NIGERIAN TIDE

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Assembly debate continues...

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HOW TO ELECT MR PRESIDENT

Final vote likely today

by our political correspondent

THE CONSTITUENT Assembly is believed now to be considering the recommendations in the Draft Constitution for the election of the President and the Vice-President, according to usually competent sources.

The draft recommends that: There shall be a President and a

Four zones

Vice-President of the Republic who shall be elected on the same ticket.

THE President shall be Head of State and Head of Government of the Federation and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

The Vice-President shall depulise as chairman of Executive Council meetings whenever the President is absent, and also in such other committees where the President is the chairman and the Vice-President is a member.

The Vice-President shall be the chairman of the National Economic Council. He shall, in addition, assume such other functions as may be assigned to him by the President.

MODE OF ELECTION: The President and the Vice-President shall be elected by direct popular vote in a national election.

The election shall be held on the first Saturday in December every four years. A newly elected President and his Vice-President shall be inaugurated not later than one month after election.

ZONING: For purposes of Presidential elections the country shall be divided into four geographical zones to be known as zones 1, 2, 3, and 4.

These zones shall further be grouped into Group 'A' consisting of zones 1 and 2 and Group 'B' consisting of zones 3 and 4.

Any two Nigerian citizens by birth can nominate any candidate for any of the offices of the President or Vice-President. There shall be submitted to the chairman of the Electoral Commission a Presidential ticket containing the two names — one for the Presidential candidate and the other for Vice-Presidential candidate.

Every presidential ticket shall contain one name from zones in Group 'A' and the other from zones in Group 'B'.

ROTATION AMONG THE ZONES: In the initial election following the adoption of this constitution, presidential candidates can come from any of the zones. In subsequent elections, presidential nominations can only be accepted from zones other than those that have already provided a president.

The rotation shall continue until there has been a president from each zone.

(Continued on page 16)



●DR UDO UDOMA
Chairman, Constituent Assembly

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₦.045 STOCKFISH LOST IN TRANSIT

DETECTIVES from the state CID Headquarters, Port Harcourt, have stepped up investigation into the loss in transit of 206 bales of stockfish from Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) warehouse, Port Harcourt.

The stockfish, estimated at more than ₦45,000 were said to be the property of the Nigerian National Supply Company (NNSC) in the state capital.

According to sources close to the office of the NNSC at the wharf, the consignment was to be transported to the company's warehouse at 5, Kennedy Street, D Line, Diobu, Port Harcourt.

The transporter who loaded the stockfish into a trailer is having a close chat with the police in connection with the disappearance of the bales of stockfish.

It was gathered that the driver, instead of delivering the 206 bales of stockfish, diverted to an unknown place.

Long service award



EVERY year, Dunlop Nigerian Industries Limited awards certificates and engraved silver trays to employees who had worked for 10 years with the company.

The latest in the series took place recently at the company's boardroom where the managing director, Mr L. J. Tompsett, presented the awards.

Picture shows the company's personnel manager, Mr J. O. Olusoga (right), receiving his 10-year service certificate from the managing director, Mr L. J. Tompsett.

Korean team pledges faith

THE leader of the visiting Korean Economic Delegation, Mr Gye Jang Hwan, has given an assurance of his government's willingness to execute all the projects earlier agreed upon with Nigeria.

He gave the pledge in Lagos, when he and three other members of his team paid a courtesy call on the Federal Commissioner for Economic Development, Dr Omoniyi Adewoye, in his office.

Mr Hwan, who is Korea's vice-minister in the Ministry of External Affairs, indicated that his delegation would, during the visit, finalise arrangements on the implementation of a number of development projects in Nigeria.

These include the expansion of the existing 260 hectares of poldor rice farm at Peremabiri in the Niger Delta Basin to 1,200 hectares and ultimately to 6,000 hectares and the establishment of an agricultural mechanisation training school in the area.

Others are the feasibility studies by Korean experts on a possible dam site on the Niger or Nun River for flood control, hydro-electric power generation and irrigation purposes; and supply of technicians and training of Nigerian technical personnel for the projects.

ABSENTEE OFFICIALS BLAMED

THE Military Governor of Imo State, Commodore A. Lawal has blamed the "wasteful damage" done to several water pipes along Aba-Obikabia road on the inefficient road designs by government officials whom, he said, relied on paper work designs, instead of "on the spot inspection of the roads", before approving their contracts.

He made the statement when he visited the Owerri, Nekede, Umuezeala, Okpala and Aba-Obikabia new road projects under construction.

Commodore Lawal directed that all the valves of the damaged water pipes be recovered in order to safe-guard the pipes from further damage and that the state Water Corporation be contacted for necessary action before the continuation of the road work.

He also directed that a building which constituted an obstacle to the new 27 kilometres road construction be immediately demolished.

Accompanied by the site engineer of the Niger Construction Company Limited (NIGERCAT), Mr S. Mallah, Governor Lawal drove through the whole length of the road.

Mr Mallah told the governor that his company would complete the earth work on the road before February 15, 1978 and that the base and stabilising job already done on the road was up to a distance of eight kilometres.

At the Owerri-Nekede and Umuezeala road projects being handled by Oziobo Engineering Company Limited, Commodore Lawal told the officials to speed up their work so as to ensure the timely take-off of the proposed College of Technology there.

Road builders and damaged water pipes

Lawal tours projects site



COMMODORE LAWAL

Get registered for the 1979 elections It is your right

Nigerian mission in Iran moves up

NIGERIA is to raise the level of her diplomatic representation in Teheran, Iran to ambassadorial status to bring it on a par with that of Iran in Lagos.

This was announced in a joint communique issued in Teheran at the end of the five-day official visit to Iran by the Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Shehu Yar'Adua.

The visit was at the invitation of the Iranian Prime Minister, Mr Jamshid Amouzegar.

The communique said the two sides discussed possibilities of expanding trade, economic and technical co-operation in such fields as petroleum, petroleum-based industries, natural gas, mining, agriculture, training, research and technology.

The two countries agreed to exchange delegations to explore and identify areas for such co-operation.

It was also decided that a delegation from each country would visit the other during the first half of the year.

According to the communique, the discussions between the two sides also covered problems of Africa, particularly Southern Africa.

The Nigerian Association of University Teachers (NAUT) has demanded the removal of the vice chancellor of the University of Benin, Professor T. M. Yesufu.

The association which also called on the Federal Government to institute a commission of inquiry into the affairs of the university demanded among other things, the dissolution of the institution's provisional council.

Briefing the press on the outcome of the Association's general meeting at the University of Ife, its chairman Dr A. Omoyle said the association had for sometime, watched with concern, the protracted crisis at UNIBEN since the appointments of Professor Yesufu as vice chancellor and the reconstitution of the provisional council.

Dr Omoyle accused the vice chancellor of high-handedness and the council of taking unilateral action which had continued to militate against the academic life of the institution.

He spoke of the crisis of confidence in the institution, between the institution's authorities on one hand and the students and lecturers on the other hand.

The continued crisis had led to the closure of the university, the rustication of some student leaders and the termination of appointments of some of the lecturers who were executive members of the association.

He declared: "Under the present reign of terror prevailing at UNIBEN, an atmosphere conducive to free inquiry, free flow of ideas and a subjective analysis of issues which are the fundamental conditions for the pursuit of academic excellence are unobtainable".

In order to return normalcy at the institution, he said that his association was of the view that the vice chancellor must be removed, the provisional council dissolved while a judicial inquiry must be set up to ascertain the role played by any individual either directly or indirectly in the affairs of the institution and the consequence of such roles on the academic life of the university.

He announced that the association had declared January 25 this year as a lecture-free day as a mark of solidarity with their colleagues at the UNIBEN.

DONS WANT V—C REMOVED

EDITORIAL

SUCH ARRANT NONSENSE!

THE APPEAL by the authorities of the Nigeria Airways in Port Harcourt to passengers against tempting its employees with bribes is such obviously arrant nonsense. And must they yield to such temptations? The Airways should have directed the appeal to its management. It is part of the functions of any management to ensure that its employees carry out clearly laid down policies. And so, it is the duty of the management of the Airways to insist that all its employees should keep to the side of the law.

GIVING, demanding and accepting bribes is a criminal offence. And no traveller who is not put in a compromising position will contemplate offering a bribe to the Airways staff for the fun of it all. Some travellers yield to the demands for bribes otherwise called "bread" only when they stand the risk of missing their flights with their "okay" tickets in their pockets. There are a few businessmen in the world who would rather miss an appointment that could yield a million naira than give in to the demand of a corrupt airline official who came along and said: "Give me ten naira 'bread' or else ..." and the "or else" can take several forms. Would the businessman yield to the demand or would he refuse? And if he yielded, would it be said it was bribery or would it be its proper name, EXTORTION?

THE SANCTIMONIOUS humbugs of the Nigeria Airways suggested rather innocuously that maybe some passengers give in too quickly when the proper thing would have been for them to stand on their rights. They could indeed insist on their rights and miss the flight after all? The authorities of the Airways know the true position of things at the Port Harcourt and other airports. They know that the degree of extortion that goes on comes close to organised business. Which is very disgraceful for a national airline.

AS LONG as the extortion goes on, there is no point preaching honesty to the public. When the Airways evolves a mechanism of keeping its employees honest, it will find a good degree of honesty in air travellers. The moment passengers with valid, okay tickets can board flights comfortably, without discrimination whatsoever; when the officials of the Airways stop arranging flights for fees or favour for some businessmen; when they stop issuing boarding cards to their relations and friends who made no previous booking to the detriment of other passengers, then and only then can they talk about honesty.

APPARENTLY, the Federal Commissioner for Civil Aviation, Professor William Osisioma, is doing his best to clean the Augean stables. But his efforts are being thwarted at every turn by some employees who have for long been living on unearned income. For his efforts to bear fruition, he has really to put his foot down all the time.

REVENUE ALLOCATION IS A CHALLENGE

THERE is yet no mathematical principle, derived or underived that can solve the Nigerian revenue allocation crisis. All that is needed is an ideology based on realization and harmony. Those in the majority and therefore invariably in power must not forget a valuable verse of the national anthem: "In brotherhood we stand".

No regime has been found to be perfect in its ruling career, yet this regime cannot afford to fail to get the country an acceptable revenue allocation formula.

If after all our debates, a near perfect revenue allocation principle is not arrived at, it will look very disappointingly funny. Just like the starter of a relay race capping other competitors but finally handing over the baton to the wrong man.

Much has been said on this subject, but like a problem-child, advice and occasional caning must never be cut of stock if it is not to be get spoil. To that effect therefore, I saw congrats to earlier contributors.

Be that as it may, I will suggest that the Federal Military Government (FMG) sets up a team that will study the problems and needs of our oil-producing areas for the sake of promoting equal development.

I am always worried when I hear of this or that top government official going to visit areas of big industrial projects while forgetting that these projects are given shape by our oil wealth, produced from the impoverished areas of both the Rivers and Bendel States.

The Constituent Assembly should consider revenue allocation a challenge of a hydran headed nature, which the assembly must not take for granted.

Finally I would add that the success or failure of the assembly and the solid foundation of the target year 1979, depends much on what the assembly arrives at on this sensitive issue of revenue allocation.

FRIDAY N. KPELO
Dere

PUBLIC OPINION FORUM

PLEASE EXTEND THAT OPERATION

THE recent announcement by the Ministry of Education, Rivers State, that more than 200 graduate teachers with the Rivers State Government are required to show their certificates to the educational authorities, should be endorsed by everybody in the state.

Since after the last civil war, lots of teachers, both indigenes and expatriates have been employed to reduce the shortage of teachers in the state. The Ministry of Education has given sufficient time to those teachers who could not produce any original certificates at the time of their employment.

If until now, these teachers are unable to produce any documentary evidence as proof of attainment of educational qualifications they claimed, then they are responsible for any drastic measures taken against them by the educational authorities.

The Ministry of Education should extend the "Operation Show your Certificates" exercise to other grades of teachers both in primary and post-primary institutions. This will expose a lot of fake teachers who have made the Rivers State a fertile place for operation.

I am appealing to the Ministry of Education and other educational authorities to full out those teachers who are guilty of academic fraud and deal ruthlessly with them.

D. W. PEREBO
Yola

Press and freedom

MUCH has been said about freedom of the Nigerian press. And the agitation for the press freedom continues to echo in all arms of our media.

Before I write any further, I wish to define the press in my own style. Press is a media of expression of the people, by the people and for the people.

I therefore relate the press as a tool of any democratically constituted sovereign state.

History has it that Nigeria was once physically and politically enslaved by professional imperialists. Sequel to this, our forefront political protagonists effectively used the press as their only "sword" to win freedom for Nigeria.

However, freedom of a nation does not necessarily mean that the citizens are free to commit any sort of crime.

In this circumstance lie there no "FREEDOM OF THE PRESS" in the Nigerian constitution.

TOM SUBAI
Port Harcourt

Draft rent edict

THE Rivers State Government should as a matter of urgency promulgate a rent edict in the state, as is the case in other states of the federation.

This is because our shylock landlords are making things difficult for members of the public. No one now lives in our towns without feeling the pinch of inflated house rents.

It is a well known fact that houses without electricity, modern toilet facilities and others etc are rented out at exorbitant amounts. And the heritage increases at most every month.

The government should act fast on this issue.

SABASTINE U. NWOSU
Ahoada

Solve problem of transportation

FROM all I know the Rivers State Transport Corporation was not established only for profit making, but to minimize the problems of transportation.

As a matter of fact, the R.S.T.C. is in position to help solve these problems. Time without number, members of the public have raised daily outcry, yet no changes has been noted.

Does it mean that those responsible do not look into this matter. Other states have buses financed by the Governments to check the problems encountered by people. I wonder why that of the Rivers State should be an exception.

I call on the authorities concern to see into this matter now.

MONICA CHINDA
Port Harcourt

Nembe—PH road: When?

I will like to know when the Nembe-Port Harcourt Road project will be completed. I am not from that part of the Rivers State, but I think that road is very important.

Right now people travelling to Port Harcourt from the Brass Local Government area make their journey through the sea route. That route is obviously more tedious than what would have been obtained if the Nembe-Port Harcourt Road was completed.

This road should be completed to boost the economy of the riverine areas of the Rivers State.

T. OKAYOR
Yenka





₦84m earmarked for Warri port

from George Kedo

THE Federal Military Government is to spend N84 million in the construction of the new Warri Port while three million naira would be spent in the rehabilitation of the old Warri Port.

In addition, ten million naira will also be used to construct the Ogunu Port.

These facts were disclosed at Warri by the Federal Commissioner for Transport, Col. M. Magoro while exchanging views with the Olu of Warri, Ikenuwa II during the commissioner's tour of Delta ports.

The commissioner said he was highlighting on the construction of these ports owing to the fact that iron, steel complex to be constructed in the country would need the utilisation of better ports in addition to other transportation services to boost the economy of the country.

Col Magoro expressed the hope that the expansion of the inland waterways department in Warri would be completed before the end of the third development plan period.

He therefore urged every one to cooperate with the Federal Government in all its plans in executing its development programme for the overall benefit of the country.

Thanking and assuring the Olu of Warri who had requested for a permanent way to be cut along his usual road passage now being blocked through dredging process, the commissioner said that he would ensure that the problem of the passage is solved.

After being briefed by the project manager of Julius Berger (Nig.) Ltd., Mr Peschel in charge of the ports projects, the commissioner directed that the Warri Ports Authority should see to it that roads along the ports were well linked up with those being constructed by the Ministry of Works.

LAND OWNER KICK

WORK on the site of the Nestlé Estates Nigeria farm project being undertaken by Equatorial Guinea returnees in the Isuata Ngwa Local Government area of Imo State has grounded.

This was owing to a protest launched by the natives of Umuoma, Obinala, and Obingwa all in the local government council area, following alleged failure of the Federal Military Government and the Imo State Government to pay compensation for the 50 hectares of farmland.

According to reports from the area, angry villagers stormed the project site and warned the returnees to stay clear from the area.

A spokesman of the villagers, Mr Simpson Madubia told the Nigerian Tide in Owerri that members of his community were not satisfied with the "ownership of the project" as neither the Federal nor the Imo State government was ready to pay for the ownership.

According to the spokesman, the villagers had not been informed whether the ownership of the project had been transferred to the Imo State government or whether the Federal Government was still sponsoring it.

Mr Madubia made it clear that the villagers had resolved not to allow further work on the site until their land issue had been fully compensated.

Danjuma registers for the voting

Reports from various parts of the country indicated that the country's leaders were the first to be registered for the 1979 general elections, which exercise began last Saturday.

Right, the army chief of staff, Lt-General Theophilus Danjuma, is being registered in Lagos by Mr Gholahan Shadare, a chief electoral officer.

In Bendel State, Governor Abdullahi and his family registered in Benin City.

Commodore Abdullahi (left) receives his registration cards from the Bendel State Electoral Commissioner, Mr U. C. Halim, after being registered.

BRIEFS FROM THE STATES

Owerri

Dr Reginald A. Ibe, Chief Medical Health, Owerri, Imo State, has said that public health which entails preventive and curative measures needs the co-operation of everybody in a community.

He was making the statement at a lecture which includes measures on the overall health services programme carried out by local health officials in Aboh and Ikeduru areas of the Owerri local government council.

The health public government discussed various programmes listed for days.

Enugu

Power cuts in the Eastern Headquarters of the Nigeria Electric Power Authority, would continue until further notice, an announcement by the Authority's Public Relations Officer, Mr A. O. Amobi, has said in Enugu.

According to the statement the Authority regretted the power inconvenience but said that, "relentless efforts had been recorded to minimise the inconveniences to the consumers".

Mr Amobi appealed to consumers to avoid wastage of power by co-operating with the authority through switching off unnecessary electrical appliances.

Jos

THE WORKSHOP on Nigeria's national policy on education organised by the Nigerian Association for Educational Administration and Planning (NAEAP) will take place in the University of Jos on Tuesday 28th and 29th, 1978.

The workshop is a follow-up on aspects of the association's conference of its last convention in October, said year.

It would examine in detail all relevant sections of the national policy on education and discuss a total of twelve papers to be presented by educational experts drawn from all over the country and abroad.

Ubakala

THE traditional head of Ubakala community in the Isuama/Umuahia local government area of Imo State, Chief J. I. Onukwue made a total donation of over N25,000 to humanitarian and youth organisations in Nigeria and contributions towards the development of his community during the last year.

Among the beneficiaries were the South African Relief Fund, the Nigerian Union of Journalists, the Imo State Welfare Council and the Young Men Christian Association.

In his address at the 42 annual general conference of the Ubakala Improvement Union (Federated) held at Ubakala, Chief Onukwe called on the Federal Military and state governments of Nigeria to direct their attention and resources to the solution of social and economic problems facing the common people.

'OUR CLIMATE GOOD FOR ALL CROPS'

THE senior agricultural officer for Onitsha zone, Mr G. U. Mogbalu, has declared that since Nigerian climate is well suited for production of diverse food stuffs, there is no justification in importing such food stuffs from overseas countries.

Addressing a refresher course for agricultural officers from Ihiala, Idemili, Nnewi, Anambra and Onitsha local government areas of Anambra State, Mr Ughalu said the course was meant to brief the participants to educate farmers use fertilizer, and on the system of crop rotation.

The participants were expected to enlighten farmers on methods of storage and marketing designed to edge out middle men who exploited both the farmers and the consumers.

The course was attended by 40 agricultural officers from the zone and was sponsored by the National Accelerated Food Production.

Lagos

A 44-year-old trader, Thomas Ehigwu of 24, Tokunboh Street, Lagos, has been sentenced to a fine of N50 or in the alternative to serve a nine-month jail term for profiteering.

He was found guilty by the Lagos Price Control Court for selling four cartons of Heineken beer to Mr Akanni Shadipe for N48 instead of the controlled price of N28.80k.

Imposing sentence on the trader, the presiding judge, Mr Justice Olavinka Okunribido wondered why after 12 months of the existence of the Price Control Decree, some traders still pretended not be aware of it.

Get registered for the 1979 election. It is your right

COURT JAILS ITS EXHIBIT KEEPER

THE law of the country is so set up that no one can outrun it by travelling overseas, the Port Harcourt chief Magistrate has noted.

Mr E. W. Appah who was giving judgment on a charge of forgery and stealing preferred against a court exhibit keeper of the chief Magistrate's court, Godfrey Obe said the duty of the court was not to dump people into prison. Whatever action court took was merely to serve as a deterent to others.

"We administer justice and I see no reason a court worker in your position should involve yourself in such indiscipline", he told the accused.

Chief Magistrate Appah told the accused that the court had expected him to be of good character and an example as a court worker; "But you have so disgraced the whole court".

The exhibits which included Barclays Bank cheque for ₦1,500, International Bank cheque for ₦15,000, ₦462 in cash and other items entrusted to the accused later got missing.

Obe denied being responsible for the loss.

He claimed that he handed the exhibit over to Mr Humphrey Amadi when he Obe was going on leave.

A handwriting expert told the court that the signature in the register of custody of the exhibits was that of the accused and not that of Amadi.

The prosecution told the court that Obe in his answer to a query issued by his boss, had stated that Amadi refused to sign for the exhibits.

He was found guilty for making away with the exhibits and forging a signature on the exhibit register.

The court sentenced him to two years imprisonment without option of fine.

Four Seas club elects officers

The Four Seas Youth Association (FOSYA) of the Four Seas Christian Council Project in Port Harcourt elected new officers of the association for the current year.

The outgoing executives were the first officers to serve in the association which was founded in August 1976.

The following persons were elected during the elation: Mr G. O. Onumbu, president; Mr S. E. Lawson, vice-president; Mr Roners C. Orji, re-elected secretary; Mr Hilary Ohoh Assistant secretary. Others include Mr Ikonna Uchewivo, re-elected financial secretary; Mr G. S. Abili (former president), treasurer; Mr P. Ikiriko, auditor and Mr Fintan McFinn Rav, publicity/social secretary.

Mr F. O. Mbata, Mr Emuchay I. and Miss Rebecca Cole were elected ex-officio members.



Registration: Council boss warns registration officers

The chairman of the Yenagoa local government council, Mr E. S. Woko has advised registration officers for the area to put in all their efforts and ensure that every person above the age of 18 registered for the 1979 elections.

He gave the advice after registering at his home town, Ekowe.

Chairman Woko urged registration officers to very carefully study the little pamphlets produced by FE DECO and enlighten the public.

He explained that any act of carelessness or lack of interest in the performance of their duties would affect the country as a whole.

Above, at Ekowe, where he registered, Mr Woko, receives his card from the registration officer.

Man dies at 120

THE death has occurred of Mr Garnick Ekesiba Nwaeleta, aged 120 years.

He died at his home town, Uju in the Ogba-Egbema district of Rivers State after a brief illness.

Late Nwaeleta is survived by many sons and daughters and grand children among whom are Goodluck Nwaeleta, Davidson Nwaeleta and Silk Nwaeleta.

STUDENT WHO STOLE CHEQUE IMPRISONED

A 17-YEAR-OLD student of the Ascension High School Elema, Emmanuel Amadi alias Loveday Kenwi has been sentenced to six months imprisonment by a chief magistrate court in Port Harcourt.

The prosecution alleged that the accused on June 14 last year forged a Pan African Bank cheque No. 1,428037 for ₦150, purporting it to show that the cheque was genuinely issued by Mr Marcus Kenwi.

An accountant of the Club Road branch of the bank, Mr Godwin Opiah told the court that he knew the accused on the day of the incident when accused presented the cheque.

Witness said it was later found that the signature on the cheque was irregular with the specimen signature of the owner of the cheque.

When accused was interviewed he appeared ignorant of who owned the account whose cheque he was cashing.

An assistant superintendent of police, Mr Joseph Ojo told the court that the accused made a confessional statement before him voluntarily.

According to the prosecution, the father of the accused, had told police that the son left school in class three in 1976 and had refused to go back to school.

In his judgment, Chief Magistrate Nzeribe remarked that the accused was "a self confessed fellow".

Stock exchange foundation laid

More Nigerian business enterprises have been urged to make use of the Stock Exchange Market.

The appeal was made in Lagos by the Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Shehu Yar'Adua, while laying the foundation stone of the stock exchange house.

The building, sited at Customs Street in Central Lagos, is a joint venture between the Daily Times of Nigeria and the Nigeria Stock Exchange.

Brigadier Yar'Adua pointed out that the advantages to a firm of being quoted on the Exchange were numerous.

He remarked that at the commencement of the indigenisation decree, it was estimated that the shares of 100 companies would be quoted on the Stock Exchange as against 34 presently dealt in, among which were very few wholly indigenous businesses.

The Chief of Staff felt that this was not satisfactory, especially bearing in mind that when the indigenisation exercise must have been completed, further growth of the Exchange would depend on the willingness of indigenous business organisation to seek quotation.

He again reiterated the objectives of the indigenisation decree which, he said, is that citizens of this country should hold the controlling interest in their nation's economy".

After laying the foundation stone, Brigadier Yar'Adua third from right, inspected the office of the Daily Times.

He was conducted round by the managing director, Mr P. Dele Cole, fourth from right.



Musical play at varsity

The Zenith Club of the University of Port Harcourt is to host a musical play, "New-testament and Biobelemabi" on January 25.

The play which was produced and directed by Mr Paul Wonika will take place at the University's refectory at 7.30 p.m.

Top government officials including the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Ekong are among the distinguished guests who will watch the occasion.

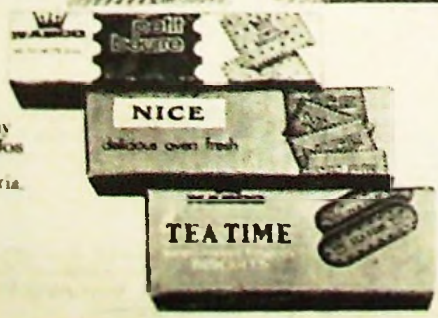
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Maintenance authority for highways

A NEW maintenance organisation for Federal Highways is being set up. The Federal Commissioner for Works, Mr Oberu Aribiah, has announced.

It is expected that by the end of the current plan period, this ministry would be able to carry out direct maintenance of the 27,000 kilometres of federal roads.

He said about 20,000 employees would be trained or retrained to man the new organisation.

Each of the 52 districts to be created under the programme would have a general duty crew to cover routine maintenance works, supported by specialised team which would be largely mechanised.

The commissioner explained that in order to achieve these aims, a programme for the construction of building complexes for offices, stores, classrooms and workshop machinery, tools and spare parts had been developed.

In furtherance of this programme, he pointed out, two functional pilot projects had been established at Azare and Benin City bringing to about 900 kilometres, highways under direct Federal Government, as well as routine and periodic maintenance.

Besides, six more districts have been established in Calabar, Ibadan, Ijebu-Ode, Onitsha, Lagos (Metropolitan) and Lagos (outer-district), while those to be sited in Ilorin, Jos, Kaduna, Kano, Maiduguri, Makurdi, Minna, Owerri, Sokoto and Yola, were expected to be set up in March, this year.

Mr Aribiah said that the building programme in respect of the project had been delayed because of difficulties involved in land acquisition.

The commissioner disclosed that the financial expenditure on the Federal Highway Maintenance up to date was N30.324 million out of which N27.104 million was spent on importing plant and equipment, N2.438 million on buildings while N5.782 million was paid as consultancy fees.



MR OBERU ARIBIAH
Federal Commissioner for Works

Treasury clerk on theft charge

An accounts clerk of the Sub-Treasury, Owerri, Imo State, Anthony Igwe, has appeared before the chief magistrate's court, charged with conspiracy and stealing.

The prosecution alleged that Anthony Igwe, on October 31, 1977 did conspire with some unknown persons still at large, to commit felony, namely stealing.

The prosecution further stated that between the months of October and November, 1977, Anthony Igwe, being an accounts clerk of the Sub-Treasury, Owerri, stole N10,058.51 property of the state government.

He pleaded not guilty to each of the two charges and was granted bail in the sum of N2,000 with two sureties in the same amount each.

The case was adjourned to March 29, 1978 for hearing.

'READING HABIT IS ESSENTIAL'

TEACHERS have been called upon to teach their pupils reading habits by personal examples and to encourage them to read independently, intelligently and as a matter of interest.

The Oyo State Commissioner for Education, Mr Abiodun Babalola made the call while delivering his address at the opening of a headmasters seminar on school libraries.

Mr Babalola remarked that access to books was one of the most important ways of acquiring knowledge.

He emphasized the need for a strong and lasting foundation for effective reading habits among pupils in primary schools.

This was necessary because most people were not able to adjust in later life once such an opportunity was missed.

Mr Babalola expressed dissatisfaction at the general apathy to reading among the general populace, especially among teachers who were expected to impart knowledge to others.

Library Board

In an effort to meet the needs of the reading public therefore, the Oyo State Government, the commissioner disclosed, had provided 20 public libraries throughout the state.

He stated that efforts were further being made to provide more public libraries in and outside the state capital. A state Library Board would also soon be set up, he said.

Free Education Association of Nigeria

1978 RIVERS STATE SCHOLASHIP AWARDS

AND

Launching of the Rivers State Branch of the Association

The Free Education Association of Nigeria is awarding 10 (ten) final year Secondary School Scholarships for the1978/1979 Session to sons and daughters of poor Nigerians of RIVERS STATE ORIGIN on the occasion of the Rivers State Branch of the Association.

THE AWARDS ARE DONATED BY LAWYER GANI FAWEHINMI FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE FREE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA.

CONDITIONS OF THE AWARDS:

1. You must be a final year student in a Secondary School in the Rivers State.
2. You must produce a letter of recommendation from your Principal.
3. You must NOT be a son or a daughter of a rich parent.

INTERVIEW:

All applicants are to report for interview at Port Harcourt City Council Hall.

TIME: 10.30 a.m.

DATE: Wednesday the 1st of February 1978.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS:

Presentation of the awards to the successful applicants of Rivers State Origin will be made at the same place (Port-Harcourt City Hall) on Saturday the 4th of February 1978 at 1 p.m.

MOTTO:

Our Crusade is for the Abolition of Poverty from the face of Nigeria. Let's abolish Poverty in the midst of plenty. Free Education at all levels must be the first step towards this objective. Let us do it Now.

General Secretary,
Free Education Association of Nigeria,
28, Sabiu-Ajose Crescent,
Surulere,
Lagos State.

HOME AFFAIRS

SELF-RELIAN
RIVER BASI

The concept of River Basin Authority is not an entirely new phenomenon in Nigeria. What is spectacular is the increased drive by the Federal Military Government in setting up Federal-owned rather than State-owned River Basin Authorities.

Indeed, over a decade ago, some state governments established pilot irrigation schemes which today, crystallized into Sokoto-Rima River Development Authority, Chad Basin Development Authority and Hadeija-Jama are River Basin Development Authority.

The history of the River Basins Development Authorities began in 1963 when the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) embarked on the study of the land and water resources of the Sokoto-Rima River Basin.

The study, which was completed in 1968 recommended a phased development of the basin by the construction of a number of dams to irrigate about 200,000 hectares of fertile land suitable for the growing of rice, wheat, sugarcane and some other crops.

In 1964, the Lake Chad Basin Commission was founded with membership drawn from all the neighbouring countries sharing the basin of the lake. The member-states are Nigeria, Niger, Chad and Cameroun.

In 1965, the commission requested UNESCO and FAO to conduct feasibility studies of the land and water resources of the Lake Chad basin. The studies, which were completed in 1970 showed that the Nigerian side of the basin has more than 400,000 hectares of fertile land which could be irrigated with water from the lake.

The acceptance of the reports on the Sokoto-Rima River basin and the Lake Chad basin by the Federal Military Government led to the establishment of the Sokoto-Rima River Basin Development Authority and the Chad Basin Development Authority by decree in 1973.

The year, 1965 in which the study of the Lake Chad basin started also featured the beginning of the study of the Kano River basin by the USAID. The study culminated in the establishment of the Kano River project and the construction of Tiga Dam by the Kano State Government.

As a result of the success of the Sokoto-Rima River Basin Development Authority and the Chad Basin Development Authority coupled with the determination of the Federal Military Government in ensuring that the entire water resources of our country are developed, the government decided that the whole country be divided into eleven River Basins Development Authorities.

Hence, in June, 1976 the Federal Military Government promulgated decree No. 25 titled "River Basins Development Authorities Decree, 1976" which established the following ten River Basins Development Authorities.

(i) The Sokoto-Rima River Basin Development Authority (ii) The Hadeija-Jama'are River Basin Development Authority (iii) The Chad Basin Development Authority (iv) The Cross River Basin Development Authority and the Anambra-Imo River Basin Development Authority (v) The Upper Benue River Basin Development Authority (vi) The Lower Benue River Basin Development Authority (vii) The Anambra-Imo River Basin Development Authority (viii) The Niger River Basin Development Authority (ix) The Ogun-Oshun River Basin Development Authority (x) The Benin River Basin Development Authority.

The eleventh River Basin Authority, the Niger Delta Basin Development Authority was established in August, 1976 by the Federal Military Government's Decree No. 37. This Authority was set up under a separate decree in order to give it such powers as to enable it cater for the special development needs of the Niger Delta which is predominantly riverine.

The functions of the River Basins Development Authorities are: to undertake comprehensive development of underground water resources for multi-purpose use, to undertake schemes for the control of floods and erosion and, for watershed management; to construct and maintain dams, dykes, polders, wells, boreholes irrigation and drainage systems; to develop irrigation schemes for the production of crops and livestock and, to lease the irrigated land to farmers or recognised associations, in the locality of the area concerned.

They are to provide water from reservoirs, wells and boreholes for urban and rural water supply schemes in their areas of operation and, to control pollution in rivers and lakes in their areas of operation in accordance with nationally laid down standards.

They are also to resettle persons affected by their works and schemes or, under special resettlement schemes; to develop fisheries and improve navigation on the rivers, lakes, reservoirs and lagoons; to process crops and livestock and, in collaboration with the National Electric Power Authority (NEPA), the River Basins Development Authorities will also generate electricity.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Sokoto-Rima Basin: The Sokoto-Rima Basin's development is based on the conservation of water at five major reservoir sites in the basin for the development of 100,000 hectares of land. The hectarage could be increased with the supplementary use of ground water resources. The first of the five sites is being developed at Bakalori and will be capable of irrigating 30,000 hectares of land. The second site at Kachera has been investigated and it is in its design stage. It is expected to irrigate 34,000 hectares of land.

The storage works at Bakalori was expected to be completed by December, 1977 and, the first 5,000 hectares of land should be ready for irrigation by 1978. Investigation towards the development of the Karaduwa Basin and, the Zauro polders have begun.

Hadeija-Jama'are Basin: With the assistance of the USAID, the studies of Kano River project began twelve years ago. The USAID provided the personnel and equipment and some funding while the local support cost was provided by the then Northern Nigeria Government. The studies resulted in the establishment of the Kano River Project of the Kano State Government.

The project, which centered around Kadawa, its first headquarters, now forms part of the Hadeija-Jama'are River Basin Development Authority's project.

In later years the basin was examined by Schultz with the assistance of the Canadian Government and contributory participation of the Federal Military Government. The report of the examination was ready early in 1977. Phase one of the basin projects will cover about 45,000 hectares of land and it is expected to be completed in 1981.

Lake Chad Basin: The Lake Chad Basin Commission established 13 years ago by the Governments of

by C. C. Ifedig
Abiola Jose
Federal Ministry of In

the Republics of Nigeria, Niger, Chad and Cameroun, provides a formidable forum for meaningful sub-regional economic development and progress embrac-

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Mr Amatari Zuofa, Chairman o

ing all its member-states as well as ensuring self-reliance and solidarity of all the peoples of the member-states of the commission.

The commission is based around the Lake Chad and it is currently developing irrigation facilities with the lake as the main source of irrigation water. This necessitates the establishment of pumping facilities on the shore of the lake.

The Lake Chad Basin's project is being carried out under two stages and the two stages are expected to be completed by 1982/83. The total land area to be developed under the project is about 75,000 hectares. Two other associated projects to the Lake project are the Baga and Kerenowa polders which have a joint development potential of about 45,000 hectares.

Work has started on the pump house, the main supply canal, secondary and tertiary canal layout, power house, roads and settlement in the development area of the lake basin. The Lake Chad project has no serious resettlement problems to solve.

A summit conference of the Heads of State of the commission's member-states was held in Enugu capital of Anambra State from December 1 to December 3, 1977.

During the conference, the participating Heads of member-states, Lt-General Olusegun Obasanjo, Nigeria; President Ahmadu Ahidjo,

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Colonel Zamani Lekwot, Military Governor of the Rivers State in deep conversation with his Bendel State counterpart, Commodre Hussaini Abdullahi during the official launching of the Niger Delta Basin Development Authority (NDBDA) on June 17, 1977 in Port Harcourt.

CE THROUGH
N PROJECTS

tres lie within the territorial space of the Republic of Cameroun. Within Nigeria, the Authority's area spans across the Cross River, Anambra, Imo and Benue States.

About 25 per cent of the land mass of the Authority is allocated to food crops, 12 per cent to tree crops and 20 per cent under forest reserve. The remaining 43 per cent consists of uncultivated agricultural land, agricultural land needing reclaiming, land needing flood control and wasteland.

The major crops of the Basin area are cassava, yams, cocoa-yams, maize, rice, and oil palm. The others are, cocoa, plantains, bananas, vegetables, fruit-trees, ground nuts, beniseed and quinea corn.

The livestock are goats, sheep, fowls and a few pigs. The Atlantic coasts of the Basin are very rich in fishes and shrimps. The Basin constitutes the largest source of timber supply to the country.

The CRBDA is made up of a chairman — Mr O. E. Ikpi and nine other members. The Chairman and four other members were appointed by the Federal Military Government while the remaining five members were drawn from the States concerned as follows: two from the Cross River State and, one each from Anambra, Imo and Benue States.

The Headquarters of the Authority is based in Calabar and it has offices in Enugu, Umuahia and Gboko.

Within the few months of its inception, the Cross River Basin Development Authority has awarded contracts worth N1,225,395 to the Enplan Group of Consulting Engineers which undertook its pre-feasibility study in 1974.

The firm is undertaking the study and the designing of two medium-sized flood-protection and irrigation schemes; one in the Enyong Creek (1,900 hectares) and the other (2,000 hectares) along the Cross River between Ikot Ospora in Akampka local government area of the Cross River State and the southern part of Arochuku local government area of Imo State.

The study, which is expected to be completed within 15 months also covers the designing of five minor food protection irrigation schemes covering a total area of 3,000 hectares and, a scheme in the Anambra, Benue, Cross River and Imo sectors of the Basin.

The Basin Authority plans to establish 13 new hydrological stations and to reappraise 13 existing ones.

Also, during the current financial year, the Authority plans to carry out the studies and the designing of various other projects in Anambra, Benue and Imo sectors of the Basin.



Alhaji Ibrahim El-Yakubu, Federal Commissioner for Water Resources under whose portfolio the River Basin Authorities in the country fall.

The pre-feasibility study of the Cua Iboe River Basin is also being planned. Also, among the other projects of the Authority is the general survey of the surface and the underground water resources and potentials of the Cross River Basin for domestic and allied purposes.

Upper Benue Basin: Development in this basin is concentrated on the Gongola River with a dam at Dadin Kowa. Irrigation and hydro-electricity generation are being planned for the basin as irrigation possibility in the basin is expected to cover 20,000 hectares while power potential is averaged at 146 x 106 kwh annum. The site of the basin at Dindima is also being explored.

Also, Hawal River is being investigated for possible dam site and a further development of about 4,000 hectares of land within the Hawal Valley. The Hawal River is a right bank tributary of the Gongola River. Other river basins being studied in the area are the Donga and the Taraba Rivers.

Lower Benue Basin: The feasibility and pre-engineering studies of the Mada River basin was concluded in 1976 and a follow-up identified project is being considered. The Mada and Doma dams are currently being investigated in detail and work on their designs is in progress.

The dam on the Mada River has a power generating possibility and this coupled with power development at Langalanga will attract multi-purpose projects.

The total possible target development in the Mada Basin is about 9,000 hectares of irrigated land.

Studies are progressing on the Shemankar and the development area within the Lower Niger Basin. In the case of Shemankar, a possible development of 30,000 hectares of land has been identified.

In the other basins, activities so far are limited to investigations aimed at determining possible projects and, development programmes. It is possible that the establishment of various development projects in these basins will begin in the current National Development Plan period.

The basins under this category include the Niger River Basin, the Oguta Oshun River Basin, the Benin River Basin, the Anambra Imo River Basin and the Niger Delta Basin.

However, the Federal Military Government has recently signed a Technical co-operation, Economic and Scientific Agreement with the North Korean Government and, as a result, North Korea has agreed to assist the Niger Delta Basin Development Authority in expanding the Polder Rice Scheme at Peremabiri from 260 hectares to 1,200 hectares; establishment of an Agricultural Mechanization Training School and, in undertaking the feasibility study and site identification of a multi-purpose dam either on the Niger River or Nun River.

The great importance which the Federal Military Government attaches to the development of our river and lake basins is reflected in the allocation of ₦257 million to the River Basin Authorities in the current financial year. And judging from the various projects and the achievements of the River Basin Authorities so far, one is convinced that they hold out good promise to stem the current tide of food fluctuation and, will contribute largely towards ensuring food sufficiency for Nigeria and self-reliance based on the agricultural and water resources of our country.

NBC PROGRAMME

05.40	Drum Signal	RSP/TAPE
05.44	National Anthem and Pledge	"
05.45	Programme Summary	RSP/LIVE
05.50	Morning Prayers	RSP/TAPE
06.00	News At Dawn	NP
06.03	Moment for Thought	"
06.05	From The Nigerian Editorials	"
06.10	Morning Glee (Comm)	RSP/CGR
06.30	State News Summary In English	RSP/LIVE
06.35	OBS Jingle	RSP/TAPE
06.37	Personal Paid Announcement (Comm)	RSP/LIVE
06.57	Moment For Thought	NP
07.00	The News	"
07.10	Your Government And You Next Step	"
07.15	News Talk	"
07.20	Morning Caravan	RSP/LIVE
08.00	News On The Hour	NP
08.03	News Summaries In Edo, Ibo, Fulfulde and Hausa	"
08.15	A Date With 8.15	RSP/CGR
08.45	National Programme Educational Service	NP
09.00	News Summaries In Igbo, Law, Kanuri, Ibo and Yoruba	"
09.15	Traders Special	RSP/CGR
10.00	The News	NP
10.10	Network Programme Promotion NBC Focus Brains Trust	"
10.15	National Programme Educational Service	"
10.30	National Programme Educational Service	"
10.45	National Programme Educational Service	"
11.00	News On The Hour	"
11.03	National Programme Educational Service	"
11.18	National Programme Educational Service	"
1.33	National Programme Educational Service	"
1.48	National Programme Educational Service	"
2.00	News On The Hour	"
2.03	National Programme Educational Service	"
12.18	National Programme Educational Service	"
12.33	Barida Isabel (Gboko Magazine) Ekeere Khana (Ikom Magazine)	RSP/TAPE
13.00	The News	NP
13.10	From The Nigerian Editorials	"
13.15	Announcer's Choice	"
14.00	News on the hour	"
14.03	Sound Radio (Comm)	RSP/CGR
15.00	News on the hour	NP
15.03	Sound Radio (Comm)	RSP/CGR
15.30	State News in English Kwarre and Kalabari	RSP/LIVE
16.00	The News	NP
16.10	Interlude	"
16.15	Music Mix Re	"
16.30	Edeoga and Service	"
16.45	News in Edo, Ibo and Fulfulde	"
17.00	State News in Khana and Kalabari	RSP/LIVE
17.30	Personal Paid Announcement (Comm)	"
17.36	Young can be Rivers State	RSP/TAPE
18.00	News in Hausa, Igbo and Law	NP
18.15	Nigeria in the eighties, the next step	"
18.30	Let's go farming	"
18.25	Ekpe Ene Ekpo'ol	RSP/LIVE
19.00	News Panorama	NP
19.30	African Musical on Records (Comm)	RSP/LIVE
19.45	News In Kanuri, Ibo and Yoruba	NP
20.00	State News In	RSP/LIVE
20.10	State News summaries in Kwarre, Kalabari Khana and Kalabana	RSP/LIVE
20.30	5th Kongresu Sirfi Magazine Prog. Kalabari	RSP/LIVE
	12th Kirike Chiri (Magazine Prog. Okrika)	RSP/TAPE
	19th Kongresu Sirfi Magazine Programme Kalabari	RSP/TAPE
	26th Kirike Chiri (Magazine Programme Okrika)	NP
21.00	News on the hour	"
21.03	Moment for Thought	"
21.05	Animals in Nigerian Folklore Continued	"
	Assembly	"
21.20	Interlude	"
21.30	Forum Brains Trust	"
22.00	The News	"
22.10	News Analysis	"
22.15	Educational Service	RSP/TAPE
22.30	Cultural Landscape	NP
23.00	News On The Hour	LIVE CGR
23.03	My Favourites	DUTY ANNOUNCER
23.15	Evening Worship (Hour Tbd)	NP
23.23	Just For You	RSP/LIVE
00.00	News At Midnight	NP
00.05	Close Down — Prayer and National Anthem	RSP/LIVE

NTV CHANNEL 16 PH

5.45	News in Brief
5.50	Mr Piper
6.15	Sunspot
7.00	Your Health
7.30	World News
7.45	News Translation
8.05	Our Culture
8.30	Our Town (NP)
9.00	Network News
9.25	Papers Today
9.30	You and the Law
10.00	Water World
10.30	Mission Impossible
11.15	News Summary

Realistic decision

MATTERS ARISING WITH



BEREPELE DAVIES

THERE is nothing historic anymore these days about installation ceremonies of traditional rulers except the magnitude of entertainments and refutals thereafter.

But by a dare act of REALISM, King Obaye Abbiye-Suku Amachere X, the newly enstooled Amayanabo of Kalabari, has brought back life and vigour to traditional administration and thus earned for himself and his Kalabari Kingdom (Please I am not a historian) the respect of all the peaceful peoples of the world.

Let it be known that the ruler, traditional or political, who allows the continuity of internal wrangles, by his very attitude of unconcern, to dominate and sabotage progress in his kingdom or area of rule, is by and large an indecisive and unfit head.

In his maiden address to the Kalabari Supreme Council of Chiefs (SE KOBIRI) the first, recalled:

"You all know that some Kalabari chiefs, who were thought to have collaborated with the rebels during the civil war in this country and who in fact fled the Kalabari area in the wake of the liberating Federal forces, were destooled by the Kalabari people. These persons are now a disgruntled lot in our midst, still being resented and sometimes pitied, particularly in the communities of Buguma, Abonnema and Tombia. I have deeply considered this matter and I definitely do not want the situation to live into my reign."

"There are instances in our history of the Amayanabo exercising his sacred prerogative to meet grievous national situations in the over-all interest of the Kalabari people. Only about two months ago, I exercised this sacred prerogative by pouring libation to

INTERCOURSE

AWOMEKASO, our national goddess, which had the desired effect of rescinding the order of Akaso forbidding intercourse between chiefs who had taken an oath demanded by her and those who had refused to take the oath. This single act shattered the spell of tension that had gripped Buguma for about eight months."

As expected of a man charged with the onerous task of rulership, he declared:

"At the end of the civil war, the Federal Military Government declared amnesty in the country. We are an integral part of this great country. Local considerations apart, we cannot justifiably be the odd man out in any form or shape. In the spirit of the Federal Military Government, in exercise of my prerogative as Amanyanabo of Kalabari, I have decided and hereby declare that those chiefs who, for these eight years have been destooled and whose chieftaincies have not yet been filled, are now free to resume their chieftaincies forthwith without let or hindrance whatsoever throughout Kalabari; those whose chieftaincies have already been filled shall be re-accepted as chiefs on being selected to fill chieftaincies other than those from which they were destooled or on creating new chieftaincies, while chiefs who have filled the stools they left vacant on fleeing Kalabari area remain permanent on those stools".

By this single exercise of the sacred prerogative of an Amayanabo, the blockade to progress and of total self destruction of many communities in the Kalabari Kingdom of the Rivers State, has been lifted and or prevented. What a king!

Take the town of Tombia which is in the forefront of this self-destructive joke for instance: As a result of this "who helped the rebels and who ran away" nonsense, no progress has come its way for near ten years now.

I pick Tombia because it is the worst hit by this irresponsible internal strife and squabbles, and of course, that is my home.

Two mighty groups for and against total absorption of the "Returnees" (you remember this word in 1970?) had turned the town into a cold war arena that should see no communal project.

Often, the body is willing, so one group initiates a project only to be halted by all means by the opposing group.

In a situation like this it is only naive to blame the government not to have thrown in anything under the urbanization scheme during the past seven years.

LITIGATIONS

This was so serious a matter that apart from open litigations, fights and other forms of harmful avenues, agents were recruited to monitor neutral sons and daughters of Tombia. One had to exile one's self from one's home to be non-member of either faction.

Happily, the Amayanabo has overruled and all that mess have to be a thing of the past. It is now left for all to heed the call to sanity. All matters relating to destoolment arising from the civil war having been frozen, should anybody, for any reason, torment further trouble in Tombia particularly, the only answer should be indefinite military detention under the auspices of the Government of the Rivers State.

YOUR GIRL

A few days ago, a young man came into my office, telling me he had been to the Nigerian Tide only to discover that I am not a staff. My editor, as he said, told him where to find my office.

I was open to him and honestly, I thought he had come looking for me with a written or an oral rejoinder. But all he had was this complaint against a very important person whom he said goes after his girl.

He wants to write the VIP a stinker, yet he is a civil servant. He wanted to know from me if the idea was sound.

Why does a young man go about giving himself all sorts of troubles? A VIP running after your girl? — Look, the man has no time. It is your girl who runs after him.

Come to think of it, if your girl decides to abandon you for a greater man, why bear grudge against that innocent man? After all, don't you aspire to be great?

Everybody does want to be great so why do you want thunder and rain to burn and wash off greatness?

If your girl suddenly decides to 'Look up' let her go and find your own level.

The calibre of people they want does something like this: if in the military you must be a colonel; on the bench, a judge; in the service — hon. commissioner, permanent secretary or the consultant surgeon in the private sector — the chairman MD (fake or real). That is the level and lots of people are there!

So if your girl finds one in this bracket, you bless, take it easy and let her go. When you get to that level (which you surely will) many will find you.

Meanwhile, your girl keeps telling that very important person that a "useless boy" (that's you) in her office is molesting her for his sake. That VIP is not interested.

His problem is not why worries a girl until you allow that "Stinker" of yours to succeed in ruining your life.

FARE THEE WELL ZEEKY

I had the rare honour of seeing Brother Zeeky Rukari's poetic lips twitter — but in terrible agony of a whole night of wasted blood-flow along a lane in Adelabu Street in Diobu at about 11.10 a.m. on Sunday, January 15, 1978. When it dawned on me that Zeeky is the short form for Ezekiel, it struck me that I was like Prophet Ezekiel taking a message from God in Ezekiel 37:

"I heard the voice of God saying to me: 'Man, can these bones (of Rukari) live again?'

I answered as many as asked me if Zeeky would live again. "Only God knows!"

In a transposed form, I heard it say: "Prophesy over these bones and say to them: 'O dry bones of Zeeky Rukari, hear the word of the Lord.'

"This is the word of the Lord God to these bones: 'I will breathe into you, and you shall live. I will fasten sinews on you, bring flesh upon you, cover my you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord".

The driver and I hurried to the Police barracks in Diobu and we got a press cameraman to accompany us. We collected the living and breathing but incapacitated-talking Zeeky to the Police barracks and with a policeman with a note from the authorities there, we went on to the Nigerian Tide office where we collected a security man and raced for the Casualty Section of the General Hospital.



LATE ZEEKY RUKARI

The doctor on duty who was crowded by people, 'with immediate effect' attended to us and pronounced Zeeky dead where upon we took the body to the mortuary.

Zeeky's corpse was laid to rest in Abua on Friday, January 20, 1978. I was still haunted and heard the voice say again: "Prophesy therefore and say to them, 'These are the words of the Lord God: O my people (who mourn for Zeeky) I will open the grave of Zeeky, and bring him up and restore him to the editorial seat of the Nigerian Tide.

"I will put my spirit into Zeeky and he shall live, and I will settle him on his own soil and you shall know that I the Lord have spoken and will act".

"I shall make a dead but 'living Zeeky' tell the world through the vigilant Police WHO MATCHETED HIM, WHY THEY MATCHED HIM, WHAT THEY GAIN BY SO DOING?"

Zeeky, 'off-beat,' they say, had some funny antics.

He would walk up to you and say: "Ha, Mr. I need 10k for transport," or "Give me 50k for (he signals) for smoking!"

Right in front of you, perhaps before you have done giving him the 10k or the 50k, Zeeky wittingly brings out an handkerchief from his suit breast pocket, wads and wads and wads of currencies in the fivers and tens and you who offer him the 10k or the 50k feel very peeved.

Surely God must speak through Zeeky about who, why and where they matched this easy-going, fluent and creative-talent possessing Zeeky Rukari.

And again, I heard another voice this time from Psalm 62 — ending saying: "In very truth men are a puff of wind, all men are faithless; put them in the balance and they can only rise, all of them lighter than wind. Put no trust in extortion, do not be proud of stolen goods; though wealth breeds wealth set not your heart on it. One thing God has spoken, two things I have learnt: 'Power belongs to God' and True love, O Lord, is Thine.' Thou dost requite a man for his deeds!

Bye, Bye Brother Zeeky!

by S. Simbi Wellington

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CINEMA TONIGHT

PLAZA CINEMA
Presents to-night at 8.30 p.m.

"THE BATTLE OF MIDWAY"

To-day last day. Your last chance to see this unshakable war-action picture full of hell fighters in the most alarming battle ever fought. Starring Charlton Heston, Henry Fonda, James Coburn, Glenn Ford etc.

Classified Adverts

Change of Name

GEORGE—I, formerly known and addressed as William George, now wish to be known called and addressed as William George Eyinaka. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. Pan African Bank Limited, Licencing Authority and the General public should please take note. William G Eyinaka

JACKS—I, formerly known and addressed as Miss Josephine Jacks, now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs Josephine Pre Young Jacks Dasanaowei bearing my former name remain valid. Rivers State Utilities Board should please take note. J.P.Y. Jacks

ADOKIYE—I, formerly known and addressed as Miss Adokiye R. D. Briggs, now wish to be known as Miss Rita R. D. Briggs. Documents bearing my former name remain valid. Nyemoni Grammar School Abonnema in particular and general public take note. Miss Rita R. D. Briggs

ASU—I, formerly called Miss Edna Asu, wish to be known and addressed as Mrs Baiby Mmemekinengim Sam Epelle. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note. Mrs Baiby Mmemekinengim Sam Epelle.

DOKUBO—I, formerly known and addressed as Mrs Bioya Dokubo, now wish to be known and called as Mrs Bioya O. Abili. Documents bearing my former name remain valid. Rivers State Council for Arts and Culture, and the general public please take note. Mrs Bioya O. Abili.

OKULU—I, formerly known and addressed as Miss Mangi Sunday Okulu, now wish to be addressed and known as Miss Mangi Amanyo. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. Rivers State Ministry of Education, the Principal, Ngoma Chiefs Treasury Training College and Teaching Service Commission should take note. Miss Mangi Dansira.

OKURE—I, formerly known as Okure Asuk, now wish to be known and addressed as Emmanuel Ikechukwu Asuk. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. Rivers State Ministry of Education, Government Vocational Training Centre and general public please take note. Emmanuel I. K. Asuk.

NWAHIRI—I, formerly known, called and addressed as Mr Lawrence Nguka Nwahiri, now wish to be known, called and addressed as Mr Lawrence Nwahiri. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note. Lawrence Nwahiri.

WANTED URGENTLY

Experienced Furniture Machinists, Carpenters and Drivers with at least 3 years working experience. Salary very attractive.

Apply in person
To Amakiri Furniture Co. Ltd.,
22, Abagana St. Port Harcourt.

Michelin (Nigeria) Ltd.

Management Positions

VACANT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for appointment as Draughtsmen specializing in Electrical and Fluids.

Applicants should possess O.N.D., Full Technological Certificate or City and Guilds Certificate in related field with at least 2 years compensating practical workshop and drawing office experience in a similar situation.

Intending candidates should write, giving age, qualification, experience and where applicable present position to:

The Factory Manager,
Michelin (Nigeria) Limited,
P. M. B. 5700,
Port Harcourt.

Federal Electoral Commission

Advertisement of

Vacancies

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates to fill the vacant post of a STENOGRAPHER.

QUALIFICATIONS

W. A. S. C. with R. S. A. stage II in Typing and Shorthand with two years working experience. Applicants with lower educational qualification but with R. S. A. Stage II in Typewriting and Shorthand with the relevant experience may be considered.

Applicants who consider themselves qualified for appointment should report for interview in person at the office of the Federal Electoral Commission, Moscow Road, Port Harcourt, bringing along with them the originals of their Certificates, Testimonials etc. on 25th January, 1978 at 10 a.m.

T. T. Omiete
for: Administrative Secretary.

TRADITIONAL RULER INSTALLED

The people of Rumuolukwu in Obio have installed



CHIEF CHRISTOPHER ACHO ODUM

as NKWUMA II of Rumuolukwu on 30th December 1977 amidst rejoicings and dancing.

Pictured are the Owhor holders crowning Chief Odum while the entire Community watched with great joy.

Public Notice

It has been brought to the attention of this Ministry that certain persons are contemplating the construction of unauthorised structures at Abonnema Wharf. The Public is hereby warned that this Ministry has not authorised anyone to build on the site and it will be illegal to put up such structures. Any unauthorised structures on the site will accordingly be demolished.

S. C. Arguba,
for: Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Lands and Survey.

GLAXO

VACANCY

For a Sales Representative

Applications are invited from suitable candidates for the position of a Sales Representative to be based in Aba. Selected candidate will be expected to make regular tours outside Imo State to Anambra, Cross-River and Rivers States and also to Benue State south of River Benue.

Applicants should have a pleasing personality and good command of English language. In addition knowledge of some local languages is desirable.

Qualification: Prospective applicants must possess West African School Certificate with passes in English Language and four other subjects. Interested candidates should apply with photocopies of particulars.

Applications which must be in applicant's own hand writing should be received on or before 15th February 1978 and addressed to —

The Manager,
Glaxo Nigeria Limited,
P. O. Box 543,
ABA.

IN MEMORIAM

In evergreen and affectionate remembrance of our loving mother and grandmother



MRS. BEKIRWARI GRAHAM – DOUGLAS

who slept in the Lord on the 24th January 1973. Mother we love you so much but God love you evermore.

We will continue to do you honour by emulating your Christian ethics.

REST IN PERFECT PEACE.

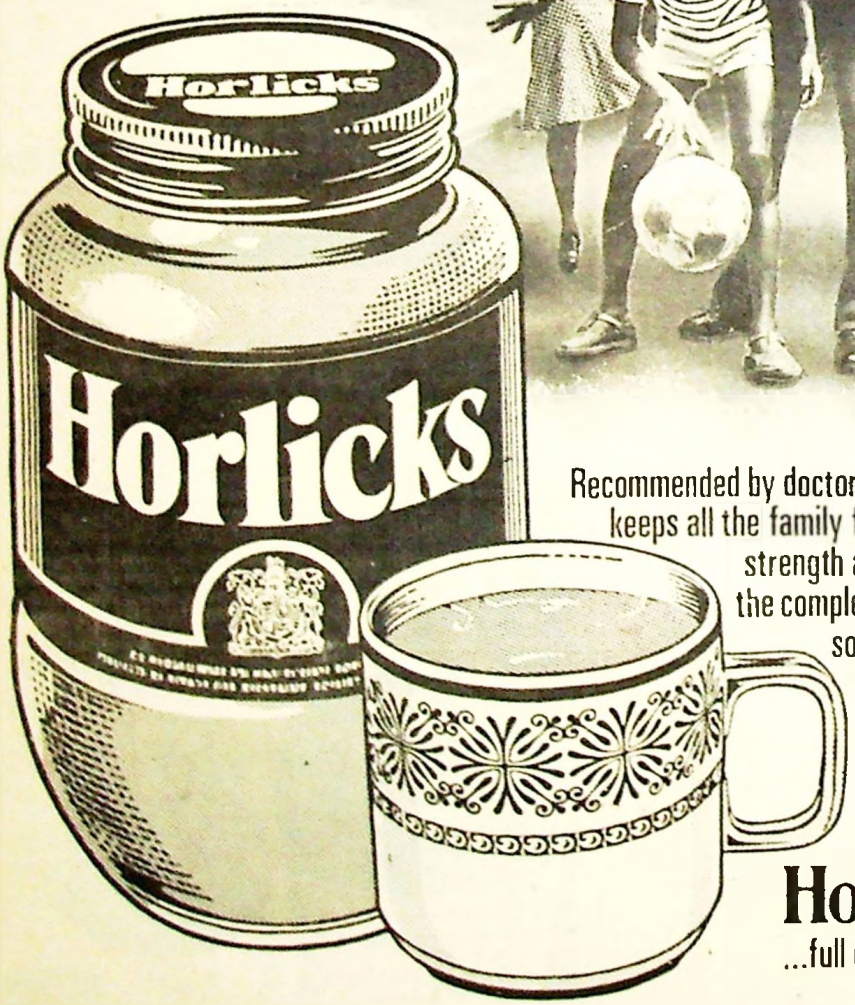
T. O. Graham Douglas
on behalf of her children and relatives.





There's health in Horlicks
THE BIG DRINK





Recommended by doctors, daily Horlicks keeps all the family full of mental and physical strength and stamina. Horlicks the complete milk food drink...it has so much nourishing milk plus energy and body building protein more than any other beverage.

Horlicks
...full of nourishing goodness

PICTORIAL NEWS OF THE WEEKEND



Pidcture shows Prince B. O. L. Akiri, Chairman, Rivers State Sports Council, speaking at the Port Haarcourt airport while welcoming three members of the Kwara State Sports Council to the Rivers Sstate last weekend.



Diirector of sports ... director of waves? Oh yes! That's Director of Rivers State Sports Council, MMr Rollins Eben-Spiff driving the speed boat that took the chairman of Kwara State Sports Council, Dir Idowu Koledade on sea crubbing the Isaka, Baka m and some creeks around Port Harcourt during Dr KKoledade's visit to Port Harcourt last weekend.



Picture shows Dr Idowu Koledade, chairman, Kwara State Sports Council, (third from right in dark glasses) stepping into Government Sea School, Isaka during his visit to the Rivers State. Extreme left is his Rivers State counterpart, Prince B O L Akiri. Extreme right is Dr S. Ibiyemi, 2nd from left is Dr S. A. Abogunrin, one of the members of the KSSC.

Reception for Promoters Football Club of Kpong

A GLAMOROUS reception was organised for members of Promoters Football Club at Kpong over the weekend.

The occasion was the reception of the Promoters who had been involved in a ghastly motor- accident on their way to a Bolga league encounter.

Speaking at the ceremony, the traditional ruler of Kpong and patron of the Promoters, Chief Anderson D. Keke expressed satisfaction at the recent performances of the team. He said he was fully aware that the boys did not lose any match before their eventual withdrawal.

Chief Keke urged the boys not to be discouraged by the ghastly accident which wounded four of them thereby forcing the team out of the current Bolga league.

This fearful incident, he contended, should spur them to greater heights in their next outing.

"If only those without painful experiences were given recognition as great, then the world would have registered no person truly great," Chief Keke emphasized.

After the address, Chief Keke presented the club with a new set of jerseys and pants, eight pairs of boots and a strap-watch to each of the eighteen players.

The four players who sustained serious injuries were each presented with specially-ordered "Brusque" football boots.

Accepting the jerseys, coach Bonzo Lebon thanked the patron for this kind gesture and pledged the continued determination of his team to keep up their chain of honours.

RIVERS BASKETBALL TEAM THANKED

The chairman of the Rivers State Amateur Basketball Association, Mrs. Jay .P. Warmate, have expressed her gratitude to their state's basketball team to their recent all-Nigeria schools sports competition in Lagos.

The state's men's basketball women, won the silver medal at their games having beaten Borno, Kaduna and Imo states. The men lost to Lagos State in the final competition.

The chairman thanked both their women and men's teams for their spirit of sportsmanship throughout the thirteen-day-long schools sports meeting.

Mrs Warmate charged the basketballers not to relent their efforts, adding that they should strive to achieving greater heights at the next national sports competition.

Tidesport understands that at least two girls from the girls' team which lost to Imo State in the first encounter, were selected for the national camp.

The basketball chairman also called on the state government to give more encouragement to the game.

She thanked the coach of the team, Mr H. D. Opuwari for a job well done."



MRS J. P. WARMATE Chairman, Rivers State basketball Association.

BOLGA sports chief calls for more trophies

ANOTHER loud call for the donation of trophies and cups to boost football in Bolga has been made.

This time, it came from the chairman of Bolga Zonal Football Association, Chief Birabil.

Chief Birabil, who was talking to Tidesports on the current Bolga Football League, observed that trophies to winners would greatly have boosted the league competitions.

"The presence of cups and trophies would, no doubt, add pep to the fighting spirit of most clubs thereby enhancing the improvement of standard," Chief Birabil declared.

He lamented the sudden exit of the Promoters Football Club of Kpong which, as a result of a motor-accident on January 3, withdrew from the Bolga league series.

"The boys are magnetic to watch. It was speculated they would have represented Bolga until 'misfortune' caught up badly with them.

Chief Birabil then called on businessmen, traditional rulers and people of various professions to donate trophies for local competitions.

NIGERIAN TIDE

Tuesday January 24, 1978

Armed robber nabbed on 'active service'

AN armed robbery suspect was captured with five locally made pistols and other loots when an armed gang invaded the villages of Obebe and Uwelei Amofia Ukehe, in Igbo-Etiti Local Government area of the Anambra State.

According to a report from the area, gangsters unleashed terror when they mounted house to house search, looting household property, clothings and other belongings of the villagers.

Their operations were however, cut short, when a police squad arrived and mounted a counter-raid that sent the gangsters fleeing, thereby abandoning some of their guns and loots including radio cassets, and a member of their gang, caught.

Information, the report said, had reached the new police post in the locality, as the gangsters ravaged the village.

Mr S. D. Lebi, the divisional police officer in charge of the area, would not give further details but said an intensified man hunt had been mounted to track down the gangsters.

Assembly

(Continued from page 1)

ROTATION WITHIN THE ZONES: In the second round following the completion of the rotation among the zones, only candidates from states other than the states of the ex-presidents shall qualify for presidential nomination.

The principle of zoning and rotation shall also apply to the office of the Vice-President.

TRIPLE MAJORITY: A presidential ticket shall be declared elected if it has (i) a simple majority of the total votes cast in the election (ii) a simple majority of the states, and (iii) a majority of the votes cast in at least two states within each zone.

RUN OFF ELECTION: If in the first ballot, no presidential ticket wins a clear victory, then there will be a second ballot between the two tickets that have the highest popular votes. The second election will be held within two weeks of the first.

If after the second national ballot neither ticket wins the triple majority, then all the legislators from all the legislatures in the land (State and Federal) will constitute an electoral college to vote for one or the other of the two tickets.

Any ticket that wins a simple majority of the individual votes cast in the Electoral College will be declared elected.

BANK FRAUD ALARM

Call for improved security system

COMMERCIAL banks throughout the Federation are hard hit by rising cases of fraud. Delivering the opening address at a two-day "Management by Objectives" course for senior officials of the New Nigeria Bank at Benin, capital of Bendel State, the state Commissioner for Economic Development, Mr Osaze Evbuomwan, called on the commercial banks to carry out a thorough examination of their security mechanism in order to indentify the cause or causes of the frauds.

The commissioner said that if any industry thrived on confidence, it was the banking industry, and added that the customer wanted to be assured that his money was in safe hands.

He remarked that the nation would be indebted to them if something could be done to eradicate embezzlement, forging and falsifying of accounts, impersonation and all the criminal acts which he described as a reflection of "societal craze to get rich quick."

Mr Evbuomwan also spoke about the need for the commercial banks to give counsel to indigenous entrepreneurs on the importance of establishing proper accounting and management systems.

He said that indigenous entrepreneurs should have proper manpower planning and utilisation, rather than making their business ventures a dumping ground for indolent relations and friends.

The commissioner appealed to the bank officials to use their position to discourage businessmen from the sad habit of diverting capital to finance unproductive parties, ceremonies and all such squandermania.

He also urged them to examine how best to tackle inflation, which had made a mockery of the traditional deflationary measures, by influencing productive spending habits.

He stated that if the country was to harness her financial, human and material resources in order to take bold strides towards her economic goals, some alternative to the present system of banks requiring collaterals from customers might have to be devised against the background of the culture of the people.



COL. ATOM KPERA
Governor Anambra State

Iyoba: Fund gets N5,000

THE Pan African President of the Miracle Revival Fellowship, International Pentecostal, a religious organisation in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, has donated N5,000 to the Iyoba Disaster Relief Fund.

And at the weekend, the Iyoba Disaster Relief Appeal Committee has again called on the Federal Government to make an outright grant of N1m to help resettle the people of Iyoba and reconstruct the town.

The committee has further appealed to all national and international relief agencies, commercial houses and other philanthropic organisations to come to its aid.

All such aid, whether in cash or kind, should be directed to The Editor, Nigerian Tide, 4 Ikwerre Road, P.M.B 5072, Port Harcourt.

"It is now obvious that most of the people being fishermen and their fishing equipment, including nets and canoes, having been burnt or stolen, with their houses destroyed and property looted, only help on a massive scale can save the whole community from total collapse and economic ruin", it stated.

More than 6,000 people have so far been rendered homeless, with no food, clothing and shelter, following the disaster, and are exposed to the hazard of disease.

The committee finally called on the state government and its agencies to come to the people's aid in reconstructing the town of Iyoba.

CHRIST CHURCH
(INTER-DENOMINATIONAL)
PORT HARCOURT.

LAUNCHING OF BUILDING FUND

The Launching of Christ Church Building will take place at

CHRIST CHURCH
(behind the Old Kingsway Stores)
on Thursday the 26th January, '978 at 5p.m.

ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED.

Arch A G Spiff
Secretary, Building Fund Committee

Students in rape orgy

THE Achi Girls Secondary School in Achi town of the Oji River Local Government area in Anambra State has been cordoned off by armed policemen following repeated invasion of the institution by armed bandits.

Consequently, more than 300 students of the institution have fled from the school for fear of another attack on them.

Authoritative sources told the Nigerian Tide that for the past one week armed criminals had raided the school robbing, raping and manhandling both staff and students.

The hoodlums numbering about eight broke into the dormitories at about 2.30 a.m. and forcibly raped the students and searched their luggages for money, the sources said.

The principal, Mrs I. Ikeme, could not endure the traumatic plunderings of the students managed to break out and raised an alarm hoping to attract help from villagers.

But their action earned her a bullet because as soon as she raised the alarm one armed robber standing guard fired at her.

She fell down, but however managed to crawl out to the village where she was rushed to the Oji River General Hospital where she is still receiving treatment.

However, all the students had been called upon to return to the school by the state's school management board in view of the new security arrangements.

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