in Sierra Leone. Alusuisse is Europe's largest producer of aluminium cans, according to Mr. Meyer.

As part of its new mining policy, the government has already taken a 51 per cent share in the former Sierra Leone Selection Trust which is now the government's partner in DIMINCO, which operates SLST leases. Negotiations are now taking place for the government's participation in the iron ore producing company, Sierra

Leone Development Company (Delco). The President said that negotiations would take place before the end of the year with Sieromoco. Mr. Meyer had already told the President that if bauxite deposits in the Port Loko district prove promising his firm would propose the establishment of a new joint venture with the government and an international consortium for establishing an alumina plant (alumina is processed bauxite and is used for the production of aluminium).

Because of a change in the operating companies, and the terms of a US Export-Import Bank loan, it is understood that the government is not proceeding with the take-over of the rutile-mining operation, the other big mining enterprise.

Considerable improvement in the operating efficiency of the iron ore mine at Maramba is reported by William Baird of Glasgow, parent company of Delco. In the interim report for the first half of this year, however, Baird said that the mine's results have been adversely affected by the fall in iron ore prices. Improvement is expected next year.

Baird also announced formation of a new division, William Baird Finance and Services. Among its responsibilities will be the organisation which serves Delco overseas and markets its output. Ferguson Wild, Mr. Nathaniel Solomon, an executive director of UAC, who is leaving to become a director of Baird, is to head the new division. Sierra Leone Development Company will continue to be the direct responsibility of Mr. David Dale who is Chairman of the Company and Deputy

Chairman of Baird, UAC a five per cent holding, Delco.

A National Planning Council has been set up with the President as Chairman. It will be concerned with overall objectives and strategies, as well as the Vice-President. A number of Ministers' Council includes the Governor of the Bank. In addition an advisory planning body with unofficial representatives will shortly be established. The extra Central Planning Unit in the Ministry of Development formed with the help of UNDP, is studying a comprehensive medium term plan and will assist ministries in preparation of projects.

Preaching at Holy Trinity Church the Rev. Edward Fashole-Luke, Senior Lecturer at Fourah Bay, called for a commission of enquiry into the activities of the medical authorities. The behaviour of some doctors was a disgrace to the profession, and the treatment of some patients in Government hospitals was deplorable, he said. Mr. Fashole-Luke was preaching at a special medical and health Sunday commemorating St. Luke's day. Among those present was the Minister of Health.

Receiving the credentials of the new Ghana High Commissioner, the Tolon Na, the President said that he was following with much interest Ghana's "operation for yourself". He added that Sierra Leone fully understood Ghana's economic difficulties and was gratified that it had been decided to maintain the diplomatic missions in Freetown. The Tolon Na was formerly Ghana's High Commissioner in Nigeria.



President Stevens receives the Tolon Na's credentials.

• A presentation has been made by the Anglo Sierra Leonean Society to Sir George Beresford-Stooke, who has been the President of the society since its inception in 1962 but has asked to retire as he now spends the winters abroad. "Pa" Stooke, who is 75, and who was Governor from 1948 to 1953, is succeeded as President by Sir Maurice Dorman, the former Governor and Governor-General. The new High Commissioner in London, the Rev J.A.C. Davies, and the ambassador to Peking, Dr Taylor-Smith, were present at the ceremony.

• Speaking to the President Mr. Anthony Oppenheimer of the Central Selling Organisation in London, accompanied by Mr. Derrick Clilverd, said that the recent announcement of a six per cent increase in diamond prices had been well received in the international market. The market was still improving and the increase would be of great help to Sierra Leone. The President said that the government was taking up with DIMINCO the question of boundary demarcation so that more local people might have a chance of contract mining.

• Termination of the appointment of Mr Juma Sei as Chairman of the National Diamond Mining Company (Diminco) is announced by the President's Office. Mr Sei was a member of the staff of the African Development Bank when his appointment was announced after the formation of the new company. He had been seconded to the ADB from the Ministry of Finance.

• The law which obliges an M.P. who changes his party allegiance to resign his seat and contest an election has been repealed by Parliament. The Opposition opposed the repeal.

• Among those presented to the Queen during her visit to Yugoslavia were Dr. Edward Blyden III and his wife Dr. Blyden, Sierra Leone ambassador in Moscow, is also accredited to Yugoslavia.

• After a three months tour of Latin America the National Dance Troupe has returned to Freetown. It performed in over 20 cities.

SENEGAL Portugese condemned at UN

The Security Council has condemned by 12 votes to none the incursion by a Portuguese unit into Senegal on October 12 when a Senegalese army officer was killed and another wounded. The resolution condemned "the acts of violence and destruction carried out since 1963 by the Portuguese authorities against the Senegalese people and territory".

Speaking in the debate Senegalese Foreign Minister Coumba Ndoffene Diouf called on Portugal immediately "to create the conditions for peace in Guinea-Bissau by opening negotiations with the PAIGC "on the basis of the three-point plan announced by President Senghor in 1969. The first stage of talks would be a cease-fire, and negotiations, the second would be a period of autonomy arrangements for which would be worked out by the two sides, in the last stage independence would be worked out within the context of a Luso-African community". The plan had been accepted by the PAIGC but not by the Portuguese.

The minister protested at a Portuguese statement that the October 12 raid had been the responsibility of one Portuguese officer. Senegal rejected a Portuguese proposal to pay compensation for losses to Senegal. This was a "subtle and immoral manoeuvre", said M. Diouf.

A letter from Portuguese Foreign Minister Rui Patricio said that Portugal would boycott the debate. Saying that the Portuguese Commander in Bissau had apologised for the incident, and the officer responsible would be court-martialled, the Minister said "The Portuguese government does not understand the aim of the Security Council meeting requested by Senegal ... unless it is another stage in the campaign against Portugal at the UN by certain hostile interests".

• President Senghor, speaking to newsmen after

luncheon talks with President Pompidou in the Elysee Palace (but prior to the UN debate), said of Senegal's attitude to the incident: "we shall demand a condemnation of the attack and not essentially of Portugal itself, because we know that a number of junior officers aimed to deal us a dirty blow. The order did not come from the Portuguese government or even the governor". The President also recalled his peace plan "The nationalists have accepted it and we wish the Portuguese would follow suit".

Asked about the European summit, the President said he was convinced that "Africa's interests will be defended by the majority of participating states, and of course particularly by France". The question had been one of the main subjects of his talks with M. Pompidou. He had also discussed the question of communities being organised in Africa, and the forthcoming meeting between the 19 Yaounde associates and the 19 English-speaking "associates". "We are in favour of the association of the English-speaking states", he said.

CONGO

Relations with France

France and the Congo have agreed to resume normal postal services, broken last month after a dispute over debts incurred under the Post and Telecommunications Agreement. The dispute resulted in the nationalisation of the Brazzaville office of France-Cables, and a halt in the transmission of money-orders from Brazzaville to Paris.

A Commission has been set up to value the installations of the ORTF (French state radio) and France-Cables following the nationalisation. The Voice of the Revolution in Brazzaville said it has been necessary to eliminate the ORTF relay station, which put out programmes in French, English and Portuguese beamed to African states. France's aim in maintaining the station, said the radio, was to persuade Africans that

French culture was superior to theirs.

• At a news conference President Nguouabi admitted that the Congo was still dependent on France. In theory it was independent, but not economically. He stressed the need to fight French imperialism, and criticised those countries which maintained foreign bases. "We cannot conceive of independent states maintaining foreign bases on their soil", he said. He appealed to independent African states to settle their differences to concentrate on the achievement of total decolonisation.

• Former Foreign Minister Auxence Ikonga has been named as Ambassador to France in succession to Apollinaire Bazanga.

• All foreign businessmen are now required to carry identity cards and place reserve funds in Congolese banks.

IN BRIEF

Gerard Kamanda, one of the four Assistant Secretaries-General of the OAU, said that the reform of the international monetary system at present under study would not in itself solve the problem of Africa's economic development. M. Kamanda, who was speaking after attending the meeting of the IMF in Washington, said the time had come to organise an African monetary conference, in particular to weigh the effects of the reforms proposed by the great powers on the monetary and economic situations of African states. Such a conference should also consider the consequences of European integration on African economies and ways of creating a link between Special Drawing Rights on the IMF and development financing.

• The third Congress of the Afro-Malagasy Union of Veterans in French-speaking Africa has been held in Bumako. Taking part in the Congress were delegates from Congo-Brazzaville, Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Upper Volta, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Chad, Togo and Mali.

ENTENTE

Reinvigoration in Abidjan

A meeting of the Council of the Entente was due to be held in Abidjan on October 28. It was agreed to hold the summit after visits to Ivory Coast and Niger by Togo President Etienne Eyadema. Sources in Abidjan indicate that the aim of the meeting is to reinvigorate the Entente and restore its influence on the West African scene. The summit was due to be preceded by a meeting of the five states at ministerial level. The Entente (Ivory Coast, Togo, Dahomey, Upper Volta and Niger) has not held a summit since May 1971, in Ouagadougou. Normally summit meetings are held twice a year.

The meeting should also be seen in the context of the impending summit of the CEAO (West African Economic Community) in Bamako in December. Togo is the only West African francophone state (apart from Guinea) not to be a member of this (she was present at the June CEAO summit as an observer). She also entered into an economic union with Nigeria in May. This adds to the interest of the Togolese President's initiative. Also important is the visit of President Senghor of Senegal to Nigeria due early next month, during which the question of economic unity in West Africa as a whole is certain to be discussed.

Lottery leaders

• At a meeting of Directors of National Lotteries of the Council of the Entente, a project for setting up an Entente lottery drawn up by the director of Niger's National Tombola was considered. The meeting was presided over by Finance Minister Konan Bedie, who announced that in the course of its first year of existence (1971-72) the Ivorian National Lottery had realised a fund of over 250m. CFA francs (about £360,000) which was to be allocated to projects of general interest. The participants went on

after their meeting to Brazil for the congress of the International Association of State Lotteries.

ZAIRE

Reshuffle and precedence

• In a reshuffle President Mobutu has removed four ministers and brought in six new ones. Ministers in the new government are henceforth to be known as councillors. The four ministers removed are M. Bulundwe (Interior), M. Tshibagu (Power), M. Mafema (Justice), and M. Nyoka (Posts and Telecommunications). M. Bulundwe remains a member of the Political Bureau. He is replaced at Interior by M. Kithima. Other new ministers are MM Nzondimo (Justice), Muntukabubi (Power) Kparagume (Social Affairs), Former Social Affairs Commissioner Mme. Matta Nkumu becomes Councillor for Posts and Telecommunications. There are two new Assistant Councillors: M. Inonga (Foreign Affairs) and M. Illoo (Education).

The reshuffle was preceded by a re-organisation of the country's institutions. The order of precedence is now as follows: the Head of State, followed by the Congress of the Peoples Revolutionary Movement (MPR), the party's Political Bureaux, the National Legislative Council (formerly the National Assembly) which is integrated into the party, and lastly the National Executive Council, previously the government.

• Former Minister and Ambassador Nestor Watuni was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment and fined 10m zaires on embezzlement charges. He was found guilty of embezzling \$42,000 while Minister of Posts and Telecommunications and Ambassador to Chad. Former Ambassador to Liberia Sikiala Ilunga has been on trial for misappropriating \$4,052. Asked why he had not justified his expenses with bills and receipts M. Ilunga said that as the ambassador of a great power he had not thought this necessary. The Appeal Court in Kinshasa has

sentenced to death former Governor Derikoye Ntita, also accused of embezzlement, issuing a cheque with insufficient funds and illegal possession of a 600 carat diamond.

• All taxicabs and buses belonging to foreigners have been seized by the authorities and handed over to two public transport companies. This is in pursuance of government measures reserving public transport to Zaire nationals.

IVORY COAST

Usher at UN

Foreign Minister Arsene Usher, addressing the UN General Assembly, warned of the grave consequences which would follow if the present contacts between UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim and South Africa on the future of S.W. Africa (Namibia) should fail. The success of the undertaking "would finally permit a glimpse of an era of fraternity and understanding between white and black Africans". But he stressed that South Africa would have to abandon the idea of dividing up the territory into small African homelands. "The mission of the Secretary-General constitutes in that respect a test of the goodwill of South Africa."

GABON

Macias ultimatum expires

Following the threats of President Bongo that he would retaliate if any attempt were made by Equatorial Guinea to seize the offshore islands of Mbanie, Cocotiers and Kango, the ultimatum of President Macias that Gabon should give up the islands by October 17 expired with no further action being taken. At the time the ultimatum was due to expire, Assistant OAU Secretary-General Gerard Kamanda visited both Bata and Libreville with messages from the OAU Secretary-General, Nzo Ekangaki, on the present dispute. In Libreville, M. Kamanda said that he was convinced that "a peaceful, fair and honourable solution" could be found. The messages appealed to both presidents to avoid an escalation of conflict, and to co-operate

with the 4-nation commission which is to meet soon in Brazzaville. Both Equato-Guinea and Gabon had named officials to attend the meeting. Kamanda said. From Libreville he went on to report that Presidents Nguabuisi and Mobutu on the dispute. The two latter leaders were mediators who organised a Kinshasa meeting in September where the commission was set up.

Just before the receipt of the OAU message, President Bongo had already told news media in Gabon to refrain from attacking Equatorial Guinea, in the commitment he had made at the Kinshasa meeting. The silence has been broken recently it was to make our right of reply to the attacks and calumnies spread at Gabon, said the president although it agreed such an attitude would promote peace.

Prior to the clampdown the radio had broadcast the resolution of the Gabon Democratic Party (PDG) condemning President Macias' efforts to spread subversive propaganda to the people of Woleu Ntem. The party congratulated the people of Woleu Ntem for their patriotic attitude and called on party militants to redouble their efforts. Having centuries-old links between the brother people of the two countries the PDG assured the latter of its support for the "legitimate aim of liberation from the tyrannical yoke of President Macias-Nguema".

Gabon radio split into greater detail that President Macias was trying to tell the people of Woleu Ntem that he was not in conflict with Fangs like himself, but with the Gabonese President. "Unfortunately for him manoeuvres have not strengthened relations between the two countries and President Bongo. Instead of trying to liberate 'the people of a nation who is asking him to live in peace with his neighbours', President Macias should solve many problems of his country 'which he leads to terror'." In Equatorial Guinea said the radio "not a day passes without the people suffering from bullying, arbitrary arrests, beatings and executions."

NIGERIA

£10 m for Iron and Steel

The Federal Government has earmarked £10m. for the proposed iron and steel project to ensure that there would be no delay in implementing it as soon as the experts had submitted their report, the Federal Commissioner for Economic Development and Reconstruction, Dr. Adebayo Adedeji, has stated.

Foreign industrialists and businessmen affected by Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Decree have been advised to inform the authorities of any pitfall they might find in the decree. Such efforts, said the Kano State Commissioner for Trade and Industry, Alhaji Aminu Dantata, would be considered on their merits and the necessary adjustments made in the best interests of the economy.

Employees of statutory corporations should retire at 55 according to a new decree. However, a statutory corporation may prescribe other conditions for the extension of service beyond the decreed limit.

Lecturers at Lagos University have resumed work after their ten-day strike for increased pay.

Commenting on agitation for pay rises by university workers, the Federal Education Commissioner, Chief Abdul Eke, said that the recently-imposed wage freeze was a precautionary measure "to safeguard the interests of the majority of Nigerian workers". He urged the university community to desist from any action which could jeopardise the Federal Government's efforts to improve the lot of the working population.

A quota system of university admissions will not solve Nigeria's educational problems, says the Vice-Chancellor of Ibadan University, Professor Thomas. He said in Kaduna that experience had shown that some educationally backward states could not fill their own quotas even if given the opportunity because they do not have the qualified people.

Nigeria, he continued, should spend more money on preliminary courses for intended undergraduates. He also pledged that as long as he was Vice-Chancellor Ibadan students would be allowed a free hand to run their affairs.

Work has begun on the £2.9m. expansion project to modernise and increase the facilities of the Lagos University Teaching Hospital.

Commenting on a Federal Ministry of Trade statement that "reports about the Price Control Board's demise are greatly exaggerated", the *New Nigerian* said that although there had been some success in price stabilisation partly as a result of the bulk buying exercises, the "empty bottle fiasco" killed the Board at the outset as a serious instrument for price control. "From then on it was a matter of time before it was wound up. However, vested interests and sheer governmental inertia will now keep it at least in being". Unless the Federal Government took measures to make it into an effective body, its continuation was unjustified. "There is great merit in acknowledging one's errors and conceding the inefficiency of one's policies - but governments seldom do". (The Government had announced that the Board would become a permanent institution in the economy, but was being reorganised "to place greater emphasis on market research and price intelligence for the benefit of both the public and private sectors").

Practical efforts are now being made by the management of Nigerian Ports Authority to advertise the excellent facilities existing in Port Harcourt harbour, Mr. D. O. Ogunnoiki, the traffic manager of Rivers Ports, said at a reception held in honour of Mr. G. A. E. Longe, permanent secretary in the Federal Ministry of Transport, who was inspecting port facilities in the state. He disclosed that discussions had been held with industrial concerns in Port Harcourt and East Central State about giving more publicity to the port which would be advertised in the Northern States and abroad. Although tonnage handled at the port was increasing, said Mr.

Ogunnoiki, the increase in exports had not been phenomenal, because of the poor world market conditions for Nigerian produce, coupled with the deplorable condition of the Aba-Port Harcourt road, the main link with the hinterland. He therefore called on Mr. Longe to help ensure that the Federal Ministry of Works repaired the road.

Handling of ships at Lagos Port has shown great improvement as a result of the introduction of more effective measures, the Nigerian Ports Authority has announced. 128 vessels called at Lagos in September against 113 in September the previous year, and there was no instance of any ship being kept waiting, said the statement.

Britain trains some 70 high-ranking Nigerian police officers each year, the overseas police adviser to the British Government, Mr. John Macoun, said during a visit to Enugu.

Inter-state co-operative societies are to be controlled and supervised by the Federal Government, it was announced in Lagos.

Tenders for construction of the first expressway linking Lagos and Ibadan are expected to be called for in December.

Zaire criticised

Commenting on the reported expulsion of 10 more Nigerians from Zaire, the East Central State Government newspaper *The Renaissance* said that "barbarous and inhuman acts" had become part of General Mobutu's policy of "authenticity". It called on the Government to "put an end once and for all" to his "despicable and ill-advised action" against Nigerians.

The newspaper quoted an eye-witness as saying Nigerians detained in Zaire jails had died as a result of ill-treatment, and warned: "Stop this nonsense or we expel all Zaireans in Nigeria".

After talks with Federal officials in Lagos, Mr. Rex Grey, chairman of the International Telecommunications and Telegraph Corporation, said that a feasibility report

on the establishment of a plant for the manufacture of telecommunications and electronic equipment in Nigeria would be submitted to the Federal Government soon. The Corporation, he said, was interested in investing in Nigeria.

The Central Bank of Nigeria had assets of £241,657,320 at close of business on September 15.

The Federal Government has granted £17m. for the development of medical institutions.

Mr. Theophilus Awobokun, former managing director of the Sketch Publishing Company, has been awarded £3,000 damages by the Ibadan High Court for wrongful dismissal.

A delegation, led by the Governor of the North Central State, Col. Abba Kyari has returned from Turkey after "successful" talks with the Turkish Ministry of Trade.

Playwright and novelist Wole Soyinka has adapted Euripides' "The Bacchae" for performance in the British National Theatre Company's 1973 season.

Mr. Olufemi Adeyinka Morgan, retired chief justice of the Western State, has been appointed a judge of The Gambian Court of Appeal. He will serve in The Gambia under Nigeria's technical assistance programme to African States.

Nigeria has signed an agreement with Canada for an interest-free loan of \$75 million to help complete the telecommunications development programme.

Government hospitals are to charge old fees until a decision is taken on the new prescribed fees under the Hospital Fees Regulations 1971.

A Lagos-based medical practitioner and two others have been arrested by police and questioned as to what they know of an alleged false declaration of assets of a banned political party. They were subsequently released on bail.

General Gowon has celebrated his 38th birthday.

From the States

A loss of £353,000 has been made by the South Eastern State Marketing Board in its cocoa operations in the last two years, the chairman, Mr Joseph Asuquo, announced. But in order to encourage farmers, the Board was not lowering the price paid to growers for the 1972-73 season.

Each state has been given £10,000 by the Federal Government to help establish census offices, the chief census officer, Mr. E. Adewole, announced.

In an explanation of his dismissal from the Executive Council of the East Central State Mr. Sam Ikoku, former Commissioner for Health and Social Welfare, is reported to have said that the letter revoking his appointment made it plain that he was not accused of misconduct, corruption, or any other irregularities. He assumed therefore that his general standpoint was not approved by the State's Administrator, Mr. Asika. He suggested that the

Administrator was relying increasingly on people who had betrayed national unity and on "highly personalised" government.

Since the end of the war 151,856 tons of palm kernels, 18,112 tons of palm oil and 2,724 tons of cocoa have been graded in East Central State, the State Commissioner for Natural Resources and Agricultural Extension, Dr. I. Aligekwe, has said.

Mr. Stephen Okorie, East Central State correspondent of the *New Nigerian*, was detained for six days.

Indigenous businessmen in Lokoja boycotted independence day celebrations as a protest against the proposed transfer of the army unit there which, they said, would paralyse the area's growing economy.

Alhaji Ado Bayero, the Emir of Kano, has appealed to all businessmen in the state to place greater emphasis on the building of more schools, especially religious ones. The Emir was speaking to over 1,000 Islamiyya pupils and instructors.

Earlier the Kano State Commissioner for Education, Alhaji Muhtar Sarkin Bai said that £28,000 had been set aside for provision of books and other materials to all Islamiyya schools in the state during the current financial year.

A meeting on Hausa orthography has been held at Abdullahi Bayero College in Kano. A press release said that the question of standardisation of Hausa orthography had been under consideration for at least 60 years.

The absence in Nigeria of a well-organised publishing industry is a great drawback said the Rivers State Commissioner for Information, Mr. Tsaro-Wiwa, at the opening of Port Harcourt's first Book Exhibition.

Rivers State Transport Corporation lost £100,000 in two weeks following the breakdown of 36 buses as a result of bad roads, the corporation's public relations officer, Mr. I. A. Sampson, announced.

Seven commissioners have been reassigned in a Cabinet reshuffle in the Rivers State.

Since April the State Ministry of Education has been interviewing teachers who were formerly with private and voluntary agency schools, to bring them into the civil service, maintain uniform standards for teachers, the press secretary, Mr. Abbey, announced. He explained the absorption of the teachers into the civil service as a positive way of solving grievances.

The Rivers State plans to establish industries in rural areas, particularly in the division and county headquarters as part of a plan to develop the Rural Development Board has been created to implement the plan.

The Rivers State Ministry of Agriculture, in collaboration with the West African Fertiliser aid programme, the three eastern states made available 1,355 tons of fertiliser for sale to farmers.

Lagos State has ordered the delivery of 52 tons of beef by the British to help with the reduction.

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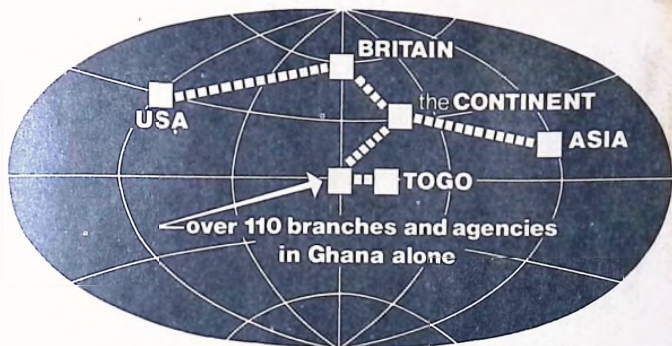
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