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GHANA ON THE MOVE

Only at the end of the Ghana Government's latest "Economic Statement" — a substitute for the conventional budget statement — is reference made to the possibilities opened by the enormous change in Ghana's financial position brought about by record cocoa prices and the boom in other export prices, notably those for timber and gold, and by import control. Private enterprise, we are told, must expand to help provide jobs. And because of the "improved terms of trade" allocation of foreign exchange, particularly for investment goods, can be increased "considerably". The extent of the change in Ghana's position can be seen from the latest available trade figures — a surplus of over 113 m. cedis in the first 5 months of this year, against a total surplus of 173m. cedis last year and a deficit of over 65m. cedis in 1971.

The statement, however, shows the government's realisation that foreign exchange is not everything. It promises improvement in the procedures for obtaining licences etc., and announces a reduction in the bank rate to 10 per cent in the hope of stimulating private investment. And it emphasises — although this has often been emphasised in Ghana before — that an increase in export earnings, particularly for non-traditional goods, is far preferable to import control in safeguarding the balance of payments.

In Ghana, however, private investment is not confined to those who need import licences. In the section on agriculture the statement declares that the bulk of

"Economic Measures for Financial Year 1972-74 by Colonel I.K. Acheampong (Ministry of Finance, 25 pesewas).



investment and expenditure is financed "by the private farmer and the Banks", the government's job is to help "private effort" to "produce more and efficiently" — a most welcome statement in face of the proliferation of government agencies concerned with agriculture.

In contrast, the statement (summarised on page 1257) castigates the

government's own performance as an entrepreneur as "sad" and "really disappointing". Leaving aside the Bank of Ghana and the National Lotteries, all Government enterprises combined turn in a profit of 6.9m. cedis in 1972-3, a "negligible return" on a vast capital investment. The government's commercial enterprises are responsible to

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many Ministries which, says the statement, exercise only vague control. Most will in future come under a new, and commercially minded, "Board of Government Business".

The detailed financial proposals in the statement are designed first to simplify taxation in order to make collection more effective, and then to reduce it where socially desirable, e.g. on cheap radios, on smaller new cars, to avoid reliance on cheaper and dangerous secondhand cars, on commercial vehicles, the country's life blood, and for pensioners' incomes. Increases are limited to duties on the booming timber and gold exports (incidentally encouraging plywood and furniture parts exports). Other tax changes are designed to encourage local manufacture. There is however, a new tax of £5,000 per annum on expatriate employees admitted on immigrant quota, although in a limited number of enterprises. This is intended to encourage employment of Ghanaians, but the proposal seems to show little faith in present immigration controls.

More important, collection of existing taxes is expected to increase its yield by 10 per cent this year. For government spending, sometimes for reasons outside the government's control, will rise by 11.7 per cent in 1973-74, and in spite of the economies now proposed, such as the limitation on the time allowed to commissions of enquiry to complete their

work, expenditure is likely to rise. Indeed Ghana may now have reached the point where there is not shortage of foreign exchange, but shortage of money, which is the constraint. Against booming exports, for example, must be set the fall in receipts from import duty.

Expenditure for 1973/74 is planned to meet obvious needs. The statement notes that in spite of past propaganda, only some 43 per cent of children of school age are at school, while only some 13 per cent of elementary school pupils go to secondary schools. So whatever changes are necessary in curriculum and organisation, there can be no relaxation in spending on education. Roads are essential for the maintenance of economic life. Only 40 per cent of the people are served with potable water. Many disappointments were experienced in agriculture in 1972 - the plantain crop, for example, was halved largely because of wind damage, and even the yam crop declined; so, even if the direction of expenditure can be questioned, agriculture is rightly given an increased allocation. One wonders, as always, whether any foreseeable net return from tourism can justify expenditure now on something like the Ada Estuary project, well chosen though the site is. But there can be no significant quarrel with the main expenditure proposals.

Certain omissions, from the statement, however, deserve noting. For the new

cocoa season opening on September 15 there is to be no increase in the price to farmers. No doubt the Government is afraid that the release through the sale of perhaps an additional 20-30m. tons would be inflationary, particularly if many cocoa farmers are buyers of foreign exchange. Nor is there any guarantee that world prices will continue, although an international cocoa agreement establishes a "floor" below which should not fall. But there will be concern that the high standard of husbandry now thought to obtain on cocoa farms, as a result of farmer satisfaction at obtaining cash, will not quickly, for their cocoa, may suffer set-back. The Government can, however, point to the heavy subsidies now available both for spraying machines and insecticides, and to the bonus now to be paid to farmers for last season's crop.

There is no mention, either of present state of negotiations over government's take-over of major enterprises in the major mining and bauxite companies, although these are important in the economy that a satisfactory outcome to the negotiations which now concern compensation, will considerably improve the climate for investment. In view of the government's criticism of the management of its enterprises, reference to the management of the taken-over enterprises is a desirable. The statement notes that a programme for developing the bauxite reserves - by far the most important project now likely in Ghana - is proceeding satisfactorily. There appears to be, however, a standstill in the state by the Baseco consortium, which will need another partner before it can proceed.

One other major problem in Ghana's external relations, that of the Nkrumah debts. We have pointed out that the importance of these and of payments on them has been grossly exaggerated. They amount to only £100 m and in some years Ghana has been paying virtually nothing on them. Under the latest proposals made by the creditors, due to be discussed with Ghana later in the year, Ghana would continue to pay virtually nothing for five years and when payment finally began to be made, it would certainly fall in the value of money to make it relatively painless. In the meantime there is nothing to stop the Ghana Government proceeding with examination of individual debts to ascertain whether their terms were affected by corruption. If the air could be cleared with regard to both "participation" and the Nkrumah debts Ghana would have several more countries anxious to see the continued revival of her economy and the improvement of the infrastructure.

Ghana's economy, if not actually receding, still seems stagnant. The goal now is for reflation, and for confidence. The new proposals go some way towards this. So, if movement is still slow, it is now in the right direction.

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FACES OF THE NORTH EAST STATE: 1

Men at the top

If you ask in Lagos how far north is the North East State you will normally get a vague gesture. In fact the southernmost point of this, Nigeria's biggest state, is only a few miles north of Lagos. And in its 600 miles from north to south it contains almost every kind of terrain and scenery Nigeria can offer, from the recently drought-stricken northern semi-desert and Lake Chad to the lush grass lands and high plateaux of the south and the Baissa forest. The state's ten million people, too, are the most diverse of those of any state in Nigeria.

Best-known — but by no means predominant — are the Kanuri of ancient Borno, in whose country Maiduguri, the state capital, lies. Then there are the Fulani — not only the nomadic cattle people known over a vast area of West Africa, but settled people in Adamawa Province. There are the Bachama whose young men traditionally serve in the army, the Jukun, whose ancestors ruled an empire, the Shua Arabs, and the independent peoples of the Gwoza hills.

A host of peoples, almost as varied as the peoples of the Federation itself, were grouped into this state when, in 1967, it was formed of four out of the thirteen provinces of the former Northern Region of Nigeria—Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, and Saradauna. The Military Governor, Brigadier Musa Usman, has seen as a chief task the developing among these peoples of loyalty to the state. For this, one instrument is the Executive Council, which has to be representative of the people, as well as being the state's cabinet.

The Governor illustrates a wider unity. His father enlisted in the old Nigeria Regiment in Maiduguri in 1932 and retired as an NCO in 1954 after much wartime service. His son was born in Enugu in the East Central state, and he himself retired to Zaria, in the North Central state. The young Usman spent much of his youth with his mother in her home area in Kwara State, and among his schools was one in Ibadan. He was one of the first students at the Nigerian Military School at Zaria, and it was as a senior Air Force officer that he was appointed Military Governor. Of North East State origin, he is not regarded as representing any particular part of the state.

Alhaji Muhammadu Buba Ardu, Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, is a Fulani from Adamawa. He is a former Co-operative Inspector who, after qualifying as a barrister, held legal appointments in the former Northern Region, finally becoming Attorney-General.

As is customary in Nigeria now the senior military officer in the state, who is an ex-officio member of the Executive Council, Lt-Col. Zamani Lekwot, Commander 33 Infantry Brigade, comes from outside the state — from the

southern areas of the adjoining North Central state. He did much of his training in India and is still under 30.

The Commissioner of Police, Alhaji Baba Jimeta, comes from the state, Jimeta being in Adamawa Province. He enlisted over 30 years ago, and is a former Commissioner of Police for the combined Northern states.

As Commissioner for Finance the state enjoys the services of a former senior civil servant, Malam Adamu Fika, who comes from the area in the west of Borno Province. Still only 40 years old, he is a former Principal of the Federal Training Centre at Kaduna and a former Secretary of the Interim Common Services Agency, which is concerned with the joint enterprises still run by the Northern states. He has been a leading critic of the arrangement under which oil-producing states enjoy considerable advantage in the



Musa Usman: wider unity

distribution among the states of federally collected revenue.

Malam Adamu illustrates the balance between civil servants and representative public men in, ex-politicians, and Executive Council. Prominent among ex-politicians is Malam Yerima Balla, Commissioner for Lands and Survey. He comes from the remote Kilba District of Adamawa Province, and was in the army during the 1939-45 war, serving in Europe and the Far-east. He became a politician, finally being elected on the NCNC/NEPU platform in opposition to the old ruling party in the Northern Region, the NPC. He advocates a one-party state.

A former NPC politician is Alhaji Yakubu Lame, Commissioner for Local Government. He is now a title holder in the emirate of Bauchi, one of the most important in the state, lying in its far west. Alhaji Yakubu is a former Minister as well as being influential in the affairs

of his Emirate.

Yet another ex-politician, representing a third strand in the politics of the former Northern Region, is the Commissioner for Home Affairs, Mr. Azi Nyako. He comes from the non-muslim area of the state once known as part of the "Middle Belt". He becomes Principal Organising Secretary for the Middle Belt Congress, which advocated a separate region for all the "minorities" of the Northern Region.

Although he, too, comes from a non-muslim area of the state, in Saradauna Province, Mr. Dominic Mapeo, the forceful Commissioner for Works and Housing, represents another political strand. He served the NPC of the Saradauna of Sokoto as a Federal Minister, and one of his interests, untypical in the state, is family planning.

Another well-known former politician with considerable ministerial experience is Alhaji Ibrahim Bui, who comes from a Kanuri area south west of Maiduguri and is Commissioner for Education. An engineer, he was an NPC Minister in the former Northern Region.

Even this does not exhaust the list of former politicians. There is Mr. E.B. Mamiso, Commissioner for Establishments and Training, who comes from Numan in Adamawa Province and was one of the former Regional government's political provincial commissioners. Another former NPC provincial commissioner is Alhaji Dauda Bel, now Commissioner for Health, a Fulani from what used to be the Trust Territory of Northern Cameroons. During the plebiscite about the territory's future he strongly supported permanent union with Nigeria.

Another Commissioner from the former Trust Territory is Malam Umaru Zagawa Jarengol, a former teacher now Commissioner for Information and Social Welfare. He is one of those who feel that his territory, which after the plebiscite which favoured union with Nigeria in 1961 became a separate Province, Saradauna, was neglected before the union but gained little from it. Only as part of the new state, he says, has the area received due attention.

One of the Permanent Secretaries of the former Northern Regional government who now serves the state, but as Commissioner for Co-operatives and Community Development and not as a civil servant, is Alhaji Muhammadu Gujba. He comes from Maiduguri itself and is a direct descendant of the Sefawa dynasty of Borno. After agricultural training he entered the Co-operative Department and became Permanent Secretary of the Northern Region Ministry of Co-operatives and Social Welfare. After nearly 30 years as a civil servant he welcomes a political role.

The only university lecturer among the commissioners in Malam Sulaiman Kumo, Commissioner for Economic Planning. He is a London Ph.D. who read law in Nigeria and London. He was at the School of Oriental and African Studies and became a lecturer at Ahmadu Bello



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Former officials of the "Native Authorities", a term no longer used, bring local administrative experience to the Executive Council. There is Alhaji Muhammadu Abubakar Mai, Commissioner for Agriculture, who has much experience of local finance, particularly as Treasurer of Adamawa local authority. He has been on several finance courses at home and abroad. Privately he is secretary of Yola Race Club. From Bauchi, at the other end of the state, comes Alhaji Muhammadu Mahdi, Commissioner for Animal Health and Forest Resources, a former Administrative Secretary of Katagum local authority. He too has been on courses at home and abroad.

Finally there is the Commissioner who has had the most varied career of all. Alhaji Umaru Muhammadu Baba, Commissioner for Trade and Industry, is only 33. He comes from Mutum Biyu, in the south of Adamawa, and first worked briefly in local government. Then he became a UAC salesman, took a degree in administration at Ahmadu Bello, and joined the senior staff of Mobil. From 1969 Alhaji Umaru held senior appointments with the new Nigerian Livestock and Meat Authority; he also took a course at Wisconsin.

GHANA BUDGET: I

Raising the money

Excessive dependence on revenue derived from cocoa duties must be replaced by new duties and by increasing the yield from existing duties says the Ghana Government's Statement on Economic Measures for 1973/74. As part of the programme of simplifying taxation, import duties and sales tax have been merged so that only one duty will be paid at port and duties on the vast majority of imports will come down. In certain cases an import licence levy will be paid to compensate for the loss of revenue. The tariff structure will also be simplified to make evasion more difficult. Importers, it is claimed, have been able to mis-describe certain imports as items carrying low duties. Import duties will in future be levied mainly to raise revenue. Control of imports as part of economic policy will be done by licensing.

The range of import duties will now be limited to from 20 to 50 per cent. The import licence levy will apply at a rate of 20 per cent to articles previously carrying duties of 75 per cent and above, which are of a luxury nature, while lower rates will apply to articles for which import duties and sales tax are abolished altogether. Duties on raw materials for the textile industry will be reduced. There will be a small drop in the total duty on motor vehicle spares. The duty at 5 per cent on machinery is replaced by an



Fish target exceeded in 1972

import licensing levy of 20 per cent.

Purchase tax is abolished on motor cycles and reduced for cheaper cars, particularly those locally assembled. The rate for those valued up to ₵4,000 will be 10 per cent, and 20 per cent for those assembled abroad. Reductions are made in the rate for all cars up to the value of ₵12,000 and on most commercial vehicles, particularly those "substantially assembled" in Ghana. The main change in excise duties and sales tax on local products is the abolition of taxes on battery operated short wave radio sets. Sales tax on cement and certain other building materials is reduced.

Timber export duty in future will be paid according to value. Differentiation will be based on whether exports are logs, which will attract a higher duty, or lumber. Plywood and all forms of processed wood will be exempt. The revised rates of timber duties are expected to raise ₵4.5m. this year as opposed to ₵0.9m. at the old rates. One million cedis from the new taxation will be set aside to improve timber resources.

In future each gold exporter will pay an export levy of ₵2.50 for every ounce above the first 100,000. All extra revenue will be used for prospecting and mapping of minerals. All cocoa duties are unchanged.

Employers will pay a tax of ₵5,000 on expatriate employees except those in the following fields—(i) logging and sawmilling; (ii) fishing, (iii) mining, (iv) oil prospecting, (v) Government corporations, departments and other institutions of Government, (vi) manufacturing establishments which have been operating in Ghana for less than 5 years, (vii) farming operations.

Income from rent will be assessed separately for taxation at rates increasing according to the rent, ranging from 5 per cent to 30 per cent. With allowances charged against rent, income tax will be, says the statement, "very reasonable", and should not encourage the present universal failure to declare rent income for tax. The Slot Machine tax, the Casino Revenue tax, and air port tax for international flights, all go up. Income tax rates remain the same, except for pensioners whose income remain in Ghana. They will be totally exempt up to

₵1,020 and will obtain considerable relief at higher pension rates. There is an increase in prices charged by schools for textbooks.

Among proposals made in the statement is one that the officially sponsored Ghana Export Company should establish wholesale shops in neighbouring countries. The Government hopes that the export bonus of 30 per cent will encourage manufacturers. To assist tourism the duty free shop in Accra will be greatly expanded, development of the Ada Estuary resort, at the mouth of the Volta, will be undertaken. Further Government investment in shipping and lighterage is under consideration. The new National Consultancy Company, employed PWD specialists, is expected to assist government project performance and preparation.

Allocations for both feeder road and trunk roads are greatly increased, although in the past year progress has been delayed by shortage of material, except for earth roads. Better survey and design of roads is also needed. Ferry ramps and approaches have dropped behind the provision of vessels, which has been satisfactory. Inadequacy of executive capacity has been a serious constraint on development. As part of a programme laying greater emphasis on maintenance and rehabilitation of roads, some 3m. cedis will be invested in equipment. There is to be a national Highway Authority. A million cedis is allocated for rehabilitation of roads in Accra. The programme to protect the coast line and build major drainage arteries in flood areas, particularly Accra, will continue.

Ghana's requirement of fish, estimated at 250,000 metric tons, was achieved in 1972, an increase of 39 per cent over 1971. Lack of storage resulted in considerable spoilage. A number of extra Cold Stores will be completed during this year. Construction of a fishing port at Elmina will be started. Support for inshore fishermen through loans and extension services will be increased. Smoking and salting facilities will also be provided in coastal areas. The Fisheries Department has been provided ₵100,000 to develop comprehensive fish culture in the Northern and Upper Regions.

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Matchet's Diary

From Accra

Directly, drought has affected Ghana relatively little, although the rains have been late and there have been fires on the cocoa farms. But indirectly Ghana has been affected. There is aye shortage meat, for which Ghana relies heavily on Upper Volta and Mali; and much rice has gone, in the end officially, to Upper Volta.

In his Osu Castle office, to which he comes each day from his more austere office at Burma Camp, Colonel Ignatius Acheampong, Chairman of Ghana's ruling National Redemption Council, told me that Ghana had learnt one great lesson from the drought. "Self-reliance", his government's watchword, must include the supply of cattle and, so far as this is possible, less dependence on the whims of the weather. So livestock development and irrigation are now central features of the government's agricultural plans. The Chairman does not believe, however, that there are any easy answers to Ghana's varied problems. More than 18 months after taking over the leadership he says that the great problem is less to find the right policies than to get them implemented.

Mr. Nathan Quao, head of the civil service, who is due to retire soon, startled many here last week by telling a conference of civil servants that their service was notorious for its lack of a sense of urgency and of despatch in carrying out decisions. Some claim that the civil servants were as much to blame as their political masters for the faults of the various regimes Ghana has known, but were able to shelter behind the "I had to obey orders" smokescreen. Others say that the successive regimes demoralised and finally paralysed civil service initiative.

Some of the best and most senior officials began their careers under British masters who may have seemed hard to please. The Nkrumah politicians became more and more arbitrary in their approach to the civil service. The first military regime avoided a witch-hunt but attempted to reverse almost everything the previous regime had attempted. The Busia regime did institute what looked like a witch hunt, while the present regime has attempted to reserve most of its predecessor's policies, and some of its leaders have shown unconventional attitudes to their officials. It would not be surprising, then, if many civil servants now simply sought a quiet life - which means avoiding or postponing decision and action - although there is still great expertise and experience in the service.

Certainly Col. Acheampong has found the civil service an inadequate

instrument for executing some of his plans. Some months ago the weekly *Spectator* claimed that of over 300 decisions taken by the NRC to date, less than a third had been implemented. Perhaps there have been too many decisions and no civil service could have coped with so many. The existence of the "Special Action Unit" which, based in the Castle, "monitors" the way in which decisions are being implemented and provides a means for complaints against the executive to be examined, shows that from the start the present government felt that civil service routine would not meet its needs. In its latest economic statement the government criticises strongly even the routine work of the Ministry of Agriculture's extension service, although the Ministry's senior staff is exceptionally highly trained.

One government service which seems to have increased its efficiency is the preventive service. Certainly smuggling, both inwards and outwards, has been greatly reduced. Some would say that current heavy penalties are the explanation, but penalties do not deter when people think they won't be caught. It is true, also, that imported goods whose sale price was subsidised by the government were a great attraction to smugglers since they could be sold so profitably over the border, particularly in Togo. Removal of most of the subsidies, which experience has shown really profit only traders and smugglers, has obviously helped - those on milk and baby food will go soon.



Cocoa: is smuggling over?

Whether the decision to allow the cocoa price paid to Ghanaian farmers next season to remain unchanged in spite of the boom in world prices will encourage cocoa smuggling again remains to be seen. But Col. Acheampong reminded me that official purchases of cocoa in the Volta Region, source of cocoa smuggled into Togo, had almost trebled as a result of measures taken against smuggling. He believes that his own appeals to farmers to



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use that they cannot both smuggle cocoa and demand the amenities which revenue from legally exported cocoa can provide. It had an effect. So have the tours of the Chief Farmer, spreading the same gospel. The Chairman believes, too, that the Government, with which Ghana's relations some time ago were strained because of the threat to the black Ghana government's most cherished policies posed by smuggling over the Togo border, realises that heavy dependence on smuggling by a substantial section of citizens is no basis for an economy.

Internally Ghana is calm — some would say pathetic. The government is not in the least worried about the apparent revival of secessionist sentiment in that part of the Volta Region which used to be Trust Territory and where for years before and even after independence there were demands for union with the French Trust Territory which became the Togo Republic. "Politicians never mend their ways" seems to be the attitude in Accra. More serious are the purely internal chieftaincy disputes in Yendi and Brong-Ahafo, both subjects of commissions of enquiry and both capable of arousing bitter feeling. Without offering any views on the disputes or the likely outcome of the enquiries, Col. Acheampong said that, once again, politics had in the past been brought into areas where politicians had no part to play. He urged all Ghanaians to realise that nobody could legitimise his appointment as a Chief, however much money or political influence he had, if his appointment can counter to custom. "The people will never forgive, not in a hundred years", said the Chairman.

Will the military regime, now so firmly in the saddle, bring in civilians, perhaps as commissioners, perhaps as unofficial advisers to supplement the civil service? The existence of military rule is far more evident in Nigeria than here, if only because the army is so much bigger. Here the uniformed private stranger might spend many days without realising that the government is a military one. Road blocks outside Accra are manned by the police and preventive services, and appear to be interested solely in the control of smuggling. This is very relaxed military rule.

Impatience with politics

In every ministry or government body, however, including the Regional Headquarters, you quickly find that an armed forces man is in charge or holds a close watching brief, while in Nigeria civilian commissioners or officials appear to run day-to-day government business. But here after the original, and abortive, attempt to appoint civilian advisers the soldiers seem ready to "go it alone" until they can claim success, with only a select band of civilians such as Mr. Joe Appiah or Mr. Amoako-Atta or the bright young men of the "Special Action Unit" sharing the burden. They are sure that success will come and they are not prepared to lay the basis of the careers of future politicians by allowing civilians to appear to

share responsibility for the success. Impatience with politicians and would-be politicians is dominant.

Whether the consequence is remoteness from the people I doubt. The tireless, touring, for example, Colonel Frank Bernasko, the Commissioner for Agriculture, the unorthodox methods of Major Asante, Commissioner of Transport, the Chairman's own tour, the informal approach of the Report Commissioners, all keep the regular contact in a country where people still speak their minds, even to officials in uniform with armed escorts.

In Cape Coast for the Ilomoo Festival I met Mr. J.H. Mensah, the former Minister of Finance, recently released from detention. His friends can rest assured that he is fit and rational. The festival is a truly local affair, of which the highlight is not any highly organised event, but the "walk-about" in which the citizens of this ancient city, still in many ways Ghana's educational capital, parade the streets in their finery. There was, however, the grand Durbar at which his chiefs paid homage to Nana Mbra V, the paramount chief of Ogunu, the traditional name of Cape Coast. As I heard him deliver a speech in excellent English I predicted that the institution of chieftaincy still flourishes in Ghana, partly because chiefs themselves increasingly are educated. Now, at least, we have a northern chief who is a highly qualified scientist.

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Letters to the Editor

Military and politics

SIR: There is no doubt that both Allaji Inua Wada and Mr. Eapohunda (letters, August 27) have touched on very delicate issues, although Mr. Eapohunda's response was rather vague.

It will be a very difficult to find a single political party in Nigeria today that is a national party. What is most likely to happen is that people will identify the party with whomever emerges as its leader, and when this happens the party will then become identified with the tribe (and related tribes) of that leader. To have two or three political parties like this will only leave us with the type of political system we had before 1966. So what do we do? Shall we return to learn from the past and go on to revise the old political parties? Shall we choose to have a one-party system or shall we remain under military rule?

It would be overriding it to suggest that a Western type of Government (ie a government with a parliamentary opposition) is the right answer to a black African country. It is because of tribal compositions that hardly any country in black Africa puts up with parliamentary opposition. Thus in Nigeria, and likewise in many other African countries, the tribal compositions have proved as fatal to the multi-party systems as perhaps have military coups. Many people therefore suggested that we in Nigeria should either adopt a one-party system (like Tanzania and now Zambia) or allow the soldiers to coexist with the civilians within a multi-party system, like Upper Volta. I do not think that even by 1976 either of these systems will be a viable solution to our many problems. I rather think that with an honest patriotic determination we can find a means of Governorship and Ministerial re-shuffle every 5 years or so, as to enable us to maintain the present form of government for at least 10 more years after which it may be safe to adopt a military-civilian multi-party government. We must realize that Nigeria, as a developing nation, needs a government by expertise more than any thing else.

With regards to Lagos, I would suggest that not only should we declare our capital a Federal territory (everybody's land), but it must also be moved to a more central location. There is no doubt that the present location of our capital forms part of the serious threats to national unity and progress.

BASHIR O. TOFA

Lagos' Black Festival

SIR: I disagree with Mr. J. Coker's views on the desirability of 1975 World Black Festival (letters, August 27).

There is no doubt that Mr. Coker is a patriotic apostle of a strong economic Africa, to me most of us, but his views were so narrowed towards economic reasons alone that he forgot the inseparable effects that social and cultural intercourse usually have on the economy of a nation. They go pari passu with political influence and that is why ping-pong tournaments preceded, or grew up with, the political detente between America and China.

We are not excluding our culture to convince white men that we are cultured, far from it. Culture is part of history of vice versa, and one of the best ways of arousing people's

awareness of their culture is by physical contact between the ordinary people themselves rather than by meetings between their leaders.

We all agree that Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa or African South need more money to continue their liberation struggle, but we also believe and they do as well, at least from past experience, that they urgently require international recognition, publicity and association with their brothers and sisters in Africa. That is why they are being given audience in most meetings of the OAU and they would be represented in the coming World Black Festival.

The enemies and detractors of these still colonised countries may continue to say that they have no capitals, so they cannot be members of the UN; they possess no currency, so there should be no SDRS for them from the IMF, but we all know that they have their own culture, different from that being imposed on them by Caetano, Smith, Vorster and their comrades-in-oppression, so they belong to us in 'Poor but Proud' Africa.

DOYIN DEGUN (SNR)

In defence of Diète-Spiff

SIR: Domestic matters which in other States could be swept under the carpet are condemned in the case of the Rivers State. Given this situation, no other State would be so patient and tolerant. The alleged coming of journalist Amakiri one would regard as the annoyance of a State Governor shown to citizen rather than as someone prefer to regard it, an international matter concerning the future and freedom of respected journalists.

The Rivers State is endeavouring to establish herself along with other States and

contributions like that of Mr. Amakiri cannot help her in any way. Governor Spiff will not wish to cane any of his people because of a point of information raised appropriate on his birthday. The problems which beset teachers in Nigeria and elsewhere are not peculiar to the Rivers State alone. And we are aware that the Rivers State so far has the best plans and the intentions for her citizens in the pipeline. The temporary delay in implementing these bounties should not cause good citizens to ridicule a struggling State Government.

T.A. DONIBOYI OBU

Uganda's Asians

SIR, I have been watching with interest the expulsion of Asians by the Ugandan government for africanisation. Gen. Amin has not got his priorities right. One does not throw away dirty water until one gets clean. Elimination without substitution is bad.

Apart from the moral issue involved, I think he should have assured himself of how the labour lost by the expulsion of these people could be replaced before taking such drastic measures against the Asians.

At the moment, Gen. Amin is inviting professional skills from all over the world to take up important posts left by the Asians. Thus, I think, Amin should have taken into consideration before his inhuman action.

The principle behind his action (africanisation) is a splendid idea but I am totally opposed to his tactics. I think this is one of the reasons why no African government has either praised nor rebuked him openly. A gradual takeover will do us (African nations) a lot more good than Gen. Amin's "overnight takeover". Rome is not and cannot be built in a day. Development takes time and cannot be achieved "automatically".

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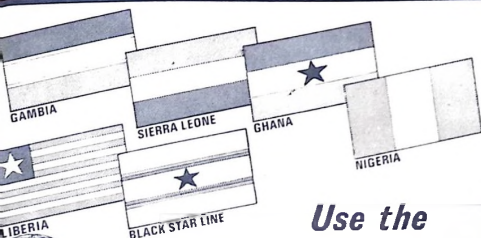
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Reflect on the drought

From Tamar Golan,

For the inexperienced western part of Africa, the drought affected along some of the roads the year may create a green covered and dried June it was enough to fly anywhere along the coast between hope and despair and famine, was marked with clarity. You could see the from deep, lush green into rocky black. Today - all with green. Yet, those through other spells of eternal feature of the Sudan-Sahel, will tell you your eyes deceive you. This dangerous period of the because it still takes time before mature - provided the rains fall. Secondly, because as soon rains arrive, the country's roads become impassable thus hampering work. And third, because the premature optimism to the farmer, who too often in the years has had to watch the people die for lack of water.

Termites and rain

It rained in Mali several times the days I was there. Afterwards was clear and fresh and one could believe that a few hours ago it had to breath because of the dust in the air. One night, an invasion of flying termites descended on our neighbourhood brought cries of joy from a Bobo in the yard. She ran out with a lantern into which she collected dozens of buzzing termites, planning a feast for her household. She explained that termites would leave their earth "home" only when heavy rains fell and would fly in search of a new place to settle. She added that she had seen the like of them, and in such quantities, for a long, long time. Her old husband warned her that this was one, first big rain.

It is significant that from Mali, of the countries affected by the drought came the first public pronouncement against what one may call the "romanticization of tragedy". It is not only the legendary Malian pinda, but Mali is the only country of the region affected by the drought to be governed

by young soldiers. These officers belong to the post-independence generation and have not gone through the motions of pleading and lobbying which were an integral part of political life in the colonial era. While the older and more politically astute leaders of the other states may be willing to swallow their pride, and even to forego certain inaccuracies and exaggeration in the presentation of the situation as long as this assures the flow of more aid and money - the Malians refuse to bend their heads. They reject charity and are trying to impose on the donors, and in particular on journalists from the donor-countries, their own criteria.

Thus it has been felt here that the sudden outcry in the world about the disaster bears too many signs of paternalism, sensationalism, and in some cases even hypocrisy. The present tragedy may be more severe and wider in scope than previous disasters, but it is in no way new. Moreover, the Malians complain that discussions of the situation, both by certain organizations and the international mass-media, contain totally unjustified veiled allusions and implied allegations of apathy if not outright negligence, on the part of the African governments concerned.

Drought is, and always has been, an inseparable part of life here. The colonial authorities knew about it; scientists have studied and researched it, and foreign diplomats have reported to their governments on it. The present drought began five years ago, yet, as for years in the past, nobody seemed to act against this God-given feature of life in the area. Thus the individual African farmer continued to apply the only "remedy" he knew - stoic acceptance and prayer for better days. African governments, on their part, had no reason to believe that all of a sudden an indifferent world would awaken to their plight. Naturally, the Malians are pleased that at long last the world "discovered" that drought prevails in the Sudano-Sahel and that aid is pouring in. Yet, they are apprehensive about the abrupt manner in which such an old-fashioned problem has all of a sudden become so fashionable.

"Revolt and dishonest"

The Malian Head of State, Colonel Moussa Traore in a recent interview, told me: "It is true that our country and our population have been seriously affected by an exceptionally severe drought. It is also true that we needed, and continue to need a concerted expression of international solidarity. This is why the wave of emotion which has been provoked, here and there, is not only absolutely legitimate but also very comforting to us. But, as you know, certain press and some categories of individuals and organizations, have exploited the situation in the most revolting and dishonest manner. We must,

therefore, emphasise, that we are not so naive as to be surprised by what we have been witnessing. What we regret is simply that the suffering of our people should be exploited in such a degrading and cynical way."

The permanent secretary of the CMLN, Captain Filing Sissoko further elaborated: "We do not want camera men to converge on our country and take photos of dying cows and starving children. This is not the only face of Mali. We want to be fairly represented, with our achievements - as well as the difficulties" And a senior Malian journalist was even more explicit when he expressed the fear of the Malians that their plight will be turned by the world mass-media into a tool for provoking emotionalism in another "Biafra"-like campaign.

Because of this attitude, several European TV crews have returned empty-handed and disappointed from Mali because they were not allowed to film scenes of misery and desolation. Only recently, after reports from other countries had been reaching the world anyway, did the Malians somewhat relax their strict embargo.

Airlifts and herdsmen

Another cause for dissatisfaction in Mali about the way the relief operations are reported concerns the emphasis placed on the more spectacular airlift by big powers - the US, USSR, UK and the rest, and the silence on the co-operation of the neighbouring African states. The importance of airlifts is not disregarded, in particular now that the rains have begun to fall, and it is recognised that significant quantities of cereals, milk powder and medicine (I saw the RAF aircraft at Bamako airport unload bottles of glucose serum) have been distributed to hundreds of thousands of needy people. But a most dangerous aspect of the drought situation is the flight of thousands of farmers and herdsmen, with their numerous cattle, from their traditional grazing zones.

This large scale exodus in search of water and pasture presents a great threat to peace. In a few cases it has culminated in bloody disputes between what one might call the "resident nomads" in certain areas and the "invading nomads". This has usually been a north - south movement, which completely ignores the artificial international borders. In fact of this wide-scale migration and in the aftermath of some violent clashes, the borders between Mali and Niger, Upper Volta, and to a lesser degree, Ivory-Coast (but not Guinea) were declared open. It was felt that nomads could hardly be expected to smuggle goods such as radios and alcoholic beverages, and that the poor should share the little they had among themselves. This solidarity of the "have-nots", emphasise the Malians, should be praised more than charity on the part of the "haves".

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Books and Publications

West Africans on the move

Regional Mobility and Resource Development in West Africa by Akin I. Mahogunje (*Centre for Developing-Area Studies, McGill University, Keith Cullard Lectures. Published for the Centre by McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal and London, 1972, \$4.50.*)

Enterprising men and women traders, pastoralists, craftsmen and fishermen have been on the move in West Africa for centuries, long before the advent of colonial administrations. They move from one rural area to another, from rural to urban, urban to urban. Quite often they travel only short distances and thus keep within their own traditional ethnic zones. Many, however — perhaps 2 to 3 million people yearly — migrate further to take up residence beyond the confines of their own ethnic areas or even outside the boundaries of their nations.

This group of semi-permanent settlers, along with their families, are to be found scattered throughout the nations of West Africa today, from Cameroon and Nigeria through to Senegal and Mali. Prominent among them are the Hausa-Fulani, Yoruba, Zerma and Bambara peoples. Self-employed, they function in the markets, on the grazing lands, in workshops and in fishing boats. Their different values, attitudes and skills have been infused with those of host communities where they are accepted and, in varying degrees, assimilated. The characteristics they bring are a vital element in innovation. Examples of new approaches in development that are attributable to these migrants are not hard to find: accumulating and investing of small savings, diffusing of knowledge of new crops like cassava and cocoa, individualizing of land holdings which is often thought important to agricultural progress.

Professor Mahogunje's study is designed to provide historical perspective to the mobility of today's self-employed migrant peoples who continue to add much of value to the economy of the West African region as a whole. He is not concerned with the numerically lesser group of those who migrate to take up wage-paid opportunities on farms, in mines, on plantations, in big firms and government service. In fact, the recent focus on problems of migration in search

of wage jobs has had the effect of diverting attention from the historically well-established and diverse types of movements still going on all over West Africa.

The study is opportune because the lives of many migrant peoples in West Africa have been severely disrupted during the 1960s. The emergence of nation-states has brought legislation against migrant settlers in several countries. And this has been followed by large-scale repatriation to their lands of origin: from Sierra Leone to Ghana, Ivory Coast to Dahomey, Ivory Coast to Nigeria, Niger to Dahomey, Ghana to Nigeria.

Though prompted by political circumstances, the reason usually given for expulsion is that of the need to widen the range of commercial and other opportunities for the indigenes. The exodus takes shape, perhaps formed with former settlers, their families and their loads: the trek back is under way. Apart from its ill social effects such precipitate expulsion makes bad economies. The hoped-for employment-creation effects in the expelling country have been proven to be illusory.

It should be borne in mind that West Africa covers 2½ million square miles and contains around 100 million people of whom only a small part of 1 per cent are of non-African descent. Of the 15 nations, 13 have populations of less than five million (several less than one million), the largest being Nigeria with more than 60 million. All West African states are multi-ethnic and multi-lingual. A further and remarkable fact is that boundaries between States are not everywhere distinct. Also the homelands of ethnic groups are often found to be on both sides of national political dividing lines. Farmers, traders and pastoralists cross these new and artificial boundaries freely as they have done for centuries.

This pattern of distribution of people among the 15 nations is of significance when explaining positive or negative attitudes of individual West African states towards mobility of people within the West African region as a whole. So, too, is the differing economic progress each is achieving.

Professor Mahogunje's main thesis is that migrants, because of their experience and the very special circumstances of

An Economic History of West Africa

A.G. Hopkins

The first comprehensive economic history of West Africa, including the former French territories, this book presents an argument based on the concept of the market that criticises many conventional beliefs about economic backwardness and throws new light on the understanding of the underdeveloped world.

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their protracted stay abroad, make significant contributions to resource development in the land of their foreign sojourn. They make contributions in their home areas as well, in part through ethnic associations (*associations d'origine*). In brief: regional mobility is a significant transforming experience not only for the individuals themselves but for the communities from which they come and to which they go.

He points out that if the desired West African Economic Community (whose Articles of Association were signed in Accra, Ghana, on May 4, 1967) is to come to fruition, then the free movement of enterprising individuals has to be generally accepted and guaranteed across the whole of West Africa. The goals of economic development and national integration can best be achieved by strengthening the competitive position of the host people vis-a-vis the migrants (and not by applying repressive measures which promote antagonism).

Professor Mabogunje is head of the Department of Geography, University of Ibadan, Nigeria. While accomplishing his present scholarly task of preparing these McGill lectures he has introduced several highly interesting categories and formulated fresh methods of analysing migration. In doing so, he has taken an important step towards evolving a dynamic theory relating regional mobility to resource development. The volume will prove illuminating to other researchers and to teachers and students on courses of national and regional development.

Archibald Callaway

Child's history of Benin

Benin by Kit Elliott (Cambridge University Press, 65p).

This 48 page booklet is a "Topic Book" in the Cambridge Introduction to the History of Mankind series, whose general editor is Trevor Carns.

The booklet tells of the first Europeans, Portuguese sailors, to see Benin and describes how the great city must have appeared to them and to subsequent visitors. Much of the detail it gives is necessarily impressionistic, but it creates an atmosphere well. The final chapter takes one briefly up to the British invasion of Benin in 1897.

The introduction puts things in perspective. It points out that the first Europeans who visited and wrote about Benin, not understanding the language, often misunderstood what they saw. And like most travellers they liked to tell a good story and so "made the most of anything sensational, violent or weird. We have to make allowances when reading their accounts." Also, Benin had no information about the past was oral. When reading about European voyages of discovery, we sometimes forget that the arrival of a few pale-skinned strangers may not have meant much of the people being "discovered".

Designed for children, the book is clearly and attractively set out with plenty of photographs. The drawings in the text are less satisfactory.

A.M.

Manding Conference 1972: Report and Recommendations (School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London).

This is a useful brochure on the International Conference on Manding Studies organised in July 1972 by the Centre for African Studies at SOAS. Printed in both English and French, the pamphlet contains the conference programme and recommendations, as well as accounts of ancillary events. At the end are lists of participants at conference papers, as well as a "Note on Manding Civilisation", and a short description of the School of Oriental and African Studies itself.

A Simple Lust: Collected poems of South African Jai and Exile including Letters to Martha by Dennis Brutus (Hemlock African Writers Series, 60p (UK, £1.00 US), 50p elsewhere.

This is the first time that these poems by the exiled South African have been collected together. The author, now Professor of English at the North-western University in the US, is an active and ardent opponent of racism.

Law and Politics and Law in the Colonies by D.N.Pritt (Lawrence Wishart £2).

Although clearly an old man's writing, D.N.Pritt led a life of such turbulence in the context of eminent QCs that all he has to say is interesting, especially a chapter on "The Role of Lawyers" in the colonies. Occasionally the inflexible Marxism jars.

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Coffee buffer stock

World coffee producers have agreed to withhold 5.5 million bags of coffee from the world market in an attempt to obtain "reasonable prices", at the end of a week-long conference of 30 coffee producing countries.

The 5.5 million bags will be withheld during the 1973/74 coffee year. The conference has estimated that stocks held by the consumer countries at the end of this coffee year would be around 13 million bags, including an estimated 1.3 million bags in Japan.

Conference Chairman Jorge Ramirez said the bags withheld amounted to 10 per cent of the average exports of the past three years.

The producers expected to supply the market with 52.5 million bags next year though total world consumption was expected to be 56.5 million.

The producers will not operate a quota system. Instead, Sr. Ramirez said, each country would either deposit the amount of coffee it was told to retain in a bonded warehouse or acquire a bank guarantee as proof that the coffee exists. The documents

would then be sent to the administrative board.

The Board will consist of representatives from Brazil and Colombia with three representatives from other Latin American producers and three from African producing countries.

It will meet before the next producers conference, which will run parallel to meetings of the International Coffee Council and executive board, in October in order to put substance to the legal framework of the control scheme. Sr. Ramirez said.

The agreement was reached at meeting of 11 major coffee producing nations (Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Uganda, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Costa Rica, Cameroon and Portugal), who presented it to the final plenary session of the conference which has been discussing marketing strategy for a week. The producer countries have been meeting regularly among themselves since early this year when it was decided to abandon the old system of fixed quotas and prices governing the world coffee market.

Corporation to market coffee

The world's three leading coffee producers - Brazil, Colombia and the Ivory Coast, who together account for 56 per cent of world coffee production, have set up a multinational coffee marketing corporation. It will be located in London and any producing country will be eligible to join.

The corporation is expected to start operating in the world coffee market shortly. It will compete with other buyers buying coffee it considered was being offered cheaply, with a view to selling it advantageously later. The corporation has an initial capital of £50,000 but can call on resources totalling £160m. It will intervene either directly or through third parties.

The three partners, who will have an equal stake in the corporation, said it will be ready to start operations in the world coffee market once the remaining formalities had been settled including Bank of England approval for the transfer of

capital. Financial backing would come from a variety of sources, including lines of revolving credit and Central Bank assistance. No private capital would be employed.

Asked why Portugal, which had been involved in discussions to set up the corporation from the outset, had not joined the venture, Senhor Medina of Portugal who attended the press conference to launch the corporation said that in common with some other countries, certain legal and constitutional problems prevented participation at this stage.

The Ivory Coast will pay its coffee producers a minimum of 120 Francs CFA (About 22.7 pence sterling) a kilo during the forthcoming season. A statement issued after a meeting of the council of ministers said that the guaranteed price for cocoa would be 110 francs (about 20.8 pence sterling) a kilo.

Lonrho is one of several companies which have offered to help Zambia run its copper mining industry in place of Anglo American Corporation of South Africa and American Metal Climax, whose management contracts have suddenly been cancelled by President Kaunda.

It is understood that over a year ago Lonrho offered proposals for taking over the management of Zambia's mining industry. Geomin of Rumania and a Yugoslav concern have also offered to run Zambia's mines.

A South African, Mr. Graham Beck, has started a High Court action against the chief executive of Lonrho, Mr. "Tiny" Rowland. He alleges that Mr. Rowland has broken an agreement to issue him with 25 per cent of the Nyaschere copper mine in Rhodesia. Last October Nyaschere was said to be worth some £1.5m. It was then owned by Lonrho (50 per cent), Mr. Rowland (35 per cent, family trusts of Lonrho's deputy chairman, Mr. Alan Blai (10 per cent) and of former director of the Hon. Angus Ogilvy (5 per cent).

The fourth meeting of the ICA Technical Committee of Experts has taken place in Addis Ababa. In summing up the first biennial review of Africa's progress during the Second Development Decade Mr. Robert Gardner, ICA Executive Secretary, drew delegates' attention to the fact that the overall rate of progress had been below the target growth rate of 6 per cent a year set for the first five years of the decade. He said that the average growth rate achieved was only 4.4 per cent a year although the performance in 1972 with 5.4 per cent was very much better than in 1971.

Noting that the drought in the Sahelian zone had turned out to be more damaging than expected, the Executive Secretary mentioned that if inference could be drawn for the future from the experiences of the last few years, Africa must cut down its dependence on rainfall by harnessing its water supplies as rapidly as possible and move to a scientifically based agriculture.

Mr. Yaw Bantui Turkson, Ghana's ambassador to Ethiopia, was elected Chairman. He replaces the Cameroon Ambassador, El Hadi Mahmoud-Dicks.

Michelin and the Ivory Coast Rubber Company, Sucleter, have signed a financing and technical agreement worth about £15m.

Michelin will provide technicians to establish a rubber plantation and processing plant covering 13,500 hectares at Dodo, Grand Béréh in western Ivory Coast. The agreement provides for later training of executives from Sucleter and involves the creation of 4,000 new jobs.

The September quarter permitted export quota for the operating subsidiary of Amalgamated Tin Mines of Nigeria is 835 metric tons of tin concentrates. This contrasts with a June quarter production of 747 metric tons which compared with 3,520 tons for the whole year of March 31.

The average price received for concentrates after deduction of the Nigerian royalty, smelting and other charges was £1,062 in the June quarter, well ahead of the £872 for the year to March. The quarter's columbite output was 33 metric tons of concentrate against 183 tons for the previous 12 months.

People's China has handed over to Mali an agro-industrial production complex in the Southern Region. The complex set up with the aid of a Jilin-CFA long-term Chinese loan is unique in the world in its geographical location, in a high-altitude, tropical climate. Malian Production Minister M. Coulibaly paid tribute to the work of Chinese technicians in setting up the plant.

Mr. Kwesi Hackman, first Executive Director of the London-based International Cocoa Council has left Africa to assume his duties. Mr. Hackman has been an executive Chairman of the Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board for many years.

FAO forecasts commodity shortages

The FAO annual review published in Rome has forecast continuing shortages and high prices for main commodities in the 1973-74 crop season. The review states that while world wheat production is expected to be significantly higher in 1973-74 than last year, exportable supplies will still be smaller and import demand. Since stocks were at the lowest level for 20 years, any substantial deterioration in crop prospects could easily result in a serious shortage.

Supplies of rough cotton will depend on the size of the US 1973 maize crop, the report notes. In any event continuing demand from Russia, China and India and the low level of stocks in exporting countries indicate that trading volumes and prices will remain high.

World meat shortage is expected to ease during the rest of 1973 and in 1974. But, the review notes, demand for sugar is growing faster than many other foodstuffs as incomes rise. World sugar prices are likely to remain high. FAO forecasts, unless the 1973-74 crop is exceptionally large.

THE GAMBIA

"Nationalisation without tears"

The formal handing over of the groundnut mills at Oyster Creek, the Gambia Milling and Trading Co. Ltd., and Denton Refineries Ltd. has now taken place. At a ceremony in Banjul, President Jawara presented a cheque to Mr. Robert Madi, of the Madi companies, for 892,625 Dalasis (£226,206), representing all but 7.5 per cent of the total price. Su Dawda said that the occasion was historic, and observed that "this must be one of the very few instances when a developing country nationalises a vital part of its economy without tears". Recalling that before the inception of the Marketing Board, the groundnut industry was in the hands of private interests, the President said that since the Board came into being the government had taken an active interest in the industry, and presently handled all the marketing of the crop, which accounted for over 90 per cent of export earnings.

In reply Mr. Madi said that the original idea for taking over the mills was Su Dawda's and this was an index of his "great foresight". Since the agreement became effective, the price of groundnut cake had increased by about 100 per cent, and that of oil by about 50 per cent. The acquisition of

the mills would give the Marketing Board more scope. The Madi family would continue to have an interest in the development of the mills "This is only natural since we started it. We are extremely proud of it." He emphasised that "the Madis will not leave The Gambia. We have a lot of interest in this country and will remain here for some considerable time yet."

• A Soviet research vessel has arrived in Banjul to begin research work on the fishing resources of The Gambia. This follows a cooperation agreement earlier this year.

New Nigerian oil field

The Nigerian Oil Development Company, jointly set up by Japanese firms, has announced that it had succeeded in test-boring a new oil-field off the coast of Nigeria. This makes a second successful test-boring of a new oil field following the one early this year. In both cases, the petroleum tapped has been found to be of low sulphur content and well worth developing.

The company, jointly established by Mitsui Oil Development, Teikoku Rayon,

Teikoku Petroleum and other firms, will continue test-boring, and will begin supplying its total production to Japan about 1975. Company sources said the total volume of supply is expected to reach 100,000 barrels a day, next only to Arabian oilfields and Abu Dhabi oilfields in scale.

The new oilfield was discovered off Port Harcourt. From the first test well, 3,000 barrels (159 litres per barrel) a day were obtained. The test-boring started in November last year, and the first well yielded 3,500 barrels. The sulphur content in both cases has been only 0.2 per cent. The development firm had obtained a 2,000 square metres concession from the Federal Government.

• Work has started on the two road bridges to span the Ogooué River north and south of Libreville, for easier access to the southern part of Gabon.

The work is being undertaken by a Dutch firm, Van Splunder's of Ridderkerk, Legendijk, which specialises in underwater civil engineering. The same firm has been given a government contract to draw up plans for enlarging Port Gentil. The bridge to the north will be 455 metres long, and that to the south 405 metres. The bridge will replace the present motorised ferry service.

Construction involves sinking hollow metal piles into the shifting mud of the river bed. They will be filled with reinforced

concrete, to give a 40-ton capacity each, and prefabricated reinforced concrete beams bearing the road.

The project will open up Lambaréné Town, situated on an island south of Libreville, by two branches of the road, to make traffic with southern towns much easier. Cost is estimated at 2,422m. CFA francs.

Tourism promoters in Accra

Major Felli, Ghana's commissioner for Trade and Tourism, asked the African tourist commission to give serious consideration to the formation of a sub-regional Association of National Tourist Organisations for effective marketing and promotion. The Commissioner was opening a one-week seminar and meeting organised by the African Travel Commission (ATC) in Accra. More than 100 travel and tourist promoters, mostly from developing countries, attended the seminar whose theme was "Marketing of Tourist products in developing countries".

• An 80m naira paper and pulp industry is to be set up in Nigeria's East Central State, the Administrator, Mr. Ukpa Abika, has announced.

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 sld. Sep. 20, IRINI sld.
 - London - PALABA due
 Sep. 17, BIAHO due Tema
 7. S. FORCADOS sld. Lobito
 5.
 - Glasgow - DALLA due
 sld. Sep. 16; DEGEMA sld.
 Sep. 10.
 - N. Continent - KABALA
 Rotterdam Sep. 10.
 - Southampton - AUREOL
 Las Palmas Sep. 10.
RTIBOUND To London -
 LANI due Aug. 12.
 Hull - DIXCOVE, due Hull
 12.
 Avonmouth - EBOE due
 zetown Sep. 13; EGORI sld.
 wapa Sep. 7.
 - Glasgow - FIAN sld. Apapa
 - N. Continent - MACHAON
 Rotterdam Sep. 17.
 - Fode - CLEARWAY due
 July Sep. 15.
ASTBOUND - From
 SA/Canada - DARU sld. Apapa
 Sep. 9; DUMBAIA due Freetown
 - WESTBOUND - To
 JSA/Canada - DEIDO due
 Norfolk Sep. 12; DONGA due
 Houston Sep. 9; DUMBAIA due
 Houston Sep. 7.
 Eastern Service - ERNEBANK
 due Apapa Sep. 8. OKBANK due
 Douala Sep. 12.
BARBER LINES
OUTWARDS - BARBERGATE
 due Montrovia Sep. 18 thence
 Abidjan, Tema, Lome,
 Lagos/Apapa, Douala, BARBER
 BROOK sld. New York Sep. 21 for
 Montrovia, Abidjan, Tema,
 Lagos/Apapa, Douala.
HOMEWARDS - BARBER
 BROOK sld. Abidjan/Montrovia
 Sep. 18 for New York.
BARBERGATE, sld. Lagos, S.
 Bound Sep. 23, Sapele Sep. 25,
 Douala Sep. 27, Abidjan/Montrovia
 sld. Sep. early Oct.
K. LINE
WESTBOUND - From Japan via
 Hong Kong to Luanda, Port
 Harcourt, Lagos, Tema, Montrovia,
 Freetown, Abidjan HONDURAS
 MARU sld. Japan Aug. 21 due
 Lagos Sep. 25.
EASTBOUND - From Lagos,
 Tema, Abidjan, etc.
 HONDURAS MARU sld. Lagos
 Oct. 3, Tema Oct. 5, Abidjan
 Oct. 15 due Japan Nov. 16.
BLACK STAR LINE/USNH
WEST AFRICA
WESTBOUND - BIA RIVER
 Ghana Sep. 9, Abidjan Sep. 10,
 Montreal Sep. 23, thence Great
 Lakes.
BLACK STAR LINE/UK
CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA
SOUTHBOUND - NASIA
 RIVER Hamburg Sep. 13, Bremen
 Sep. 15, Antwerp Sep. 17,
 Rotterdam Sep. 19, Newport
 Sep. 15; LAKE BOSOMTWE
 London Sep. 17; Glasgow Sep. 29.
NORTHBOUND - NASIA
 RIVER Rotterdam Sep. 6,
 Amsterdam Sep. 8; SUBIN RIVER
 London Sep. 19.
DAFRA LINES
EASTBOUND - ESSEX sld.
 Montrovia Sep. 21 due Tema
 Sep. 24, Lagos/Apapa Sep. 26,
 Warri Oct. 1.
WESTBOUND - FRANKRIG sld.
 Houston Sep. 22 due Jacksonville
 Oct. 8, Houston Oct. 12.
P&M LINE
SOUTHBOUND - HESHA,
 F.A.L. due Port Harcourt Sep. 29;
NORTHBOUND - ELMINA
 PALM due Abidjan Sep. 13;

IBADAN PALM due Lower
 Buchanan Sep. 15; MATADI
 PALM due Victoria Sep. 11.
N.Y.K. LINE
WESTBOUND - SADO MARU
 Lagos/Apapa Aug. 15/19, Douala
 Aug. 20/23, Abidjan Aug. 27/29,
EASTBOUND - SADO MARU
 Lagos/Apapa Aug. 27/29, Lobito
 Sep. 2/11, Japan First Port Oct. 6.
MITSUBISHI LINE
HOUSTON MARU sld. Kobe
 Aug. 21 due Lagos Oct. 4,
SAITOH MARU sld. Kobe
 Sep. 5 due Lagos Oct. 7; SEA
 BRAVE sld. Kobe Sep. 19 due
 Lagos Oct. 26.
MAERSK LINE
INWARDS - From Japan via
 Hong Kong to Matadi, Lagos,
 Abidjan - SUSAN MAERSK sld.
 Kobe Sep. 10 due Luanda Oct. 7.
OUTWARDS - From Matadi,
 Lagos, Tema, Montrovia,
 Freetown, Tema, ESPER
 MAERSK sld. Luanda Sep. 11 due
 Matadi Sep. 12.
SCANDINAVIAN WEST
AFRICA LINE
NOVUM LUND - ARIZONA
 sld. W.A. Sep. for discharge Scan.
 Oct.; ALABAMA sld. W.A.
 Sep. early Oct. for discharge
 second half Oct.
ROYAL NETHERLAND LINES
INWARDS - STRAAT
 FORCADOS sld. Japan Aug. 25
 due Luanda Sep. 22, Montrovia
 Sep. 27, Freetown Sep. 29, Port
 Harcourt Oct. 3, Lagos/Apapa
 Oct. 7, Tema Oct. 18, Takoradi
 Oct. 19, Abidjan Oct. 21, STRAAT
 BALI sld. Hong Kong Aug. 27 for
 Cotonou Sep. 17, Abidjan Oct. 3,
 Montrovia Oct. 7, Freetown
 Oct. 16, Cotonou Oct. 12.
FORWARDS - STRAAT
 FORCADOS from Nigeria/Ibadana
 to Singapore, Hong Kong, Japan
 mid Oct.; STRAAT BALI from
 Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore, Hong
 Kong, Japan early Oct.
FARRILL LINES
HOMEWARDS - AFRICAN
 COMET sld. Lagos/Apapa Oct. 4
 for Matadi, Luanda Oct. 11,
AFRICAN NEPTUNE US Ports;
 Lagos/Apapa Oct. 15 for Matadi,
 Luanda Oct. 24, Lobito, Abidjan,
 Montrovia, US Ports.
OUTWARDS - AFRICAN
 COMET due Montrovia Sep. 24 for
 Ibadana, Abidjan, Tema Sep. 29,
 Lagos/Apapa Sep. 30, Matadi,
 Luanda. AFRICAN NEPTUNE
 due Montrovia Oct. 13 for Abidjan,
 Tema Oct. 9, Lagos/Apapa Oct. 11,
 Matadi, Luanda, Lobito.
WEST AFRICA LINE
WESTWARD sld. New Orleans
 Sep. 10, Houston Sep. 20 for
 Tema, Lagos, Pointe Noire,
 Abidjan. SOUTHWARD sld. New
 Orleans Sep. 22, Houston Sep. 29
 for Tema, Lagos, Pointe Noire,
 Luanda, Freetown.
THE A.C. LINES
SOUTHBOUND - SINALOJA sld.
 Hamburg Sep. 11, Antwerp
 Sep. 13, Rotterdam Sep. 16,
 Boston Sep. 19 due Dakar Sep. 26,
 Montrovia Sep. 29, Abidjan Oct. 1,
 Tema Oct. 3, Cotonou Oct. 5,
 Lagos/Apapa Oct. 6.
NORTHBOUND - SHINA sld.
 Lome Sep. 17, Cotonou Sep. 18,
 Lagos/Apapa Sep. 25, Abidjan
 Oct. 1, Montrovia Oct. 3 due
 Rotterdam Oct. 12, Hamburg
 Oct. 15, Bremen Oct. 22, Antwerp
 Oct. 24, Rotterdam Oct. 26.
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SOUTHBOUND - ELENA M sld.
 Amsterdam Sep. 21 due
 Lagos/Apapa Oct. 5, Port
 Harcourt Oct. 13,
 NIGER due Hull Sep. 20, RIVER

Volta loans

The Upper Volta Development Bank granted 5,035m. CFA francs in loans during the period from October 1971 to September 1972, of which 47.29 per cent went to industry, it was disclosed here Friday, when the bank's Board of Directors met to approve the accounts for the period, during which the bank realised a profit of 4,146,000 CFA francs.

In this report, the Board's Secretary-General Mr. Victor Thiobiano, said that the 7,894 loans in this period had gone up sixfold since 1968. He said 47.29 per cent had gone to industry, mainly to finance a major industrial complex at Bantora, in the country's South-Western Region, opened by Upper Volta's National Sugar Company. Another 24.29 per cent was allotted to farming, construction took 14.67 per cent, municipal associations 5.76 per cent, home equipment 4.60 per cent and trade and handicrafts 3.39 per cent.

Backing for these operations came partly from the bank's own funds, of 989.3 million CFA, and partly from loans by the Economic Cooperation Central Bank, France, advances from the African Development Bank, and rediscunts from the West African Central Bank (CEAO), Mr. Thiobiano said.

The Loan Guarantee Fund of the Council of the Entente is to lend almost 230m. CFA francs to the Dahomey Development Bank. The agreement was signed by M. Paul Kaya, Administrative Secretary of the Fund, and M. Baba Moussa, Director General of the Development Bank. The money is intended to help small and medium-size African enterprises. Ivory Coast has received a 51m. loan from the same source. Earlier this year the United States made a loan of 57.5m. for this purpose to the Entente, which crumps Dahomey, Togo, Ivory Coast, Niger and Upper Volta.

A similar agreement for the same amount has been signed with the Togo Development Bank in Lome.

The Sociology Department of the University of Ghana is conducting a study of the migration of professionally trained people to other developing countries on behalf of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). The study follows debates at the UN over the development and utilisation of talent through training in institution of higher education abroad.

Work on the second phase of the study - a survey of the views and attitudes of employers to training and utilisation of professional personnel - wholly or partly trained abroad - will begin next week.

Agricultural experts from Nigeria, Iweta, Yemen, Nanzun, Ethiopia and Kenya are in Benin for a month's course on the storage of durable agricultural products in the tropics. The course is at the Tropical Stored Products Centre of the Tropical Products Institute in Slough, Bucks.

It deals with such subjects as climate and storage, insect identification, rodent control, sampling techniques, packaging and warehouse design. When the course is over, most visitors are expected to stay for several months to gain further experience by working with various sections of the Centre.

The foundation stone of a new international airport building at Douala, which will ultimately handle more than 3 million passengers a year, has been laid by Transport Minister Chanta Bongwa. The work will take two years and cost a total of 3,600m CFA francs. Of this, France will put up 1,000m CFA and Cameroon 230m with self-financing reckoned at 510m.

Nine senior broadcasting officials from Sierra Leone, the Philippines, Nigeria, India and Jamaica are being sponsored by the Overseas Development Administration on two the month courses for TV new editors and engineers.

GIHOC's 4m expansion

African Development Bank has approved a 4m credit to finance the expansion of three divisions of the Ghana Industrial Holding Corporation - the brick and tile factory at Weija, Tema Steel Works and the Aboso Goo Factory. The Acting manager

director of GIHOC, Mr. M. Dugan said that the loan formed part of a 12.5m. credit expansion programme.

Ghana's Vegetable Oil Mill factory at Esikama is to produce a new brand of carboil soap named Ankoiba soap, onto the market in October.

Wench Tonato and other factory in Ghana is to start large scale commercial production of tinned fruit and vegetables by December. Mr. J. LAO, branch manager of the factory has announced.

A three week seedling nursery planting has taken place in Ibadan. It was attended by 25 foresters from different parts of the Federation. The nursery was arranged to provide an alternative scheme to the undertaking. The scheme will cost 60,000,000 naira and cover scattered areas of 400,000 hectares.

An exhibition of handwoven from the Ivory Coast is on show at the Building Centre in London from September 3 to 7.

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SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

UNIVERSITY OF IFE

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the following posts in the Central Administration of the University.

1. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

Budget and Planning Division

Posts: Administrative Assistants/Administrative Officers.

Qualifications: Applicants must have

- a good honours degree in Economics, Sociology Mathematics, Statistics, Physics, or Accountancy.
- a pass in the final part of the Institute of Statisticians' Examination.
- a Professional Diploma in Statistics of a recognised Institution with at least 3 years post-qualification experience.

Duties: Appointees will be expected to work in collaboration with other members of the Division in developing and maintaining a ten-year plan as well as developing the annual budgets. They will also handle the production of basic statistical reports for use in academic planning and budgeting.

2. REGISTRY

Post: Assistant Registrar

Qualifications: Applications must have a good honours degree with at least 5 years experience in an administrative post in the Public or Private Sector. Experience in a University or similar academic institution of higher learning or further education will be an advantage.

Duties: To assist the Registrar in the day-to-day administration of the Registry; this includes serving as Secretary to Committees and Boards, assisting in the administration of Admissions and Examinations, personnel matters and general organisational duties as the Registrar may prescribe.

3. BURSARY

Posts: (i) Senior Internal Auditor. (ii) Assistant Accountant-in-training.

Qualifications:

- Applicants must have A.C.A., A.C.C.A., A.C.W.A. or A.C.I.S. and preferably have appropriate honours degree with at least 5 years post qualification experience in Internal Audit department in Government or Public Corporation Service or University or a Commercial or Industrial Organisation with practical knowledge of the application of Organisation and Methods to mechanised accounting procedures.
- Applicants must have a good degree in Accounting or in Social Sciences with specialization in Accounting.

Duties:

- Appointees will be responsible for the design and execution of an Internal Audit programme to cover all financial transactions and accounting procedures wherever originating in the University.
- Appointees will be expected to ensure that departments' expenditures are within budgets.

that commitments and expenditures input data are prepared, batched and sent to the Computer Centre for monthly processing; that information on departments' status of votes is available always; that suppliers' invoices and staff's claims are promptly settled. He will be responsible to the Senior Accountant who will train him for these duties.

4. CENTRAL ACADEMIC AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

(a) LIBRARY

Posts: (i) Sub-Librarian. (ii) Assistant Librarian. (iii) Assistant Librarian-in-training.

Qualifications:

- (i)-(ii) Applicants must be professionally qualified and have good degrees from approved universities. A degree in any of the Sciences or Modern Languages will be an advantage.
- (iii) Applicants must be graduates of approved universities in natural or physical sciences, or in Modern Languages (French, German, Roman or Portuguese). Appointees will be required to undergo professional training either in Nigeria or abroad after satisfactory completion of one year's service in the Library.

Duties: (i) - (iii) Appointees will work either in the technical or readers' services division of the Library.

(b) AUDIO VISUAL CENTRE

Posts: (i) Senior Engineer. (ii) Engineer. (iii) Instrument Engineers-in-training. (iv) Technicians (including replay and audio visual). (v) Graphic Artist.

Qualifications:

- Applicants must have either
 - a degree or equivalent qualification in Electronics or Electrical Engineering or full graduateship of the Institution of Electrical Engineering plus 5 years post-qualification experience with particular reference to CCTV/CCIR studio equipment; or
 - CEI Registration as Technician Engineer with HND/HNC (with endorsement), plus at least 7 years post-qualification experience of CCTV/CCIR studio equipment. Appointees must be corporate members of an Engineering professional body acceptable for registration by COREN in Nigeria.
- Applicants must have a degree in Electronic or Electrical Engineering with not less than 2 years post-qualification experience, and must be members of an Engineering professional body acceptable for registration by COREN in Nigeria.

SITUATIONS VACANT *Cont.*

UNIVERSITY OF IFE Continued from previous page

- (iii) Applicants must have good honours degree in Electronic and Electrical Engineering.
- (iv) Applicants must have the Higher National Diploma in Electrical or Electronic Engineering with not less than 3 years post-qualification experience or full Technological Certificate of City and Guilds in Radio and Television or Electronics with not less than 3 years post-qualification experience.
- (v) Applicants must have a good honours degree in Fine Art with specialization in Commercial Art from a recognized institution plus 2 years relevant post-qualification experience.

Duties:

- (i) Appointee will be expected to head a team of Engineers and Technicians in
- supervision of the installation of Audio-Visual equipment and services in the University's Audio-Visual Centre.
 - Operation and maintenance of the equipment and services of the Centre.
 - Co-ordination with other University Departments in the pooling of Audio-Visual Aid equipment.
- (ii) Appointee will be responsible to and assist the Senior Engineer in the day-to-day running of the technical services, maintenance of equipment, planned regular supply of spare parts. He will on occasions deputise for the Senior Engineer and must have ability in leading a technical team.
- (iii) Appointee will undergo a period of training either in Nigeria or abroad, and work under an engineer at the successful completion of his training.
- (iv) Appointee will be expected to operate and use appropriate setting and operating replaying centre equipment to obtain standard level signals; clean and lubricate equipment; undertake simple electrical and mechanical measurements and repairs and use circuit diagrams.
- (v) Appointee will be expected to direct, organise and supervise the scenic services; create and prepare imaginative art work; ensure adequate supply of graphic art materials; advise on operational matters concerning requisition of materials and preparation of background decor.

(c) UNIVERSITY OF IFE PRESS

(i) Publishing Division

- Posts (i) Assistant Editor. (ii) Assistant Editors-in-training.

Qualifications:

- (i) Applicants must have a good honours degree in English or Journalism with at least 2 years experience in the Press.
- (ii) Applicants must have a good honours degree in English or Journalism.

Duties:

- (i) Appointee will act as a deputy to the Editor and assist with the day-to-day administration of the Press. His other duties will include specific responsibility for promotion, building up and expansion of mailing lists, production of publicity materials and catalogues, planning mailing campaigns, controlling the flow of manuscripts and galleys and liaising with printers, artists, etc. and supervision of order fulfilment and book-ordering systems.

- (ii) Appointees will be required to undergo a period of training under the supervision of the Editor.

(d) HEALTH CENTRE

Post: Medical Officer

Qualifications: Applicants should be qualified male or female medical practitioners and fully registered with the Nigeria Medical Council. A knowledge of tropical medicine and of preventive measures against diseases as well as experience in student health problems will be an advantage. No private practice will be allowed.

Duties: The duties involve community care service on a 24-hour out-patient basis at the University of Ife Health Centre. A population of about 8,000 is involved and there are three other doctors to share calls.

5. HALLS OF RESIDENCE

Posts: Wardens/Assistant Wardens (Male and Female)

Qualifications: Applicants must have at least a good first degree plus at least 5 years (2 years for Assistant Wardens) experience in administration of educational institution. A background of liberal arts, social sciences or Psychology will be an advantage.

Duties: Appointees are expected to see to the general welfare of the student members of the Halls. They will be responsible to the Hallmaster/Mistress for the maintenance of order and the observance of Hall regulations and for the day-to-day administration of Hall affairs including budgetary operation and staff supervision.

Salary Scales:

- (i) Senior Engineer/Senior Internal/Auditor - N5,030 x 150 - N5,480; N5,750.
- (ii) Warden - N3,810 x 150 - N4,260, N4,530 x 150 - N4,830.
- (iii) Medical Officer - N3,810 x 150 - N4,830.
- (iv) Engineer/Sub-Librarian/Assistant Registrar - N2,760 x 150 - N3,660 (bar); N3,810 x 150 - N4,260; N4,530 x 150 - N4,830.
- (v) Assistant Librarian - N2,140 x 100 - N2,240; N2,460 x 100 - N2,560 (or if holding an approved higher degree N2,460 x 100 - N2,660).
- (vi) Assistant Editor/Administrative Officer/Assistant Warden/Graphic Artist - N2,460 x 100 - N3,560.
- (vii) Administrative Assistant /Assistant Librarian-in-training/Instrument Engineer-in-training/Technicians/Assistant Accountant-in-training/ Assistant Editor-in-training - N1,920 x 80 - N2,240.

Point of entry will depend on qualification and experience.

Other Conditions:

- (i) - (iv) Return family passages; children's allowance and car basic allowance; biennial home leave where applicable, part-furnished and subsidised accommodation; medical and superannuation schemes.

- (vi) and (vii) Car basic allowance; Housing Allowance; medical and superannuation schemes.

Method of Application:

Detailed application (2 copies) stating age, full qualifications and experience and naming three referees to be forwarded to reach the Registrar, University of Ife, Ile-Ife, not later than Saturday, September 15, 1973. Further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar.

H.J. Balmound, Registrar.

SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

**FOURAH BAY
COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF
SIERRA LEONE**

Applications are invited for appointments to the following Temporary Lectureships.

- (a) Sociology.
(b) Political Science.

For (a) Candidates with any special interest in any branch of Sociology will be considered, but qualifications in the Sociology of Developing Countries, the Sociology of Rural Development, Urban Sociology and/or the Sociology of Comparative Social Systems could be an advantage.

(b) Candidates should have a particular interest in Public Administration (preferably with reference to Developing Countries) and an additional interest in Political Thought and Theory.

Salary Scale Le2,400 x 150 - Le2,700 x 170 - Le4,740 (Under review) per annum. (Le2 = £1 sterling), point of entry depending on qualification and experience. Appointment will be for two years initially, following which the position will be reviewed. Gratuity of 15% of salary in lieu of superannuation. Car allowance Le300, family allowance Le200 per child (maximum Le600) per annum; outfit allowance Le120, where applicable; annual leave; paid passage on appointment, on biennial leave (in the case of non-Sierra Leoneans) and on normal termination. Car loan negotiated. Part furnished accommodation at reasonable rent. Detailed applications (8 copies) naming three referees by 28 September, 1973 to the Secretary, University of Sierra Leone, Private Mail Bag, Freetown, Sierra Leone, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

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This appointment will carry a substantial salary which is negotiable. The terms of service will be those customary for West Africa and include free air passages and accommodation, a company car, education allowances and membership of the Group Pension Scheme after a qualifying period. Tours are currently to 10 months in the territory followed by 12 months leave.

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MEETINGS

The Nigerian Law Society
of Great Britain & Ireland.

Annual General Meeting

All Nigerian Lawyers and Law Students are hereby invited to the Annual General Meeting of the above honourable society. Date: Sunday 16th September, 1973. Place: Nigerian Centre, 25 Innermost Terrace, London W.2. (Tube: Queensway and Bayswater), Time: 3 p.m. (prompt). Agenda: As in circular. Non-Members are welcome. Secretariat: 216, Charlotte Despard Avenue, London S.W.11. Tel: 01 736 5073. M.O. Agapondou, Public Secretary.

HALLILUYA! HALLILUYA!
LUYA! HALLILUYA!

The Celestial Church of Christ (Ijo) Missions, Christ Lads' Orm, W10 London Headquarters, cordially invites you all to their Fourth Harvest Anniversary which takes place at our Church in Harton Street, S.E.14 on 16th September, 1973. Time: 12 noon. Harvest starts at 4 p.m. Nearest tube station - New Cross on bus 177. Come one, come all. Come and see the wonders of God, Halleluya! Halleluya! Halleluya! Publicity Secretary: Olu Delano.

NOTICES Cont.

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NIGERIA

Sudan Rail Link?

Sudan and Nigeria have concluded a cultural, scientific and technical cooperation agreement to improve relations between them. A communique issued at the end of President Nimeiri's weeklong visit to Nigeria said the Sudanese leader and General Gowon had agreed to reactivate negotiations on a bilateral air agreement. They also agreed that officials of both countries should urgently examine the possibility of a direct telecommunications link, a trade agreement, and, as a long term measure, a direct railway connection between Sudan and Nigeria.

On African affairs, the two heads of State reaffirmed their support for the OAU and condemned colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination. They deplored the "continued moral and material support, from several foreign sources, to the racist and minority regimes in Southern Africa".

Addressing newsmen, President Nimeiri attacked Communist parties as an instrument of intimidation and suppression, out of fear with contemporary African life. There was a Communist-inspired abortive coup in Sudan two years ago, "I am against all political parties whatever their nature. I will never permit the creation of any political party in Sudan", he stressed. The Sudan had solved its political problem through the Sudanese Socialist Union. Elections to regional assemblies would take place in a few months with elections for the National assembly scheduled for February 1974, he said.

The Federal Government has established a newspaper corporation to print and publish newspapers. Under a decree published in Lagos the corporation will have an editorial board responsible for the day-to-day editorial policy of government-owned newspapers which will replace the defunct *Morning Post* and the weekly *Sunday Post*. The five-member board will be appointed by the Federal Commissioner for Information and will consist of representatives of the Federal

Ministries of Information and External Affairs. It will be headed by a chairman who will be appointed by the Information Commissioner with the prior approval of the Federal Executive Council.

The Federal Government has enacted a decree setting up two agricultural development agencies to develop and manage projects in the Chad and Sokoto-Rima Basins. The agencies, the Chad Basin Development Authority and Sokoto-Rima Basin Development Authority, will among other things, promote land and water development schemes for the purpose of increasing agricultural and fish production of the basins. Chad Basin is in the North Eastern State, while Sokoto-Rima Basin is in the North Western State.

More than 10,000 Nigerian fishermen have been expelled from villages on the banks of the Rio de Rey near the Nigeria-Cameroon frontier by Cameroon troops, says the *Nigerian Chronicle*, the South Eastern State Government newspaper. The troops committed various misdemeanours including rape, murder and pillage and five people from the Nigerian bank of Rio de Rey were alleged to have been killed.

The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Enabolu, has given the assurance that the situation along the Nigeria-Cameroon border called for no alarm. Mr. Enabolu was speaking on arrival in Kaduna for a private visit. He added that while positive steps are being taken to find a permanent solution to the problem, adequate security arrangements had been provided for Nigerians in the area.

Airport departure tax has been raised from 75k to one naira from September 1. According to a legal notice published in Lagos, all airlines will pay the new tax on each passenger "on an international flight".

The Chief of Air Staff, Brig. Emmanuel Ikwe, is on a three-week visit to Europe.

The Federal Government has set up a panel to investigate allegations of negligence of duty made against a doctor at the University College Hospital, Ibadan. The doctor was alleged to have refused to treat a patient following a motor accident because the identity of the patient was not known to him. The patient later died. The panel is headed by Chief Gabriel Akin-Deko, former IAO regional representative for Africa. Its findings will be published.

A 13-man group from the British Defence College will pay a one-day visit to Nigeria this month to study the country's development. The British High Commission has announced in Lagos. The Nigerian visit, is part of a month-long African tour of Zaire, Ethiopia, Kenya and Algeria by members of the Royal College of Defence Studies.

The team visiting Nigeria will include officers from Britain, Canada, Australia, West Germany, Japan and the United States. They will be led by Air Vice Marshal J.C.T. Downey of the Royal Air Force.

Dr. T.A. Lambo, assistant director-general of the World Health Organisation, has been appointed deputy director-general. He will take up his new post on November 1, when Dr. P. Duroelle, who has occupied the post since its creation in 1950, retires. Dr. Lambo was appointed assistant director general in 1971. He was vice-chancellor of the University of Ibadan from 1968 to 1971.



Dr. Lambo has called on African states to step up research into local herbs to manufacture drugs for the treatment of tropical diseases. He described as precarious the present system whereby Africa depends largely on imports of drugs which could be made locally.

The police arrested an *Evening Times* reporter, Mr. Bola Adedjo, following publication of an article which alleged that the police were investigating a Western State Commissioner in connection with a fraud involving 30,000 naira. The reporter had alleged that an unnamed Commissioner was quizzed by detectives following the discovery of a fraud. The editor, Mr. Martin Iroabuchi, was arrested but was

released on bail after questioning. The newspaper was launched on August 6.

Police Commissioner S.A. Adewusi said in a statement that "no time was any Commissioner from the West questioned about criminal matter in recent times". The editor of the *Evening Times* and his reporter have accordingly been arrested in connection with this false publication.

"NNS Ribadu"

The latest warship of the navy has been named after the first Federal Minister of Defence, the late Alhaji Muhammadu Ribadu. *NNS Ribadu* is described by the commanding officer, Cdr Franklin Nesama, as the "most modern and sophisticated of her kind known in West Africa". She is also reputed to have sailed the longest distance by any navy ship, having sailed from Hamburg through Portsmouth and Las Palmas to Lagos. The ship, designed to aid ships in distress, was built by Messrs John Oelkers K.G. Shiffswort of West Germany.

Mr. Edward Enahoro, the career diplomat, has been named Nigeria's new Ambassador in Zaire. An External Affairs Ministry announcement said Mr. Enahoro, former High Commissioner in Canada, would assume duty shortly.

The *Lagos Daily Express* has said it would be a tragedy if China turned her back on independent Africa and curtailed her support for liberation movements. In an editorial entitled "A tragedy for Africa", the newspaper refers to "disturbing reports from diplomatic quarters" that China and Portugal were planning to establish diplomatic relations.

The *Express* says this was "a bad development in an age when the tendency of all freedom-loving peoples of the world is towards increasingly isolating Portugal for its obvious racist policy".

No more stockfish

The Federal Government has suspended indefinitely importation of stockfish from Norway and Iceland following price increases. The Federal Commissioner for Trade, Mr. Wenke Briggs, said there was no justification for a rise of about 100 per cent in the prices of stockfish within a year. He said Nigeria wanted to resume as soon as possible its substantial trade with Norway and Iceland and he hoped current talks between officials of the three Governments would result in substantial reduction in the prices of stockfish.

US and Africa

US Republican Senator Jacob Javits has said that colonialism in Southern Africa would end if UN sanctions were strictly observed. Answering reporters' questions before leaving Lagos for London at the end of a short visit, he said that the major problem facing the world now was how to stop countries, including the US, which were constantly breaking sanctions against Rhodesia. Senator Javits expressed confidence that the US Senate would eventually succeed in stopping the American Government and firms violating the sanctions.

The Senator rejected suggestions that the appointment of Dr. Henry Kissinger as US Secretary of State could lead to further commitment of the US on the side of Israel in the Middle East crisis. "Dr. Kissinger is going to be an objective Secretary of State serving the best interest of the United States and in whose time, the peace and prosperity of the world will in no way be jeopardised", he said. The Senator called for greater cooperation between Africa and the US observing that Africa would gain immensely from America's technological, scientific and educational advancement.

- Three of Nigeria's four central labour organisations, representing some six million workers, have merged following a request by the Government for unity in the trade union movement. The new organisation, known as the Nigerian Trade Union Federation (NTUF), was created by the merger of the Nigerian Trade Union Congress (NTUC), the Labour Unity Front (LUF) and the Nigerian Workers' Council (NWC). At a ceremony to launch the new organisation, Mr. S.U. Baisey, secretary of the NTUC, promised it would protect workers' interests and work for better pay and service conditions.

The United Labour Congress, (ULC) the fourth central labour organisation which is not included in the new merger, has not commented on the move.

- Vessels of the Central Water Transportation Company owned jointly by six states and based in Onitsha, have begun evacuation of produce from northern states to the sea ports.

- Kano State plans to construct six more dams. When the dams are completed, over 2,000,000 acres of land will be brought under irrigation.

- 30 new post-secondary schools are to be opened in the South Eastern State during the next academic year which begins in October, the Commissioner for Education, Mr. Emmanuel Essien, has said.

- A ceramic industry costing 4,478,000 naira is to be set up at Abeokuta. The Western State Government will hold 30 per cent equity shares through its Ministry of Industries.

The State's Commissioner for Industries, Mr. Bayo Akinola, said agreement to this effect would be signed very soon between the State Government and other partners. The other partners are: the Agrob A.G. of Western Germany, the Nigerian Industrial Development Bank, Sifida (International Finance for Investment and Finance in Africa), Deg (German Development Corporation), and the Union Trading Company (Switzerland).

The venture is one of the proposed industrial projects under the state's 1970-74 four year development plan, he explained. The Commissioner added that the industry which would employ over 200 Nigerians, would produce wall and floor tiles as well as ceramic sanitary ware.

Construction work on the project is expected to begin before the end of this year, Mr. Akinola said.

Aluko quits

Mr. Timothy Aluko, Western State Commissioner for Finance, has resigned at the end of a two-year term to go back to the University of Lagos, where he was a senior research fellow in municipal engineering, before his appointment as a commissioner. Two new commissioners have been appointed by Governor Rotimi. They are Dr. Bisi Afonja of the department of mathematics, University of Ife, and Mr. Theo Akin, an Ibadan businessman. The new commissioners were sworn-in on September 5.

- Nigerian Textile Mills, Ikeja, which employs 3,753 workers, had been closed down for two days, following shortage of raw cotton which had hit textile mills in the country. The closing came after an emergency meeting of workers and management. Workers were not paid for the two days. The company secretary, Mr. Olufermi Solomolu, said that "there is a general acute shortage of raw cotton for the manufacture of local textile materials in the country".

- The East Central State is to set up a new tourist centre at Oputa, the Commissioner for Trade and Industry, Mr. Eric Olanuwa, has announced.

- An 80m naira paper and pulp industry is to be set up in the East Central State, the Administrator, Mr. Ukpabasi Asika, has announced. He did not elaborate, but said that feasibility studies had been done by two foreign organisations.

DROUGHT RAF lift ends

The RAF airlift of relief supplies to Mali ended on August 31, and the two Hercules aircraft flew home from Dakar. The airlift had been continuing seven days a week since July 10. It was estimated that over 2,400 tons of food had been flown from Dakar to towns in the Niara area of Western Mali. The flights were ended because the Malian minister in charge of coordination of relief efforts had said that the airlift into Western Mali had succeeded in building up sufficient stocks of food to last until the harvest at the end of September.

The problem area in Mali is now said to be around Goundam, Timbuktu, Gao and Tessalit, which is served by aircraft of the West German and US air forces operating from Bamako. There are no more facilities available at Bamako for more aircraft, and aircraft there have occasionally been grounded because of the fuel shortages. A cargo boat from Bamako has now succeeded for the first time since April in navigating the Niger river as far as Timbuktu. By the end of September navigation as far as Gao should be possible, and as the river continues to rise vessels will be able to increase their cargo, enabling aircraft from Bamako to concentrate on those targets which remain inaccessible by river transport.

- Austria has decided to send 50 tons of dried milk powder to Mali as well as medicines worth about £3,350. The decision was taken after Austrian Chancellor Dr. Bruno Kreisky had received a letter from the Mali President Moussa Traore asking for help.

German aid

West German Economic Cooperation Minister Ehard Eppler will see 150 of the countries worst hit by drought during a two week visit to West Africa beginning on September 24. Herr Eppler, who is responsible for development aid, will go to Upper Volta and Niger after first fulfilling a long standing invitation to go to Cameroon. His aim is to gather first hand information on how long-term development aid could be used to prevent widespread starvation such has occurred this year.

Official West German relief aid to the drought area totals £16m so far. The European Development fund has made available a further £23m worth of food products of which Bonn has contributed one third. Private organisations in West Germany have also given several million Deutschmarks worth of Aid.

- UNICEF, has announced that starving babies and pregnant women in Upper Volta and Niger are to receive rations of high-protein weaning food, supramine, made from millet, wheat and dried creamed milk, with sugar and vitamins added. After an urgent appeal by both these drought-hit South Saharan countries, 36 tons of supramine will be flown from Algeria, where it is produced in a special UNICEF-built factory, the organisation said.

Another high nutrition production, CSM, made from maize, soybeans, and milk, has already been delivered to Mali, Mauritania and Senegal. UNICEF plans to distribute more than 3,000 tons of CSM, a gift from the United States Government to drought-stricken areas. A load of 1,200 tons is already on the way and will provide daily rations for 72,000 children.

- Libya has added another two ten-ton lorries to the 10 it has already given for drought relief operations in Mauritania, it has been announced in Nouakchott. A supply of food from Libya, worth 15m. Ouguiya (about \$12,500) is expected to arrive shortly. This will bring Libya's total contribution to Mauritania's emergency programme up to 30m. Ouguiya (US \$625,000).

- The Federation of Yugoslav Trade Unions has donated 150,000 dinars (US \$9,375) from union funds for drought relief. Trades Union Chairman Dusan Petrovic said here it was just the first instalment, of the aid they planned to give.

- Botswana is to contribute \$20,000 to the UN programme for drought relief in sub-Saharan West Africa.

- The Agency for International Development (AID) says the United States government has allocated one million dollars more for immediate use in the drought relief operations. AID said the money would be used mainly for road repairs during the rainy season, to keep vital supplies going to outlying areas in the 60 days left before harvest-time. It would also finance well-diggers, and provide extra food supplies for those in the hardest hit sectors. AID said The new allocation brings total US aid to Mali, Niger, Upper Volta, Chad, Senegal and Mauritania up to \$43m.

- An Interflug aircraft has arrived at Niamey carrying a commitment of foodstuffs from East Germany for drought relief in Niger.

- The Chinese Red Cross has sent a shipment of 5,900 tons of rice as drought relief to Mauritania.

CHAD

Tombalbaye changes name

President Francois Tombalbaye will henceforth be known as Ngartha Tombalbaye, in accordance with proposals by his new party, the National Movement for Cultural and Social Revolution (MNRCS). Under the move for a Zaire-style authenticity, place and street-names are also to be changed. The only exceptions will be Avenues in Fort Lamy named after de Gaulle, Mobutu and Bokassa. The President has been elected Secretary-General of the new party.

At a rally President Tombalbaye commented on the assassination in Paris of Dr. Ouel Bono, the Director of Health Services. If Chad had been out to kill one of its citizens, said the President, it would have been Dr. Abba Siddick, "who has caused so much blood to flow on Chadian soil", and not Dr. Bono. "But we do not use such low methods. We regret this frightful assassination but we have no part in it". President Tombalbaye added that Dr. Bono had disappeared from Chad over a year ago. The government continued to pay his salary up till June, the date on which his wife left Chad. However the President turned down a request to repatriate the doctor, "remains with full honours, because it was felt he did not die in the course of duty. The President also expressed his willingness to cooperate honestly with France, but repeated his view that M. Jacques Foccart, Secretary-General for African and Malagasy Affairs in Paris, was the "sworn enemy of Chad and its inhabitants".

The French Catholic paper *Le Oeil* has commented on the killing of Dr. Bono, saying that there were analogies with the Ben Barka affair in 1965. "A certain number of non-Chadians, amongst whom several Frenchmen are strong suspects, are governing Chad through Tombalbaye". The affair was likely to have repercussions on Franco-Chadian relations. The evening paper *Franco-Soir* said that Dr. Bono was an idealist and a nationalist, formed by France, who opposed France's military intervention in Chad. "He did not believe that the military and administrative aid of the former metropolitan power would bring about peace". His death had deprived Chad of a "man of goodwill".

On a visit to Fort Lamy, M. Jean-Francois Deniau said that France was ready to continue its "already considerable" aid to Chad, as long as there was a climate of "mutual confidence".

Cooperation should not be enforced but desired, he said, adding that it should of course be flexible but there should be respect between partners. "I think President Tombalbaye agrees with this definition of our relations, and that we can forecast a confident future for these on the basis of existing agreements".

M. Deniau, Co-operative Secretary, had been in Yaounde, for talks with President Ahidjo. There he told newsmen that talks on the revision of Cameroon's cooperation agreements would start in Paris in September. Revision would above all concern management problems, since half of France's aid to Africa came in the form of personnel. There was no problem on the monetary agreement, and the negotiations would take place in the "new spirit of cooperation".

GABON

Armed forces reorganisation

President Bongo has reorganised the command structure of the armed forces, police and national security services. The new Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces is General Nzaire Boulougui, formerly Chief of Staff. Subordinate to him as the Chief of Staff of Land and Naval Forces, are regional defence commanders, and the heads of other defence services except those of the Air Army and first parachute company, which are under the control of the President who is also Minister of Defence.

General Georges Nkoma was named head of the police force. Following our report in last week's issue of the uncovering by the London *Sunday Times* of an operation to evade sanctions against Rhodesia by a Gabon-based company called Affretra, the newspaper reports that authorities in Greece and Holland permitted the airline's DC8 jet to make further round trips because there was "no evidence" of sanctions-busting. The authorities accept Affretra's version that they are only carrying freight to Gabon, and not continuing the round-trip via Salisbury.

Affretra was reportedly set up by Captain Malloch, who, readers of *West Africa* may recall, was held in detention in Togo for five months in 1968, after having been on the aircraft impounded in January that year in Lome because £7m. worth of old Nigerian currency notes were on board. The notes had been part of the total amount from the vault of the Nigerian Central Bank's branches in the secessionist areas, and were being brought from Lisbon, presumably in an attempt to smuggle them into Nigeria.

ZAIRE

Bakongo secession group foiled

President Mobutu told a meeting at the Lower Zaire town of Mbanza-Ngungu that a thirteen man group advocating secession of the area had been broken up. The group were the accomplices of the former political director of the dissolved Abako party, Raymond Bikelé, who was still at large. He had distributed tracts calling for the setting up of an autonomous state to be called Central Congo, and would be severely punished when caught. The group had met at night in the cemeteries of Kinshasa, said the President, and had distributed their tracts to foreign embassies in the capital.

Belgian Prime Minister Edmond LeBurton said at a news conference after a week's private visit that Zaire now has the stability and necessary elements for development. He would spare no effort to strengthen the historical links of friendship between the people of Zaire and Belgium. President Mobutu's efforts had been a major factor in establishing a situation where "stability, order and work, the essential elements for the development of a country, now existent in Zaire". The Belgian Premier said he was very pleased with his visit which had given him the opportunity of frank contact with every level of the population.

Commenting on developing relations between rich and poor countries he said Europe could not for ever remain the club of the rich and had to evaluate its relations with Africa.

At a mass meeting the Belgian Socialists (M. LeBurton is party Chairman) said President Mobutu had always taken a direct interest in the life of Zaire. He pointed out that the Belgian Socialist Party was alone in voting against the colonisation of the Congo by Belgium in 1907, and that it had been alone in not interfering in the Colony's affairs between 1908 and 1960.

Other recent visitors in Zaire have been Tunisia's Foreign Minister Mohamed Masmoudi; Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, Baron Speth, (Chairman of the Bank of Antwerp and Administrator of the International Maritime Agency), and Marcel Dassault, the French industrialist. The Zaire government is currently discussing the purchase of 17 Mirage-5s from the Dassault company, which has also just won the contract for the installation of traffic lights in Kinshasa.

Loembe Batwanyele (formerly Mario Catdoso), former Foreign Minister, has been sentenced in absentia in Kinshasa to 20 years' hard labour for embezzlement of sums totalling £400,000. Switzerland recently refused a Zaire request for his extradition.

President Mobutu told the conference of Zambia's ruling party, UNIP, at Mulungushi that "the day a single Rhodesian soldier sets foot on Zambian soil, general mobilisation will be ordered in Zaire". The President also attended the ceremony marking the completion of the Tanzanian stretch of the Tanzam railway.

CAMEROON

Nimeiri visit

On an official visit, President Nimeiri of Sudan said that Cameroon had built up since achieving independence a group of young writers and poets who were the pride of Africa, and that Yaounde had become a Mecca of thought, industry and trade. He hoped that Sudan would soon establish close trade, economic and cultural links with Cameroon.

A former Foreign Minister, M. Jean-Faustin Betayene, has died in France after a short illness at the age of fifty. He was Director-General of the Cameroon National Investment Society.

Cameroon Airlines are to operate once a week from Yaounde to Addis Ababa.

SPANISH SAHARA

"Blue men" seek backing

Edouard Moha, Chairman of Morehob (the "blue men") liberation movement is visiting European countries to rally support for his movement. He is going to Prague, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Bonn, Paris and London, and will be asking for backing for a UN Committee to study the situation in Spanish Sahara, in view of the failure of Spain to implement the UN resolution on independence. A committee should investigate "the inhuman conditions in which our brothers live in the interior of the country still colonised and exploited by Madrid". Morehob recently accused the heads of state of Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania, after their July 24 meeting in Agadir, of continuing their "policy of evasion" towards Spain on the decolonisation issue. Morehob accused the three leaders of continuing "sterile dialogue" with Spain while coveting the territory for themselves.

GHANA

New prospects for industry

The Capital Investments Board has approved over 25 projects estimated at £20 million. These include a mixed farming project costing £4.2 million. About £100,000 is to be spent on the extraction of lime juice and oil and £1.2 million on tuna fishing while freezing and storage facilities will cost £2 million. Other planned projects include wood processing and plywood production, estimated at about £2 million; production of cotton wool from cotton waste, £214,000; manufacture of brake linings and floor tiles, £500,000; and the manufacture of stationery, about £1.7 million.

The projects, to be sited in selected areas, are reported to be at various stages of implementation. They are expected to be in operation by the middle of 1974.

Other projects receiving the attention of the Investments Board are a pulp and paper project, a caustic soda plant and a fishing complex. In view of the frequent shortage of newsprint on the world market, the Board considers the production of paper a vital need. It is, therefore, looking for technical and financial partners to help it set up a pulp and paper industry. Peking Chinese partners are said to have expressed interest in this project.

The Committee set up to distribute foreign food has set up three sub-committees to ensure fairness in its operations. Commander I.G. Lokko, chairman of the 10-member Logistics Committee, named the sub-committees as "inspectorate, purchasing and allocation sub-committees". According to the new strategy the inspectorate sub-committee is charged with inspection of business premises of new applicants who want to be appointed distributors as well as premises of established distributors who want to be upgraded. The purchasing sub-committee would ensure that the supply of goods was programmed so as to avert shortages while the allocation sub-committee would consider applications by distributors. The 10-member reconstituted committee was inaugurated to replace the old committee whose operation was found to be tainted by maladministration.

Mr. Kwasi Amedume-Atta, Economic Consultant to the NRC, has stressed the need to ensure that at least 60 per cent of the equity shares of foreign banking and insurance companies operating in Ghana were owned by Ghanaians. Speaking at a seminar for economic journalists

he said that a time when Ghana was directing her policies towards the capture of the commanding heights of the economy it was ridiculous that "the present banking Decree allowed Ghanaians to take only 40 per cent of the equity share".

Col. Acheampong has given a two year ultimatum to the Salspond Ceramics Factory to satisfy Ghana's requirements for all kinds of ceramic work. To this end 3.4m. cedis will be made available to the factory. Speaking during a tour of the factory Col. Acheampong said "If it becomes necessary to ban the importation of such items as corned beef in order to save enough money for the purchase of more equipment and machinery for your expansion programme we shall do it".

During his tour of the Central Region Col. Acheampong warned Denkyira chiefs and people to be careful not to become the stages of misguided politicians. He advised that "all politicians who are sitting idly by and expecting the Government to hand over power to them had better start working".

Trading firms found indulging in commercial malpractices such as hoarding will be banned from operating in Ghana, Major Felli, Commissioner of Trade, has warned.

The Ghana National Association of Teachers plans to introduce a housing scheme for its members.



Cdr. Kyereveh

At the Cape Coast Fetu Festival Commander J.A. Kyereveh Regional Commissioner for Western Region, departing for the absent Commander J.K. Amedume, announced that the Agricultural Development Bank had granted a loan of 550,000 cedis to the Central Region Co-operative Port and Fisheries Union for development of large scale fishing. Three million cedis had also been voted by the government for agricultural development in the Central Region for the current financial year. One million cedis would also be spent on improving Cape Coast's water supply. The Commissioner stressed the importance of proposed irrigation in the region.

At the press conference before celebration of the annual Homowo festival the Ga Mantse, Nii Amuga II, invited the whole nation to join the Ga in the celebration, which was unique and "typified the unity of the people and inculcates the spirit of reconciliation". He said that the absence of political parties in the past year and a half, coupled with the spirit of nationalism which the NRC has instilled into Ghanaians, had greatly influenced the people of the Ga-Adangbe Traditional Area in burying differences which could have had an adverse effect on the celebration.

Cocoa farmers bonus

Over £1 million has been released by the Cocoa Marketing Board to be paid to cocoa farmers as bonus for the 1972-73 main crop season. The amount will be paid to the farmers through seven licensed buying agencies. A statement issued by the Board said that the Produce Buying Agency had been given £811,356 and £358,995 had been allocated to the Ghana Co-operative Marketing Association.

Other agents through whom part of the amount had been paid are Sampa Enterprises, Oyo, Amaladedun Farmers Marketing Company £4,212; Cocoa Farmers Company £9,273; Group Farmers Limited £11,355 and Kwasenten Company £3,993.

Bonus payable to the farmers for a ton of cocoa will be £3.

The Armed Forces have been given the responsibility of planning and implementing the change-over to right hand drive scheduled to take effect from August 4, 1974. A 16 member planning committee under the chairmanship of Brig. Erskine, Army Commander, has been appointed.

Ghana changes over from the imperial to the metric system of measurement as from September 1, 1974, the Commissioner for Trade and Tourism, Maj. Felli, has announced. Operating the metrication planning and coordinating committee, he said the change-over would facilitate both internal and external trade "with tremendous advantage in education, science, technology and research".

More than 1,300 students who passed out of institutions of higher education during the last academic year are to enter a one-year Government service scheme, according to Ghana News Agency. Under the scheme, students who complete their studies in any of the higher educational institutions will cover for a year in rural areas. It covers Ghanaian students who graduate or obtain diplomas abroad either

on a Government Scholarship or under the sponsorship of any other person or agency.

Graduates serving in the proposed National Service Scheme are to be given a flat allowance of 100 cedis a month sources in the scheme's secretariat are reported as saying.

They will also be entitled to free medical attention and pay half rate transport charges.

Mr. Kofi Ibadu, editor of the *Spokesman*, has been appointed acting Chairman of the Sports Council of Ghana. A former sports Editor of *The Graphic*, he is a former chairman of Ghana's Boxing Authority.

£15,000 has been released for the construction of an embankment at Vodra to prevent sea erosion any more of the main road to Keta.

Mr. Roland "Tiny" Rowland, chief executive of Lonrho, acting on a two-day visit to Adenta paid a two-day visit to Adenta Goldfields Corporation at Obuasi. Lonrho owns 45 per cent of the equity shares of the Corporation which operates the mine. Mr. Rowland, who recently survived attempt by a majority of the directors of Lonrho to oust him, declined to make any statement to reporters. He was expected to meet Col. Acheampong, before returning to London.

The Workers Brigade, the Rural Housing Scheme and the National Service Corps are to merge into one unit under the Department of Rural Development to undertake joint projects on a profit making basis.

African T.U. headquarters for Accra

The Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) opened its headquarters in Accra, on September 1. Announcing the date in Nairobi of the

Secretary-General of the organisation, Denis Akumua, said development in the African labour movement had made it "imperative to establish the office immediately to avoid the trend of trade unions based on ideological differences". He said the Ghana Government had promised to provide accommodation and material assistance to enable the organisation to begin immediate operations. Mr. Akumua said African governments were anxious that labour unions on the continent should carry out OATUU activities on a par with those of South African exiles. He said the setting up of the office was also necessary because some supporters of the African labour movement were beginning to shift their stand because there was "no effective African labour organisation on certain issues".

Litigation not only created animosity but wasted money which could be used to develop an area. Col. Minyila, Eastern Region Commissioner, said when settling a three year old chieftaincy dispute between two factions in Ayirebi town. As a symbol of the settlement the Regional Organisation would make sure that a planned 16,000 cedi school project for the area was executed.

Construction of mini canals at Danhyena for the irrigation of 1,200 acres is expected to be completed by December, according to the engineer on the project.

The Deputy Secretary to the NRC, Mr. B.K. Mensah, has called on all Ministries to establish club farms to be run voluntarily by civil servants as their contribution to Operation Feed Yourself.

Arrangements have been finalised to begin weekly export of food, worth over 32,000 cedis in foreign exchange, to Upper Volta through the Food Distribution Corporation.

Following criticisms of a new uniform for stewardesses introduced last month, Ghana Airways has modified the design. The skirt of uniform, in Ghana-made cloth, is shorter than the original design.

Ghana Airways has now recognised the Ghana Muslims Representative Council as the sole organisation with the authority to handle all affairs regarding the annual pilgrimage to Mecca.

Ghana's National Standards Board has been inaugurated.

Mr. Juxon-Smith had called on the acting President, Mr. S.J. Koroma, with a similar message.

A bill, "The Pay-roll Tax (amendment) Act, 1973" has been passed by Parliament. The Act amends the Pay-roll Tax Act of 1972, to give effect to the budget proposals for 1972/73 with regard to the amount of pay-roll tax payable.

Supporting the Bill, the member for Kono North-east, Mr. Saor G.M. Fania, said that since the original bill was introduced, business concerns still brought expatriates to work in the country even though there were qualified Sierra Leoneans to do the jobs. This was because the pay-roll tax for expatriates was too small, he said, citing Diminco as one of the companies employing expatriates unnecessarily.

The Minister of Finance, Mr. C. Kamara-Taylor explained that originally, the pay-roll tax for expatriates was one hundred leones and now it had been raised to two hundred and fifty leones so as to stop the practice of employing expatriates unnecessarily. He said that he was not aware of any unskilled expatriate staff being brought in by Diminco.

Diminco operates in the Kono area.

An executive member of the Sierra Leone People's Party in the Moyamba South two Constituency, Mr. Thomas Joseph Gbongo, has resigned and declared for the All People's Congress.

Mr. Gbongo, who comes from Gbangbatoke Banta Chiefdom, in his letter seeking membership of the APC blamed SLPP leaders for disunity caused by lack of leadership and principles to govern the party.

Mr. Kamara Taylor, Minister of Finance and MP for Kambia District told a delegation from the District that the Government viewed with sympathy the present ferry inconvenience and was actively engaged in the "materialisation" of the bridge at Manje. The international road to Guinea, he said, would be constructed so as not to reduce the commercial importance of Kambia town.

Brigadier Shaban Opolot, Uganda's first ambassador to Sierra Leone, has presented his credentials to President Stevens. Brigadier Opolot is also ambassador to Ghana, where it is resident.

President Stevens recalled a pledge he made to the Uganda Teaching Service Commission that Sierra Leone would help Uganda recruit teachers when terms and conditions of service has been agreed.



On behalf of the people of Moyamba District, Paramount Chief Hanoria Bailor Coulter presents President Stevens with a cake on his 68th birthday.

Principal State Counsel, Mr. Teddy Benjamin Wyndham, has died suddenly aged 44. Mr. Wyndham was taken ill at Port Loko where he was prosecuting in the case against former Minister of Information, Mr. Alimamy Khatadi, and four others charged with murder and "dealing in person".

The British High Commissioner, Mr. I.B. Watts, has reminded students going to UK for further education this year that the main purpose of their studies should be to return home better equipped to help Sierra Leone's development. He was speaking at an introductory course on life in Britain organised by the British Council for about 200 students.

The Liberia/Sierra Leone Friendship Association has been formed in Freetown. The association has as its President, Mr. Manso Nbompa Turay, Public Relations Officer at the National Shipping Company.

The Government has assumed control of all matters relating to pilgrimage to Mecca.

Sierra Leone has been elected to serve on the executive committee of the World Federation of United Nations Associations.

A new ambassador from South Korea to Sierra Leone Mr. Yung Kyoo Kang, has been appointed.

Dava fever has been added to Sierra Leone's list of notifiable diseases.

LIBERIA

Tolbert on the EEC

President William Tolbert has said in an interview published in the Dakar newspaper, *Le Soleil*, that Liberia considers present proposals for a trade association between the European Economic Community and Africa to be unsuitable.

President Tolbert said Liberia preferred the basic negotiating position laid down by the meeting of OAU heads of State in Addis Ababa in May. The OAU agreed on a formula based on eight principles, among which were that the agreement should be one of cooperation on trade and development, independent of the international General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs and containing guarantees on aid and prices for raw materials. "These are what should guide African States, in their negotiations".

Liberia, the President added, considered unsuitable the terms offered Commonwealth countries under Article 22 of Britain's accession treaty. Liberia - like Ethiopia and Sudan - does not qualify for association under Article 22, nor under the Yaounde Convention but the three attended all meetings on future relations held in 1973.

Asked about the proposed West African economic community, President Tolbert said there were no signs that any provision had been made for English-speaking African countries to join. French-speaking African countries shared particular common advantages which were not relevant to other countries, he added.

On the question of closer links between Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone, the President said the three countries had already made certain agreements in industrial, trade, educational and cultural fields and others were under discussion. Whether a common market among them was possible, or a regional union, would depend on the success of present bilateral agreements.

He thought the variety of currencies in Africa was no major problem to economic cooperation and that the EEC was an example of this. "If the political will is there, economic cooperation between African countries as a region can be achieved", he said.

Japan has appointed Mr. Junnosuke Katayama, Consul General in Hamburg, as Ambassador to Liberia.

SIERRA LEONE

A ship at sea

Sierra Leone's National Shipping Company has acquired its first cargo vessel. She is due to arrive in Freetown before the end of September and will be named *M.J. Nambana*. No details have been given of the vessel's tonnage. She is the first of a number of cargo ships the company intends to buy. The Sierra Leone National Shipping Co. began operation six months ago and has been engaged in stevedoring.

At the inauguration of the company in February President Stevens said that he hoped ships flying the Sierra Leone flag would soon be sailing the high seas.

Mr. Andrew T. Juxon-Smith, ex-brigadier and former Chairman of the National Reformation Council, has called on President Stevens to pay his respects. Mr. Juxon-Smith, who was recently released from detention, said that he had no ill-feelings towards the President and the Government, as far as loyalty was concerned he was duty bound to respect the government of the day. During the President's absence abroad

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Fourth Non-Aligned Summit

The fourth conference of non-aligned nations has been held in Algiers. It was attended by about 80 countries from Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Some 30 heads of state and government including Monarchs, Presidents and Prime Ministers attended, and this made it the biggest conference of its kind. Among early arrivals at the Algerian capital was President Tito of Yugoslavia, the only survivor of the founding fathers and sponsor of the first conference in Belgrade in 1961. Other founding fathers were Mr. Nehru, President Nasser, President Nkrumah, all dead.

Attending the meeting were General Gowon, current chairman of the OAU; Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia; King Hassan II of Morocco; Archbishop Makarios of Cyprus; Mrs. Gandhi, India; President Nyerere, Tanzania; the King of Nepal, Ne Win; President Mobutu Sese Seko, Zaire, who paid a two-day visit to Chad before going to Algiers; Dr. Fidel Castro, who visited Guinea before Algiers; Presidents Dion of Niger, Lamizana of Upper Volta, Eyadema of Togo, who met President Houphouët-Boigny in Abidjan, where the four leaders of the Council of Understanding discussed a common stand to

adopt at the Algiers summit (Dahomey is the fifth member of the Council); Prime Minister Jonathan of Lesotho; President Ahidjo, Cameroon; Presidents Micombero (Burundi) and Habyalimana (Rwanda), paid a day's visit to Zaire before going to Algiers, while President Siad Barre of Somalia visited Libya on his way to Algiers; Prime Minister Abdul Razak of Malaysia; Presidents Kaunda, Zambia, and Ngouabi, Congo; President Bongo, Gabon; Mrs Bandaranaike of Sri Lanka; and President Senghor, Senegal, who arrived in Algiers from Paris. Also present were President Sadat, Egypt; Mr. Asad, Lebanon; Sheikh Mujib Rahman, Bangladesh; and Col. Gaddafi, Libya.

Forty-four Liberation movements recognised by the OAU attended the summit. Leaders included Mr. Sam Nujuma, president of the South West Africa People Organisation (SWAPO), Mr. Aristides Pereira, Secretary General of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC), and Senhor Marcelino Dos Santos, vice-president for the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique (Frelimo). Exiled Prince Sihanouk of Cambodia and Mr. Nguyen Huu Tho, the Vietcong leader, also attended,

against protest from South Vietnam. Both men were welcomed at the airport by President Boumediene and with a 21-gun salute.

Seven new members were accepted. They are Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Oman, Qatar, Peru and Malta. Malta was accepted to membership on her undertaking to close foreign military bases by 1979. Acceptance of the seven states brought the number of the non-aligned states to about 80.

Addressing the 17-nation preparatory committee, the Algerian Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdelaziz Bonteflika, who was later elected chairman of the Ministerial Council, called on non-aligned nations to join the international movement towards détente to establish a new world order "based on balance of interests rather than balance of power". He noted that while cooperation was replacing confrontation in relations between the superpowers "the situation in the Third World remains characterised by relation of domination and exploitation".

In a three-point proposal submitted for consideration by the summit, the Libyan Foreign Minister, Mr. Labidi, called for a "new definition" and stricter interpretation of non-alignment.

The proposal called for exclusion of US and Soviet navies from the Mediterranean and removal of mines placed during "colonialist and imperialist wars". The big powers should also pay reparation to their former colonies. The Libyan proposal backed by some countries including Somalia, Burundi, Equatorial Guinea and the Cambodian Government-in-exile of Prince Sihanouk, was seen as an embarrassment to some states, whose leaders were present at the summit, and who still have foreign military bases. Morocco and Ethiopia have US military communications bases, while Cyprus has a British military base. Malta has a British naval base but pledged that agreement on the base would not be renewed when it expires in 1979. There are also French bases in Senegal and Chad and French army units in Ivory Coast, Gabon and Niger.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) sent its chief executive to the summit. President Allende of Chile was unable to attend because of the political situation in his country, while Gen. Idi Amin had requested to be protected by Black September commandos. The previous three summits were in Belgrade, 1961, Cairo, 1964, and in Lusaka, 1970. (A full report on the conference from our correspondent in Algiers will appear next week.)

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