NIGERIAN TIDE

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BONNY ELECTIONS

ELECTIONS of councillors into the Bonny Local Government Council have finally been concluded.

According to the election result announced by the electoral steering committee, Port Harcourt, Mr Ellis Amiri Otoni was returned unopposed as he was the only candidate at the close of nominations for the remaining Nkoro ward in Opobo district.

Meanwhile, the inaugural meeting of the council and the swearing-in of the councillors will be held on January 26, 1978.

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LEKWOT ALARMED — by rise in crime

High Court complex opened

1979 polls: Last call by Rivers FEDECO Chairman

REGISTRATION of voters for the 1979 General Elections starts today until February 28. The exercise will be continuous with the exception of Sundays and public holidays.

The Rivers State resident electoral commissioner, Chief (Mrs) Yetunde Gbadebo, told a press conference in Port Harcourt that adequate personnel had been trained for the registration.

She warned that to be registered a person should be physically present and added that where people were absent in large number, the head of the family could request a registration officer to call back at a specific time.

Appealing to everyone to be fully committed, the electoral commissioner also drew attention to specific provisions of the Electoral Decree stipulating penalties for various offences.

Following are some of them: Any person who —

- being entitled to a registration card, hands it when received by him to some person other than an officer appointed and acting in the course of his duty under this Decree;
- not being an officer appointed and acting in the course of his duty under this decree receives any re-registration card in the name of some other person; or
- has in his possession more than one registration card,

shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of N200 or to imprisonment for one year, or to both.

(1) No person shall provide for the purpose of conveying any person to a registration office or to a polling station any Government or local government vehicle or boat of any vehicle or boat belonging to a public corporation except in respect of a person who is

(Continued on page 16)



GOVERNOR LEKWOT is pictured while cutting the tape in declaring the High Court complex open.

THE Rivers State Military Governor, Colonel Zamani Lekwot, has decried the alarming increase in criminal activities throughout the country.

Performing the official opening of the new High Court complex in Port Harcourt, the governor referred to some lawless and criminal members of the community who were only too happy to exploit countless commercial bargains in which many people were engaged today, unlike their predecessors.

He said: "We have today an alarming number of armed robbers, masked murderers, gangsters and hooligans of every description. Abuse of office, abuse of private enterprise, sabotage of the economy for private and personal gain, are all too rampant.

"Lack of experience, lack of objectivity, parochialism and small-mindedness seem to bedevil all efforts to solve these problems.

"But we need not be dismayed. We must accept that every state and every country on earth have their own quota of bad eggs. What is important is to ensure that everywhere the number of criminals is reduced to the barest minimum and that the evil ones are properly held in check, so that sheer anarchy is not let loose upon the world.

"By their eternal vigilance, the safety of our society is constantly protected by the judiciary, upholding the rule of law as a balance on which every democratic organisation is precariously poised."

Referring to the eternal vigilance exercised by the judiciary, Col Lekwot paid special tribute to the Rivers State Judiciary and that of the Federation as a whole.

"I must take this opportunity to pay special tribute to the Rivers State Judiciary and to the Judiciary of the nation at large for the courage and determination, wisdom, integrity and dignity with which they have tackled our problems at all levels at a most crucial period in our history."

He added: "This is not to say that there has not been an occasional departure from the traditional standards but, to my mind, these have been the exceptions that prove the rule.

"It goes without saying that, despite the tremendous increase in the volume of crime in our present day society, we have to limit the number of our learned Judges and magistrates to the number of men of proven integrity and high reputation available, so as to be able to maintain those high and noble standards for which the Judiciary have been noted the world over from time immemorial".

Manpower shortage

The governor referred to the shortage of trained manpower for appointment to the Judiciary and said:

"Consequently, as an interim measure at least, the decision by the Federal Military Government to appoint high calibre retired men as lay magistrates, as is the case in many advanced countries, is a most practical and realistic solution, especially in view of our acute shortage of trained and experienced manpower in this state."

The ceremony was attended by the state Chief Judge, Mr Justice Ambrose Allagoa, his Imo State counterpart Mr Justice C. Opara, civil commissioners and members of the Bench and the Bar.

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Umuahia tops in crime

POLICE EXPRESS DEEP ALARM

THE Nigeria Police, Imo State Command recorded a total of 82 criminal cases during the Christmas and the New Year festivities.

Six of the criminal cases were reported to be fatal, nine serious, while three were said to be of minor motor accidents.

The Umuahia urban with a total of sixteen cases of assault and fourteen of stealing was said to have topped the list.

These facts were disclosed by the police public relations branch of the Nigeria Police in Owerri.

According to a police release, six cases of malicious damage, armed robbery and two cases of missing persons were also recorded in in Umuahia.

Aba urban, Oguta and Ikwuano Local Government areas were said to be crime free during the festivities.

The release stressed that the police expressed dismay over the alarming rate of criminal offences in Umuahia urban.



MR NELSON OROJO
Commissioner of Police Imo State

It's big welcome for New Year

The year 1977 was seen off with pomp and pageantry by individuals and organisations throughout the country.

Picture shows the Oyaya Traditional dancing group, Ibadan branch, during an end of year party organised to show appreciation for God's protection in the past years.

Christopher Okoye jailed

A TWENTY nine-year-old man, Christopher Okoye, alias Michael Ezekiel has been sentenced to twelve months imprisonment by a Port Harcourt senior magistrate court for stealing.

Christopher Okoya was also alleged to have conspired with one Emeka Okeke now at large on July 13, 1977 and removed some highly valuable goods at the Macoba Jetty at Port Harcourt.

The accused was also alleged to have on the same day and at the same place, stolen a brief case valued N20.00 the sum of N40.00 cash and a driving license No. 35990.

Christopher Okoye pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Dead heroes honoured at Isiokpo

The Legion Remembrance Day was celebrated in Isiokpo, in Ikwerre/Etche local government area in commemoration of the fallen heros of the first and second World Wars.

The celebration featured a variety of activities by members of the 26 Infantry Battalion at Elele, which included a military parade, march-pass on major roads in Isiokpo, gymnastics by the physical education wing of the battalion and the firing of gun shots.

School children and scouts also staged a march-pass.

On behalf of the commanding officer of the battalion, Major V. K. Yuswe, the second in command, Lt. D. Tacho, who took the salute, later laid wreaths, with the secretary of Ikwerre/Etche local government council, Chief H. I. Adoki.

FINISHED POSTAL AGENCY CAN'T OPEN

LACK of postal facility has been one of the problems confronting the people of Andoni district in the Bonny local government area.

To solve the difficulty, people of Dema in the district through self-help effort embarked on development projects under which they built a postal agency, a post primary institution and a town hall.

The postal agency has already been completed and inspected by officials of the Ministry of Communications.

But since the inspection was carried out five months ago, no word had been communicated to the people.

Reports from Dema said community leaders there are worried because the delay had caused a lot of embarrassment as people now appeared indifferent to embark on other projects since the one already completed had not gone into operation.

In a statement in Port Harcourt, Mr R. U. Agbadeno, appealed to the area controller of Posts and Telecommunications to use his good offices and ensure that the postal agency was opened without further delay.

Health commissioner gives out house

THE Ondo State Commissioner for Health, Chief (Mrs) A. A. Adesida who is also the Eyinoorun of Akure, has donated for free use for one year, her personal building by government.

The building will accommodate students and the hostel officer of a new midwifery school, to be established by the State Government in Akure during the current financial year.

Mrs Adesida made the donation when the state government was confronted with accommodation problem to house students of the new school.

An announcement from the office of the military governor in Akure explained that the military governor, Wing Commander Ita David Ikpeme, was highly impressed by the gesture and self-sacrifice of Chief (Mrs) Adesida "at a time when too much premium was placed on material wealth."

The military governor hoped that other well-meaning individuals within and outside the state would follow the good example of (Mrs) Adesida and assist government and other public agencies in their times of need, either in kind or in cash.

MORE REVENUE OFFICES OPENED

MORE treasury cash offices would soon be established in Oyo State to facilitate the financial operations of the government.

This was disclosed at Kisi by the Commissioner for Finance and Economic Development, Dr J. A. Atanda while performing the official opening of the treasury cash office in the town. He said it was the policy of the government to bring social and economic amenities to the doorsteps of the people.

Dr Atanda remarked that the establishment of the treasury cash office at Kisi would no doubt eliminate the hardships and hazards experienced by the people who had to travel between 76 and 116 kilometers to Shaki, Oyo and Ogbomosho to receive or pay monies into the treasury.

Congratulating the people of the Irepo local government area on the achievement, Dr Atanda assured them of the co-operation of the staff of the new office at all times.

Responding, the Iba of Kisi, Oba Yesufu Owolade Amwajoye II thanked the Oyo State Government for opening the office in the area.

He assured the commissioner that the people of the area would make the best use of the amenity.

Oba Amwajoye then appealed to the government to implement plans for other social and economic amenities.

EDITORIAL

Fiddling with fire?

AS THE old year petered out, the country was caught in a torrent of a fire plague. First, the fire disease caught private residential buildings, then markets and commercial stores; public buildings, including the country's premier post office — the General Post Office on the Marina, Lagos — and also a wing of the blocks of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation, Lagos. The list is endless. As if these were not sufficiently alarming, petrol stations of all places have now been affected by the plague.

DESPITE all this and the damage that has already been done to lives and property, everyone seems to be simply ignorant of their cause or causes. And no one seems anxious to initiate inquiries in order to assure the public that these fires are not deliberately caused by organised, hardened criminal gangs.

ALL that has always followed each fire disaster is the usual ritual expressions of sympathy to the victims by dignified public functionaries, accompanied by tiresome assurances of the determination to protect the lives and property of all law-abiding citizens and all such fair phrases.

SIMPLY PUT, it does not appear that the government recognises the gravity of the situation or the serious threat it poses to security and order. We take this view because we would have thought that the security forces would have by now found a clue to the cause of the persistent pestilential blazes. Or can we afford to play the fiddle while the country burns, as it were?

WE FIND it difficult to accept that these fires originate from normal accidents or general carelessness. Certainly not when public buildings and petrol stations are involved, places usually situated afar from dwelling houses.

A STRATEGY should be devised to check the further spread of what now qualifies for national disaster. It is also relevant to request the government to set up a high-powered inquiry into the situation as a matter of utmost urgency. Cynicism in the midst of this extreme danger would be an irresponsible stand to take.

Mobile court and motorists

FOR THE avoidance of doubt, let us state once more that the police in Port Harcourt have our unqualified support in their operations against excesses by motorists in the state capital. The establishment of the mobile court to prosecute this cause is welcome. But as we had cause to observe earlier on, the aim of the law is not to punish, but to prevent the commission of crimes and offences.

TO THIS end we wish to suggest that the present exercises can certainly be improved by considering the amount of money that a motorist can reasonably be expected to carry at all times. Is it reasonable to expect the average motorist to have on his person anything above twenty to fifty naira? If not, is it not fair to allow any motorist who is convicted and fined enough time to go for the money and collect his car thereafter?

FURTHERMORE, should a convicted person who is detained in prison custody overnight be expected to pay for his feeding before his release on payment of the fine?

HOVERCRAFT: REDUCE FARE

THE newly launched "Hovercraft" plying the riverine area of the state has very much been commended. In fact, more of these type of boats are required. If not for the fact that the Rivers State Transport Corporation has become a liability to the people, one would have been expecting more of these type of boats for long.

The aim of the "Hovercraft" is to ease transport difficulties. Besides, one's safety is better assured in it than in the local boats.

The fare being charged by the new boat is over 20 per cent above what is being charged by the local boats. It might not interest anyone to hear that these exhorbitant fares would drive many people from using the "luxurious" boat.

There is another problem. The boat gets too engaged in assignments, thus disappointing members of the public.

When the Federal Commissioner for Transport was in the state, he made use of the boat until he left and no sooner did he leave than soldiers on transfer to Port Harcourt from Bonny and vice versa were given the boat to convey them.

The question then arises, if the boat had not come would the soldiers not have been transferred or would the Federal Commissioner not have undertaken his tour? A look at the marine base indicates there are so many government boats lying there at the time the hovercraft was engaged on these assignments.

If the intention of the government is really to ease transport difficulties for the people in the riverine areas, the fare should be reduced and the boat left for public use.

ELEAZER KAS-SWOGU
Bonny.

PUBLIC OPINION FORUM

Make traffic courts successful

I READ with interest the lead story of the NIGERIAN TIDE of Tuesday, December 22, 1977, captioned: "MOBILE COURT FOR TRAFFIC OFFENDERS". The introduction of such a court in this part of the country is quite welcome.

With the arrival of this court — even though it was seriously over-delayed — there is a ray of hope that pedestrians will no longer travel with fears within the state capital, at least.

It is also worth noting where the report added that the police promised on-the-spot trial of offending motorists. Fine. We hope they will be better than their own word.

Those concerned should be made to understand that here in the Rivers State lawlessness is almost becoming the order of the day. Every leading which is a culpable act in places like Kaduna, Kano, Jos, Ilorin, Ibadan just to mention a few places if not yet to be known as an offence here. Both taxi and bus-drivers are equally guilty in this aspect. They always pack human beings just like tinned fish in their vehicles.

It appears the traffic lawmen will be on the road for eight hours starting from 7.30 a.m. They should please realise that the evenings should also be taken care of. For that reason they should know how to cast their net so to catch traffic offenders be it by day or at night.

While we are about having a sign of relief for realising that government is interested in our welfar, we hope the Mobile Traffic Court will not be another still-born like the Price Control Board (PCB), or a street urchin like NEPA!

INEMO T. IKAMA
Port Harcourt

Help this dispensary!

THE dispensary at Kula in the Degema Local Government area now lacks adequate attention. People complain that medical facilities in the dispensary are grossly inadequate. In addition the buildings need expansion.

Considering the sensitive place it is situated and with the nearest hospital sited at Degema (quite a distance away) the importance of giving the Kula dispensary all the attention it needs cannot be overstressed.

The government should come to our aid by expanding the dispensary and providing adequate medical facilities for the hundreds of patients it serves.

UNCLE BROWN
Kula.

Postal Agency please

AKASSA in Brass Local Government district is suffering from the absence of a postal agency in the town. The most affected are students in the town, who find it extremely difficult to contact their parents or guardians when they run into difficulties.

Since it is virtually impossible to write letters, students have no alternative but to travel out. This takes away a lot of academically valuable time.

I appeal to the authorities concerned to give us a postal agency in this town. Obviously it will not only help the students but also the entire town.

ALEX FABOH
Akassa

EMPLOYMENT: STOP CERTIFICATE CRAZE

WITHOUT prejudice to those who acquire fraudulent certificates, I have to point out that it has been a usual practice for Nigerian officers to demand certificates rather than skill and experience before offering employment.

This has given rise to an unscrupulous drive for certificates among Nigerians. During the colonial era there was no such madness.

What the then white man expected from you was "know your job" and be proud of it. Where you could not do these, you were sacked, and another experienced and skilled man employed.

In our present society, the reverse is the case although we are daily disappointed by some of the so-called academicians whose only qualification is the degree.

It is my opinion that we should stop putting much premium on certificates in our employment strategies, if we are really serious about the much discussed industrial growth.

Besides, the skilled, long served officer should be placed or promoted on a par with a degree holder. If our country practised this, our economy, and productivity would become buoyant. After all what our country now demand is skilled men, not degree without the skill on the job.

I repeat, skilled men with long experience should be graded under special rate of payment in the public service, and in fact in the firms. Let us therefore look for them and pay less attention to degree consciousness.

B. BATUBO
Port Harcourt

Let JAMB function now

Since the inauguration of the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board the public has been waiting to see the board start operations.

I think we should start reaping the fruits of its activities from the coming session. Instead of individual university advertisements for applications in respect of admission for the next session, we should have only one from the board.

And the admission process should be processed by it.

SABA UMUNNA NWOSU
Abonda

SHORTAGE OF DRUGS IN BENDEL DEPLORED

IT is the view of the Bendel State Commissioner for Health, Mr B. C. Bozimo, that the establishment of hospitals, without adequate drugs amounts to waste of effort. He therefore stressed the need to ensure adequate supply of drugs to all hospitals, if the establishment was to serve any useful purpose.

Mr Bozimo who was exchanging views with the members of the newly reconstituted Bendel Health Services Management Board in his office urged the members to find ways of combating the perennial problem of shortage of drugs in hospitals and to pay close attention to the organisation of the state Medical Stores.

He expressed the hope that when the problem of drugs shortage had been solved, the board would have no difficulty in managing the 39 hospitals in the state under their supervision.

The commissioner announced that tenders for the supply of drugs and dressings for the 1978/79 financial year had already been invited and assured that they would be processed in time to ensure that drugs could be received early in the year.

Replying, the chairman of the board, Dr Odegwu Egbune, assured the commissioner that they would justify the confidence the government reposed in them.

He said that the board had already taken steps to reorganise the medical stores with a view to arresting the incidence of drugs shortage in the state hospitals.



Commodore H. Abdullahi Governor of Bendel State

'WE ARE TIRED OF BEGGING' —Centre chief

The Management Committee of the Nigeria Training Centre for the Blind, Ogbomosho, has called on the Oyo State government to take over the centre.

This, the committee observed, would prevent the centre from begging for donations from the public for its upkeep.

The chairman of the committee, Chief A. O. Latubosun, made the appeal on the occasion of the presentation of Christmas gifts to the centre by the wife of the Oyo State Military Governor, Mrs. C. A. Jemibewon.

Chief Latubosun had earlier thanked the state government for the provision of electricity and the regular annual subvention to the centre. He expressed the hope that the subvention would be increased to match the population growth of the centre.

In his speech at the occasion, the state's chief social development officer, Mr M. I. Okunola expressed joy that their visual handicap was no obstacle to their progress. He also delivered the good wishes of Mrs. Jemibewon to the trainees at the centre.

Govt assistance assured

THE Ogun State Commissioner for Local Government and Information, Dr Afolabi Olabimtan has assured the people of the state that the government will continue to give its moral and financial assistance to any community which embarked on meaningful self-help projects designed to bring happiness and progress to the masses.

Dr Olabimtan was speaking at the commissioning of Iworo electricity project which he performed recently.

The commissioner conveyed the best wishes of the state Military Governor, Col S. A. Balogun to the people of Iworo, particularly the chiefs and their community leaders, and his congratulations on their achievements so far.

He further expressed his personal belief in the effectiveness of self-help projects as being able to bring about a rapid social and economic growth, as well as the development at the rate which both the government and the people themselves would welcome.



BALOGUN CALLS FOR EDUCATION

The Military Governor of Ogun State, Lt. Col. S.A. Balogun, has called for the education of all Muslims about the implications of the yearly pilgrimage to the holy land.

Lt. Col. Balogun said the pilgrimage was only meant for old and incurable people as they would not be able to undergo the rigours of the haji.

The military governor expressed dismay at the idea of the old and infirmed people dying in Mecca and being given any type of burial, when under normal circumstances, they would have received a decent and honourable burial at home.

The military governor who was commenting on the report of the Ogun State Pilgrims Welfare Board on the conduct of the 1977 pilgrimage to Mecca, further said that the Koran itself was opposed to people undergoing the holy pilgrimage without fulfilling their normal commitments to their families.

If a man was not healthy and strong enough to undertake the haji, Lt Col Balogun went on, his good intentions even without performing the haji, are well understood.

The military governor said it was rather disappointing to find thousands of Nigerians loitering and sleeping on the streets of Mecca, a situation which he regarded as a disgrace to the country.

Although he was happy about the arrangements made for the Ogun State pilgrims, he however noted that the state was just one among so many states and could therefore not be treated in isolation.

Lt. Col. Balogun therefore called on members of the Pilgrims Board and other muslim bodies in the country to dedicate themselves to the task of enlightening their muslim brothers and sisters on the need to be fully equipped before embarking on the holy pilgrimage.

Muslims and yearly pilgrimage

Customs New Year big catch

THREE persons, including an Alhaji, have made useful statements to the police in Lagos in connection with the seizure of a large quantity of goods from a house in Apapa, Lagos, suspected to have been smuggled.

The house is situated only a few yards from the Customs and Excise annual offices along Brickfield Street, Ebute Metta.

Announcing this at a press briefing in Lagos, the deputy director of Customs, Mr H. Nkem, said that the seized goods estimated at N500,000 was almost the largest and first haul made by his men since the New Year. It included cigarettes, raw materials, drinks of assorted kinds and cotton prints.



HUSSY ORDERED TO PAY N30 TO WIFE

AN OMOKU farmer, who was facing a charge of threatening to kill his wife before Senior Magistrate F. T. Eruba sitting at an Omoku senior magistrate's court has been cautioned and discharged.

He had been found guilty of the offence.

The court bound him over to be of good behaviour for 12 months or in default he would pay N400.

The prosecution had alleged that John Duwaha, on January 4, 1978, at Omoku threatened to kill his wife by firing a loaded den gun on the ground and caused an alarm.

by Josiah Ajie

According to the prosecution, the wife Susana John had gone out to visit relatives who were feasting as a result of a new baby born to the family when the accused suspected her of misbehaving.

He fired the gun when the wife returned, said the prosecution.

John denied the charges.

After bounding him over to be of good behaviour 12 months with one surety in the sum of N400, the court ordered John to pay N30 compensation to his wife, for disgracing her.

Out going manager honoured

THE management of De-Asulu Trading Company in Port Harcourt recently organised a send-off party for the out-going branch manager of the International Bank for West Africa in Port Harcourt, Mr R. O. Adebolu

The party was attended by a cross-section of business community in the state capital.

Picture right shows the out-going manager (standing in the middle) chatting with some of the guests at the party.



HOARDING MANAGER CONVICTED

THE general manager of Domino Stores Limited in Port Harcourt, Mr O. E. Daworu and his storekeeper, Mr Dominic L. Saatah have been convicted for contravening the price control decree.

They are to go to jail for six months or in the alternative to pay a fine of N500 each.

The judgment was handed down in Port Harcourt by a special price control court presided over by Mr Justice W. O. Dappa.

They were found guilty of hoarding more than 120 cartons of assorted beer and eight cartons of baby food in their store on April 7 last year.

They were also said to have prevented price control officials from performing their official duties by locking up their stores when they wanted to enter into it.

Journalist joins Agbalanze club

HIGHLY placed individuals in Onitsha, Anambra State, have continued to embrace the customs and tradition of their people by becoming members of traditional societies which preserve their cultural heritage.

In the Onitsha inland town last week, a retired senior editor of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation, Akume P. C. Agbu sponsored double initiations into the Agbalanze Society of Onitsha, when his junior brother and first son took the much coveted Ozo title.

One of the two initiates, an editorial staff of the Daily Star, Enugu, Mr M. D. Agbu took the title of Kpajie. The other was a final year student at the University of Ibadan, Nini Agbu, who took the title of Nnabuenyi.

Both danced gracefully to the tune of the ancient Ozo music in consumation of their initiation.

Both men are pictured here, enmeshed in the clay bath which was part of the ceremonies of their initiation. They are being watched by an elder and older member of the society as they perform the dancing ritual of the ceremonies.

VENDOR LOSES FATHER

THOUSANDS of mourners paid their last respects to the late father of a Nigerian Tide Vendor in Omoku, Francis Oreke who died at the age of 60 years after a brief illness.

Late Francis Oreke until his death, was a devoted christian and member of Christ Church, Omoku.

He is survived by a wife, two children and grand children among them is Mr Emmanuel Oreke.

The late Mr Oreke was also a celebrated hunter and wrestler in his early days.



Kalabari chieftaincy rift settled

THE Kalabari National Assembly (Se Kobiri) has approved the appointment and the installation of Chief Obaye Abbiye-Suku Amachree as the Amanyanabo of Kalabari, Amachree X.

In a meeting of the assembly held at Buguma, Chief Abbiye-Suku Amachree was formally presented and proclaimed the Amanyanabo of Kalabari.

He succeeds late King Cotton Charles Amachree IX who died in April, 1975.

The rift which ensued during his installation between some Buguma chiefs was also settled by the assembly to the satisfaction of both factions.

These facts were contained in a release issued in Buguma recently by the assembly and signed by its secretary, Chief R. Mc-Jaja Amachree.

Meanwhile the new Amanyanabo will entertain Kalabari chiefs tomorrow, January 15.

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THE WORLD

Panic as nationalists strike near Salisbury



Mr IAN SMITH

THE death on Wednesday night of a 15-year-old white boy in the north-western suburbs of Salisbury has been announced in a communique of rebel leader Ian Smith's Combined Operations Headquarters released.

Colin Tilley, 15, was gunned down as he and his parents were returning to their home, on Glen Forest road less than two kilometres (one mile) north-west of Salisbury.

Colin's death is the twelfth fatal incident since last week in a rapidly escalating terror-war which has now reached the interior of Rhodesia and the immediate vicinity of Salisbury.

Mr Chinton Tilley, his wife Cynthia and their son, Colin were returning home on Wednesday night when unknown persons opened fire as they got out of their car.

Mr Tilley returned the fire and drove off the assailants.

The parents, realising that their boy had been killed made their way across open country to a neighbouring farm to look for help.

Police and army vehicles and ambulances were rushed to the scene through thick mist.

Earlier on Wednesday, Combined Operations Headquarters announced that a young Portuguese, Luis Felipe Costa de Carvalho, 20, of Salisbury, had been gunned down near Domboshawa, on the edge of the Chinamora tribal trust land north of Salisbury.

Luis Costa de Carvalho had been killed in an ambush while driving back to Salisbury. Two other men, also working for the Electricity Supply Commission, as was Mr Costa de Carvalho were injured in the attack.

Last week nationalist forces, operating close to Salisbury, killed six people including a mother and her teenage daughter in the white farming area near Norton, 20 kilometres West of the capital.

Four more whites, including a 74-year-old woman, were killed earlier this week on a farm 120 kilometres south of Salisbury.

No elections, says Lesotho's PM

LESOTHO Prime Minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan, has told reporters that he was unwilling to "impose a General Election on the Lesotho nation".

He would go to the polls "only at the command of my people" he said.

Lesotho has had no elections since 1970 when Dr Leabua Jonathan seized power after cancelling the nation's first post Independence Election when it became apparent that his party was about to be defeated.

Since then Lesotho has been ruled by an interim assembly consisting of nominated members and chiefs.

Chief Jonathan's statement came after a call for general elections issued by the leader of the country's opposition United Democratic Party, Charles Mofeli.

The Prime Minister said he and his ruling party stood a better chance of winning a general election in Lesotho at present than at any time in his political career.

Chief Jonathan also blamed the leader in exile of the main opposition Basutoland Congress Party, Ntsu Mokhehle, for having "shattered his own party into bits and pieces".

After his coup in January, 1970 Premier Jonathan banned all political activity in Lesotho and four years later Mr Mokhehle and many of his top supporters fled the country and are now living in exile in Botswana and Zambia.



SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

Story of ill-fated portrait of Churchill

THE executors of Lady Spencer Churchill's will have revealed that she had destroyed a portrait of her husband Sir Winston Churchill by Graham Sutherland, presented by parliament for his 80th birthday.

One of the executors said the wartime leader and his wife both detested the portrait and that Sir Winston had complained: "It makes me look half-witted, which I ain't".

Lady Churchill decided to destroy the painting, with her husband's agreement, because "she had been distressed to see how much the picture preyed on her husband's mind".

The executor added that both she and Sir Winston had been "truly and deeply moved that members of Parliament from all parties had joined to show him so much respect, honour and affection".

Graham Sutherland, 74, said on Thursday night: "It is without question an act of vandalism. I knew Sir Winston did not like it, but even after the donation of the thing he was awfully nice".

New York

ABOUT 200 anti-Iranian demonstrators paraded outside Waldorf Astoria Hotel here where Iran's Empress Farah Dibah was at a dinner with the Mayor of New York, Edward Koch.

Iranian students were among the protesters who waved banners calling for a halt to the torture of political prisoners in Iran. There were shouts of "The Shah is a Fascist butcher. Down with the Shah".

Beirut

EGYPT is training 500 Chadians and Sudanese for "special missions" in a training camp near Alexandria at a moment when it is concentrating troops on the Libyan border, Al Kifah Al Arabi, the pro-Libyan Daily here, reported.

In a partly censored dispatch from Cairo, the paper's correspondent said, quoting a well-informed Egyptian military source, that the camp, about 100 kms (65 miles) out of Alexandria, housed 500 men from tribes with affiliations on the Libyan side of the Chadian and Sudanese borders.

Le Harve

GALE-Force winds whipped up the English Channel on Thursday night, crippling Maritime traffic and sinking several vessels. One man was missing and is feared dead.

He disappeared when the dredge he was working on broke loose from its mooring in the Port of Dieppe, north of here. The dredge capsized and sea and rescue efforts were hampered by the weather.

BRIEFS

Addis Ababa

HUNGARY has joined other Eastern block states in extending firm support to the Ethiopian revolution, it was reported here.

That support was stressed here following a first round of talks between Hungarian Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja and a top-level Ethiopian delegation headed by Foreign Minister Feleke Gedla Giorgis.

Washington

FORMER U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has said that NATO would be "severely impaired" if Communists entered the government of any country in alliance.

Speaking in a television programme on Euro-Communism to be broadcast, Mr Kissinger said Europeans "must know where we stand". NATO would be seriously weakened if Communists "came into power or share the power" in a NATO country.

Prague

SPOKESMEN of the "Charter 77" Civil Rights Movement in Czechoslovakia have sent a letter to the Belgrade Follow-up Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), a member of the movement said.

It said: The Helsinki agreement "reaffirming the respect of human rights is one of the principles of peaceful coexistence and cooperation and recognises it as a matter of direct concern to all countries [illegible]

Rabat

PRINCE Abdullah Ibn Abdul, Saudi Arabia's Second Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard, has had talks with King Hassan of Morocco in Marrakesh which observers said centred on current tensions in North-Western Africa.

Moreover a fighting Algerian-backed nationalist in the phosphate-rich former Spanish Western Sahara which is partitioned with Mauritania, has spent [illegible]

Bonn

WEST German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt will meet French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing in Paris on the beginning of February, an official spokesman said here.

[illegible]

AtiqusGuni

WEEKEND COMMENTARY



THE SINK IS STILL STINKING

To expect simple courtesies from most of their officials is like asking for a favour. Some of the stewardesses are a combination of ugliness and bad manners.

For sure, this country deserves a better national airline. And there is no earthly reason why she cannot get it.

ANY NEWS from the Nigeria Airways? Yes: it is that eleven more of its employees have been removed at Ikeja for taking bribes, according to the Sunday Times of January 8.

I am afraid that did not go far enough. They should have been handed over to the police for prosecution and those found guilty sent to jail without any option of fine. It seems that termination or dismissal does not hurt in this country again. This is by the way.

THE POINT I want to make actually is that bribery is rampant not only at Ikeja but all over the airports. Here in Port Harcourt, some officials ask for 'bread' openly before giving you a boarding pass.

It does not matter that you have a confirmed ticket. You can still travel even if you made no previous booking provided you are prepared to offer some loaves of bread. And just in case you are wondering what the hell they mean by bread, I should tell you bluntly that **BREAD** is another word for a **BRIBE**. They are not alone in this degrading business of asking for bribes. They work hand in hand with some airline agency officials.

So, the sink at the Airways is still stinking to the high heavens. Oh, yes the place is still filthy and sickly. I am one person who does not like to see a man sacked from his regular job. This is because it brings suffering to the members of his family who might not be aware all along that the breadwinner is a damned rogue.

But I think that the Airways needs a really harsh scrubbing, for the place is far too dirty for keeps. So, if dismissal and termination of staff are the answer to the problems at the Airways, by all means, let Professor Williams Oslslogu go ahead and put more disinfectant into the stinking sink.

LIKE SOME commentators had said in different words, the country loses millions of naira due to the irregularities at the Airways. No other country that I know of has such a disgraceful place for its national airline. To draw comparisons from Europe and America might seem illusionary.

All one has to do is to try the airlines of our neighbouring English-speaking and French-speaking countries to appreciate the shame that the Nigeria Airways constitutes to this country.

INFLATION, THE SICK

IS IT REALLY true that the Imo State Government has directed that patients in state-owned hospitals should now feed themselves?

An Ikorin-based newspaper has quoted a senior consultant physician at the Ramat Specialist Hospital, Umuahia, as saying that the reason given by the government is that it is broke, so broke that it can no longer feed for the sick admitted to its own hospitals.

IT IS quite probable that the finances of the Imo State Government are not comfortable, in which case it is only sensible to prune down costs. But should this extend to hospitals? Should we really permit the sick to be left uncared for in the name of "economy"?

Some of us are getting worried about certain happenings in this country. Today, the people are told something about an 'egalitarian society' — whatever this means — tomorrow, they are told that they cannot even have essential things of life like light, water, health and educational facilities.

Pray, are we going forward or backwards? To ask is not to answer.

NO CAUSE FOR PANIC

I see that we have embarked on some panic measures in order to reduce wasteful spending in the public sector. All this because Professor Aboyade said the price of oil was on the decline, and so the next few years would not be comfortable. But Professor Aboyade did not say anything new. And there is really nothing strange about price decline in a given industry.

But may I ask if anybody thought that the revenue from oil will continue to rise from year to year quite regardless of world economic forces? Our dilemma now stems from a complete loss of our sense of priorities, if we had any.

TODAY, vast sums of money are buried in nonproductive ventures in the name of mixed economy when millions of our simple country men and women live in abject penury and degradation, when most of our rural areas go without motorable roads, without postal and communication facilities, without light and without medical facilities.

Was it our hope in inexhaustible oil revenue that egged us on to mount an International Trade Fair at an astonishing sum of 142 million naira which only served the purpose of advertising the products of the developed countries who would in turn sell the goods to us at forbidden prices?

Our hope to petronaire probably justified our hosting the FESTAC at the cost of millions of naira that could have been invested in education and other social services, which are suffering today from lack of funds.

No matter how uncomfortable the economic panic measures will not do. The thing to do is to try to get our priority right.

Have you any pride?

I do not like people who have no pride and ambition and are just sloppy people. I am not using the word pride and ambition in a small personal sense. I do not mean the pride of getting money, which is the silliest of all types of pride. Pride should consist in doing your job in the best possible manner. If you are a scientist, think of becoming Einstein, not merely a teacher in your university. If you are a medical man, think of some discovery which will bring healing to the human race. If you are an engineer, aim at some new invention. The mere act of aiming at something big makes you big.

—Nehru

'The Man D

SOME years ago I stumbled on Wole Soyinka's famous book, "The Man Died" as one found his way into a black market he is not very familiar with. I was still in the secondary school then.

In the first place, the book was something like a contraband. In the second place, with all the sing song on Gowon's Messianic political mission in those days, "The Man Died" struck a discordant note which surprisingly enthralled me.

By the time I finished reading the book, I had been convinced that Nigeria was in the throes of political decay and that there were many like Wole Soyinka still suffering the mental torture of solitary confinement, sacrificed on the altar of a determination by the Gowon regime to perpetuate itself in power.

More would go through the cycle unless a revolutionary change was erected.

One question raised by Wole Soyinka himself was to haunt me for a long time afterwards: "How much longer will it go on, this pattern of power-initiated crime and the political scapegoat?"

Was it to go on, re-enacted again as the country passed through cyclical waves of repeated experience in the national drama of seeking the road to progressivism, the ideal future?

Was it going to last just as long as the Gowon era remained in power, struggling to blot out that future?

Answering these questions, I found out later, was much more difficult than I imagined. For, it was intricately intertwined with the issue of the country's and indeed the people's ideological future.

When the country evolves a leadership that is committed to progressive ideals, when the "political scapegoat" becomes a decisive arm of the power structure; when the people become able to take absolute control of their country's destiny, totally in solidarity with the progressive leadership, both the power-initiated crime and the political

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LESSONS FROM CH

IN the Weekly Star issue of January 8, 1978 on page 7 ran a head line "Low Profile, Mao style." In a write up to three photographs spread in the page followed an epitaph "Chairman Mao of China is dead, but he still lives in the hearts of millions even outside China because of the honest and simple way he led his life and motivated his countrymen.

Picture one, showed the hall where Chairman Mao played table tennis. Picture two showed the room where Mao had meetings and received guests after 1966, while the third picture showed the leather shoes and slippers Mao wore since he entered Peking in April 1949. This is a real profile exhibited of Chairman Mao yet to be emulated by world leaders present and yet unborn.

Chairman Mao Tse Tung is dead leaving a worthy legacy to future leaders. He emerged the hero of the Chinese Revolution in 1949 having led the Chinese peasants against the war lords and the marxle of the General Chiang Kai Shek Government, otherwise known as the Kuomintang.

A poor son of a Chinese peasantry, Chairman Mao was grieved by the vestige of oppression and enslavement of the commoners and the dictatorship characteristic of the Kuomintang. He organised the Red Army in 1927 and took up arms against the oppressive government of General Chiang Kai Shek.

The revolution was conducted to its logical conclusion and in 1949, the Kuomintang collapsed and retreated to the Island of Formosa (Taiwan).

By the year 2000, historians may judge Mao Tse Tung to have been the political figure

by
BOB USIM

who has had the profoundest impact on our times. Whether that is the case will depend, first on how well his work endures in China and more important still to what extent the "Chinese model" of development, not its totality but aspects of it is or is not followed in other parts of the "Third World."

Mao Tse-Tung in three decades changed Chinese society than any leader for many centuries, perhaps since the first Ch'in emperor of the third century B.C. who united the country. Moreover, it is probable



CHAIRMAN MAO

that, if a free plebiscite were taken throughout China today, the vast majority would enthusiastically approve what Mao has accomplished. The reasons for such popular support are obvious.

After more than a century of political and moral decline, of foreign invasion and civil wars, China is united, independent, respected as a great power and potential superpower. The fact that this process of regeneration was begun by Sun Yat-sen and Chiang

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ce of justice that accounted for Segun Sowemimo's torture and consequent death.

It was the absence of justice within the social and political definitions of the Gowon regime that made it release two soldiers, Ambrose Okpe and Gani Biban, accused of murdering a photographer, Emmanuel Ogbona, those days that Wole Soyinka was framed.



WOLE SOYINKA

"For me", says Wole Soyinka, "justice is the first condition of humanity".

The question then is how this country was able to live without that "basic condition of humanity" for nine good years, before producing a palliative alternative. And let's face it, it was only a palliative!

It seems to me that the question of whether Nigeria could produce a "moral and revolutionary alternative" to do away with the absolutely unacceptable Gowon regime, faced the author through the whole gamut of events that conditioned this work.

Thus he felt solidarity with only those who shared in the national humiliation the country underwent with the emergence of Gowon's dictatorship and its self-perpetuation in power.

He loathes the atmosphere in "idle" academic communities, which makes those within it mere spectators in a game they should be actively involved. But he embraces Victor Banjo's Third Force, which he sees as the alternative the country needed.

Here a weakness is exposed. The struggle to win the battle against the torture of the human mind, and survive to symbolise the ultimate victory of the progressive soul against power insanity seems to have overshadowed the need to define what future is desired.

What did the Third Force stand for? That question should not have been left for wild speculation. For, on it laid the vital issue of what design Victor Banjo really had after capturing Benin.

INDIVIDUALIST

It must be admitted though, that the identification of a progressive alternative to a decadent order has within it an acknowledgement of definitions on the new order desired, even when they are unclear.

Two major questions are posed. What do I reject? What do I want?

Wole Soyinka tries again and again to tackle these questions in "The Man Died" but answers them only vaguely. The nearest he will come to say that the army needed to go back to its place as part of the proletariat.

The most important fact about this book is that although it treats a subject that is individualist in essence (Wole Soyinka's detention, the plot to murder him and explain it away and how his mind reacted to the entire drama) its arguements and verdicts embrace a wider socio-political reality.

This relevance plays a vital role in the political analysis of the author. And at the centre of this relevance is the civil war, which molded his fate and gives the book its main political characteristics.

Wole Soyinka denounces the war arguing that it was fought "without a simultaneous progress of reform and redefinition of social purpose".

He sums up what this could mean to the national polity: "There will be victors of course, but not the sacrificing masses of Biafra or the rest of the nation. Being glutted and satiated with the expected bonus of war, the elitist pyramid will elide in the natural mechanism of satiation, the fart, will suck in new elitist sectors, creating selfconsolidating, regurgitive, lumpen Mafiadom of the military, the old politicians and business enterprise".

TRUTHFUL MINDS

The historical foresight here, cannot but be noted by all those who with truthful minds correctly analysed the Gowon era from the end of the war to the regime's demise as it rode "the nation to death in alliance with business enterprise" via cement deals etc etc.

Perhaps it was the internal recognition that this time was going to befall the nation that condition the mournful nature of this book, as the author looks back on the sudden crumbling of the hopes flung at the "Third Force", his inability to stop the country from druting towards chaos despite all efforts etc.

One central figure links the entire factors of regret, the inability of the "Third Force to take control and stop the war. For, in that laid the critical issue of producing a moral and ideological alternative which provides the social and political relevance of the author's ordeal in solitary confinement.

Brushing these aside, what one discovers is a victorious Wole Soyinka, even at the point of being exterminated.

To the literary world here is a gem, molded out of the scintillating genius of Wole Soyinka's power and style of expression. The language is powerful and radiant. The mood is mournful. It calls is readership from the past, the present and the future.

Review by

'aa David-West

MAN MAO

citizen. Equality (no class distinction) in every aspect of life in China was guarded.

Mao Tse Tung said 20 years ago that "within the ranks of our people, democracy stands in relation to centralism, and freedom to discipline. They are two conflicting aspects of a single entity, contradictory as well as united and we should not one-sidedly emphasize one to the detriment of the other."

The leadership made in all its complexity and subtlety, is so uniquely Chinese that it could not be applied in toto elsewhere. Still there are significant aspects of it which might to their advantage be emulated in other developing countries — a higher level of social mobilization and national dedication, more attention to meeting basic human needs, a narrowing rather than widening of the gap between rich and poor, greater national and regional self-reliance, less hasty and indiscriminate importation of Western technology.

I think this is what Lt General Obasanjo was emphasising in his address to the National Workshop on planning strategy for 1980 at the University of Ibadan, when he asked "should we not in our own interest and the interest of humanity, look back to our own traditions".

If some or all of those elements of Mao's model, particularly his low profile theory and practice, his honest and simple way he led his life and mobilized and motivated his countrymen, should be adopted and assimilated by African leaders in particular and the world at large our society could be built into a happy one, where everyone would live in peace and harmony with fellow men.

NBC PROGRAMME

05.40	Drum Signal	RSP/TAPE
05.41	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	"
06.04	From The Nigerian Editorials	"
06.10	Morning Glee (Comm)	RSP/CGR
06.30	State News Summary In English	RSP/LIVE
06.35	OFN Jingle	RSP/TAPE
06.37	Personal Paid Announcement (Comm)	RSP/LIVE
06.57	Moment For Thought	NP
07.00	The News	"
07.10	News Talk	"
07.15	Your Government And You	"
07.20	Early Morning Request	RSP/LIVE
08.00	News On The Hour	NP
08.03	News Summaries In Edo, Efik, Fulfulde and Hausa	"
08.15	A Date With 8.15	RSP/CGR
08.45	Educational Service	NP
09.00	News Summaries In Igbo, Ijaw, Kanuri, Tiv and Yoruba	"
09.15	Music Rendezvous (Comm)	RSP/CGR
10.00	The News	NP
10.10	Network Programme Promotion	"
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	"
11.30	National Programme Educational Service	"
11.45	National Programme Educational Service	"
12.00	News On The Hour	"
12.03	National Programme Educational Service	"
12.18	National Programme Educational Service	"
12.30	Kumoni Benisue Hie (Kolokuma Mag. prog.)	RSP/TAPE
	Kirike Chiri (Okrika Mag. Programme)	"
13.00	The News	NP
13.10	From The Nigerian Editorials	"
13.15	Announcer's Choice	"
13.30	Juke Box	"
14.00	News on the hour	"
14.03	Home maker's special	"
14.30	Iron Otu Ihe	"
15.00	News on the hour	NP
15.03	Music from other States (Comm)	RSP/CGR
15.30	State News in English, Ikwerre and Kalabari	RSP/LIVE
16.00	The News	NP
16.10	Interlude	"
16.15	Information Bureau	"
16.30	Educational Service	"
16.45	News in Edo, Efik and Fulfulde	"
17.00	State News in Khana and Kolokuma	RSP/LIVE
17.20	Personal Paid Announcement (Comm)	"
17.30	Let's discuss (Rent Wed 1730 hours)	"
18.00	News in Hausa, Igbo and Ijaw	NP
18.15	Your Government and you/The next step	"
18.20	Let's go farming	"
18.25	Fuji Fiel	RSP/LIVE
18.40	Looking Ahead	RSP/LIVE
19.00	News Panorama	NP
19.30	In My Days	"
19.45	News in Kanuri, Tiv and Yoruba	NP
20.00	State News In English	RSP/LIVE
20.10	State News summary in Ikwerre, Kalabari, Khana and Kolokuma	RSP/LIVE
20.30	Agric Quarter Hour	RSP/TAPE
20.45	Meditation	NP
21.00	News on the hour	NP
21.03	Moment for Thought	"
21.05	Gods of our Fathers	"
21.20	Interlude	"
21.30	Femine World	"
22.00	The News	"
22.10	News Talk	"
22.15	Educational Service	RSP/TAPE/CGR
22.30	Music of the Rivers State	NP
23.00	News On The Hour	NP
23.03	My favourite	NP
23.13	Evening Worship (Igbo)	RSP/LIVE
23.23	Just For You	NP
00.00	News At Midnight	"
00.04	Close Down — Pledge and National Anthem	RSP/TAPE

NTV CHANNEL 10 PH

SATURDAY

6.30	News in Brief
6.35	Youth Forum
7.30	World News
7.45	Papers Today
8.05	World at Survival
8.30	Issue of the Day
9.00	Network News
9.30	Show of the Week
10.30	Weekend Movie
12.00	News Summary

OUR DUTY

Today marks the beginning of yet another hallmark in our march to constitutional civil rule. Registration of voters to elect the country's rulers when the military men return to their barracks in 1979 begins today. The exercise is expected to end on February 28.

The importance of the registration exercise cannot be overemphasised. This is so because anyone who fails to register automatically misses the chance to participate in the affairs of the country.

Since January 1966, when the military took over the administration of this nation, most of the people certainly had been itching to be allowed a say in the nation's matters. It is, therefore, incumbent on us as good citizens to come out and give our maximum cooperation to the registration officials to ensure that the Federal Military Government's political programme succeeds.

It is indeed a civic right and responsibility of every eligible person to register his or her name to be able to participate in the election of the country's representatives either to the state assemblies or the federal parliament.

It is said that a nation gets the government it deserves. It would therefore, not be in the nation's interest if we shirk our responsibilities by not registering, thereby denying ourselves the right to elect our representatives when the time comes.

If we fail in our duty to ourselves and the nation now, there would be no justification for us to complain later on if we are misruled by people who find themselves in positions because of our default.

As a matter of fact, there are many things which we cannot do or get done without our participation in the registration exercise. For example, the Constituent Assembly even though charged with drawing up a workable constitution for this country is in fact incompetent to take certain decisions. Explicitly, the Assembly can draw up guide lines for the creation of more states in the country, but it cannot in itself



CHIEF MICHAEL ANI
FEDECO Chairman

create states.

Similarly, the Constituent Assembly cannot impose any ideology on the country. However, people who feel so strongly about these issues can get them done through their representatives in parliament. But then, it must be realised that except one is registered, one is incapable of electing people who will push these through. It therefore, becomes important for each and everyone of us who is eligible to be registered.

Plain TALK



by KWAKU JOFFA

The registration exercise beginning today is an opportunity given to us to elect leaders of our choice. We owe it to ourselves and posterity to ensure the success of the exercise.

It is necessary at this point to commend the religious organisations for what they have done so far to get their membership register. Already, both the Christian and Islamic leaders have made appeals to their adherents to get themselves ready for registration. This indeed is praise worthy.

A significant aspect of the current preparation in the country for return to civil rule is that every woman is by right entitled to be registered. During the First Republic, this was not the practice. Rather, women in the North were denied political rights seemingly on religious grounds.

It is worth recalling the address of the chairman of the Kaduna Local Government Council, Alhaji Yusufu Dantsoho to the district heads and registration officials in Kaduna during the week. Alhaji Yusufu Dantsoho called on the people of the state particularly women, irrespective of tribe and social position, to register as voters for the forthcoming elections.

The chairman appealed to all Moslems to co-operate with the registration officials who would be visiting their homes by allowing their wives to register and vote.

He told the people that if they disallowed their wives to register and vote, they would be cheating themselves and warned them not to confuse the issue of registration with Islamic religion.

The principle of Islam, he reminded them, "is to ensure the happiness, security and welfare of our people". In view of this fact, he said "Moslems should allow their women to register as voters for the elections as the purpose of the registration exercise is to enable the government provide the people with adequate amenities".

According to Moslem tradition, as we had been told in this part of the world, women in purdah are married housewives who are not exposed to members of the public, but are always kept indoors by their husbands. But happily, such moslem housewives will now be allowed to take part in the nationwide registration of voters.

The present thinking surely is an indication of the importance the government attaches not only to the registration exercise but, one would believe, also to the citizens political participation in our national affairs. This is a healthy sign, the success of which we must all strive for.

The present military administration through its implementation of its political programme for the nation has given the indication that it is not interested in remaining in power for anytime longer than it is absolutely necessary. This it has shown among other things through its local government reforms which culminated in the nation wide local government elections in December 1976.

The registration exercise beginning today is an opportunity given to us to elect leaders of our choice. We owe it to ourselves and posterity to ensure the success of the exercise.

Elders and hypocrisy

Since the year of political emancipation in 1960, the Nigerian youths are by no means idlers or fence-sitters in the country's political and economic development as some elders have been painting them. Though one can argue that the behaviours of some youths in this country leaves much to be desired, that is no excuse for passing a sweeping judgment.

by Okey Anyichie

WE have often heard some of our elders echo everytime that the youths are the leaders of tomorrow. When one hears this statement and equates theory with practice, one knows without being told that those who make the statement are not serious about what they say.

They are saying that tomorrow's leadership belongs to the youths and at the same time turn round to condemn them.

The treatment recently given by the chairman of the current Constituent Assembly to the representative of youths, Mr Segun Okeowo is a case in point. What that shows is that the old politicians are not happy that youths are waking up to their political responsibilities.

BUT whether they like it or not the youths must play their part.

TIME was when long sermons by some self-ordained elders gave the impression that they have all the answers to the country's problems. Such gimmicks should be dismissed because our past experience has shown that the elders do not have all answers to our problems.

Our society should benefit from the activities of the two groups and none has the right to exclude the other from contributing to the development of the country.

No group has the exclusive monopoly of wisdom or political foresight.

IT was the Nigerian students who questioned the wisdom of the so-called Defence Pact with Britain in 1962. This was abrogated when they demonstrated that some members of the



MR SEGUN OKEOWO

then House of Parliament had supported the open sell-out of Nigeria.

WHEN one looks at the trend in the country, it becomes clear that it is not the youths alone that should be blamed for the ills in our society. The elders should also be blamed.

We often hear of juvenile delinquency but no one talks of adult delinquency. If we close our eyes to adult delinquency then we have no moral justification to blame the youths.

THE youths are the product of society and those who set the standard the society is now following are not the youths. They learnt from their fathers and mothers and no one should therefore blame them if they start putting



JUSTICE UDO UDOMA

into practice what their parents have taught them.

It is sheer hypocrisy to condemn the young ones while behaving in a way that is out of tune with the moral standard in our society.

LET us first of all discard our ostentatious way of life and then put the young ones in a good position to imitate the pace-setters. If we hear that in order to build our society we have to make sacrifices then it will be foolish to listen to those who love cars so much that they own them as one owns clothes.

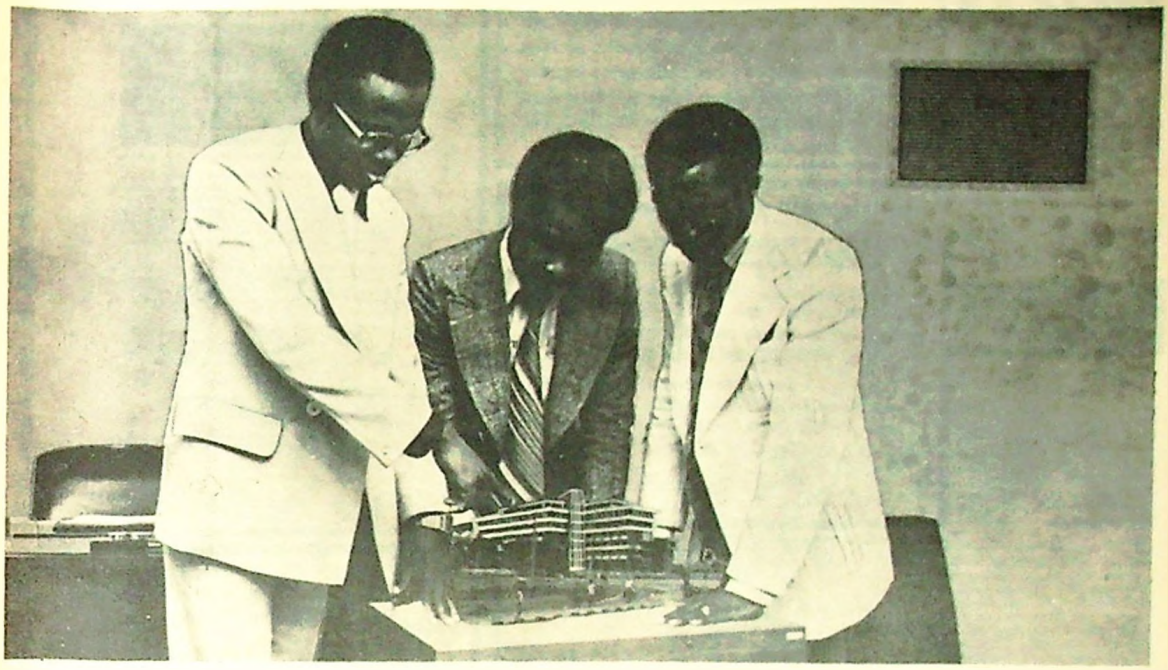
It is rather stupid of a 'man of God' to preach against sexual promiscuity while at night he hobnobs with the wives of his church members. Those hypocrites who perpetrate these atrocities and turn round to blame the youths are not being fair to their conscience.

It is time they should start organising for a positive participation in the political struggle. It is time they realised that education is for liberation of one from superstition and ignorance and not domination.

THE youths should know actually that they are the producers of the nation's wealth and as such should demand equal participation in the affairs of the country.

Now that the Federal Military Government has recognised the impact of the youths in our society, by nominating a representative in the Constituent Assembly, this should serve as a foundation for future struggle. The world really belongs to all and as such the youths should wake up to their responsibilities.

WHEN this is achieved, we shall be happy to build a society where no one is oppressed irrespective of which age-grade you belong to.



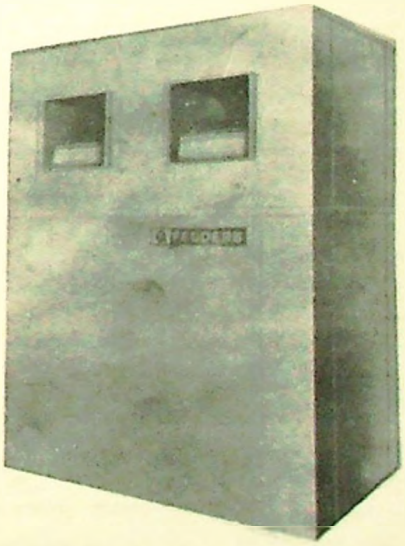
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Classified Adverts

Change of Name

OMONI—I, formerly known and addressed as Mr Stephen Ovuru Emeburu now wish to be known and addressed as Mr Festus Emeburu. Meanwhile former documents remain valid G.S.S. Aba and the general public to note Festus Emeburu.

DIRIYAI—I formerly known, and addressed Miss Sylvina Diriyai, wish to be called and addressed Mrs Sylvina Josiah D Oyubaru. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. Rivers State Ministry of Education, School Management Board, Teaching Service Commission, Principal Staff and students of Federal Government T.T.C., Rumuolumeni and the general public take note. Mrs Sylvina Josiah D Oyubaru

MEME—I, formerly known and called Miss Odega Dorothy now wish to be known and addressed as Miss Bridget Meme. All documents bearing my former name will remain valid Ministry of Education, Agbor Girls Grammar School and the general public please take note Bridget Meme.

IKIROMA—I, formerly known called and addressed as Mr Ombe Tubale Ikiroma, now wish to be addressed and called as Mr Ombe Tubale Ikiroma-Owire. All documents bearing my former name remain valid Ministry of Education, Nigerian Tobacco Company, Bank and the general public take note. Mr O. T. Ikiroma-Owire

MIKPO—I, formerly known called and addressed as Miss Glad Bekeambelemeere Mikpo wish to be called and addressed as Mrs Glad Bekeambelemeere Ongore. All documents bearing my former names remain valid Bonny School, Igbodi and the general public should please take note. Mrs Glad B Ongore.

NWUZI — I, formerly known and addressed as Miss Justina Akan Nwuzi, wish to be called and addressed as Miss Catherine Akan Nwuzi. All documents bearing my former names remain valid Principal, T.C.T.T. College, Ndele, the Ministry of Education, Industrial Management board and the general public take note. Miss Catherine A. Nwuzi.

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SALARY:
Good with excellent fringe benefits.

Applications should be directed to

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QUALIFICATION:

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Salary very attractive and negotiable

CONDITIONS:

Any person appointed shall be subject to the terms of the current company's conditions of service as they are amended from time to time

METHOD OF APPLICATION:

Applications should be in candidate's handwriting stating age, qualification and experience to be addressed to:

The General Manager,
Eastern Wrought Iron Limited,
47, Trans-Amadi Industrial Layout,
P. O. Box 662,
Port Harcourt.

Closing date 6th of February, 1978

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REGISTRATION OF HACKNEY CARRIAGES, STAGE CARRIAGES AND OMNIBUSES PLYING IN THE RIVERS STATE

Part VI of the Rivers State Road Traffic Regulations 1976 provides for the Registration of hackney carriages and the stipulation of distinctive colour for taxis.

The effective date for the registration of all hackney carriages and omnibuses plying in the Rivers State shall be the 1st of March, 1978.

Registration Fee:

The Registration fee for operating as taxi or bus as distinct from licence for putting a new vehicle on the road shall be ₦20 per annum for taxi and ₦40 per annum for omnibuses. Registration shall be valid for one year subject to renewal yearly, so however that no taxi or omnibus shall be registered after a consecutive period of use of three years.

Application Fee:

Application for Registration of a taxi or omnibus shall be made on an Application Form obtainable from the Chief Road Traffic Officer.

Type of Vehicle Acceptable For Registration as a Taxi:

Peugeot 504 and 404 Saloon Car
Toyota Saloon Car
Datsun Saloon Car
Volkswagen Rio & Igala Saloon Car
Such other vehicle as is acceptable to the Chief Road Traffic Officer.

Taxi Colour:

The following is a description of the approved colour for taxis operating in the Rivers State —

Apart from white stripes on a central piece on top and on both sides of the car, the body of the car shall be navy blue in colour.

The minimum width of the white stripes shall be 80mm while the maximum width shall be 260mm depending on the size and type of car.

Lighted Symbol:

Every taxi operating in the Rivers State shall at all times carry a lighted symbol at the centre of the roof showing the word "TAXI" in capitals.

Engr. Chief E. A. APENU
Chief Road Traffic Officer,
Rivers State.

Rivers State Transport Corporation

TENDER

For the Supply of Motor Tyres & Spare Parts

Tenders are invited from reputable dealers for the supply of SAVIEM AND MERCEDES BENZ buses' Tyres and spare parts to the Rivers State Transport Corporation, Port Harcourt.

Tenderers may wish to contact the Senior Maintenance Superintendent, Rivers State Transport Corporation, for view of the range of buses for which the above accessories are required, whereupon they should pay a non-refundable deposit of ₦50.00 (fifty naira) only to the Accounts Department of the Corporation, and address and submit their quotations to:

The Secretary,
Rivers State Transport Corporation,
Amaigbo Street, or P.M.B. 5001,
Port Harcourt.

within seven days from the date of appearance of this publication.

I. A. SAMPSON
Public Relations Officer

Rivers State Transport Corporation
Amaigbo Street, or P. M. B. 5001
Port Harcourt.

Sale of Boarded Vehicles

The Corporation offers the following boarded 12 vehicles for sale:-

REG NUMBERS	TYPE OF VEHICLE
RPA 5640	SAVIEM
RPA 5644	"
RPA 5641	"
RPA 5645	"
RPA 5651	"
RVSG 1331	"
RVSG 1332	"
RSVG 1333	"
RVSG 1334	"
RVSG 1335	"
RSVG 1358	"
RVSG 1359	"

Interested buyers are requested to submit sealed tenders marked "Tender for Boarded vehicles" and addressed to the Secretary, Rivers State Transport Corporation, P.M.B. 5001, Port Harcourt, to reach him not later than 3.30 p.m. on 25th January, 1978.

Tenderers may contact the Senior Maintenance Superintendent, Rivers State Transport Corporation for view and inspection of the above-listed boarded vehicles, between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. (Monday to Friday only) in the corporation's premises, from the date of appearance of this publication.

Successful tenderers will be required to make full settlement for the accepted tenders before the vehicles are removed and such settlement and removal must be completed within seven days of the notification of the acceptance.

The decision of the Corporation shall be final and it shall not be obliged to explain why a particular tender was not successful.

I. A. SAMPSON
Public Relations Officer

Trespass: I-G sued

THE Inspector General of Police, the Imo State Commissioner of Police, Oguta divisional police officer and one Mr V. O. Onuorah have been sued in the Oguta High Court for trespass and damages by an Oguta businessman, Mr Lewis C. U. Ogbata.

Plaintiff alleged that the inspector-general of police and the three other defendants, acting by themselves or through their agents, broke and entered into his property and commenced to put up some unauthorised structures therein.

He said they damaged some cement blocks in the act.



ALHAJI YUSUF
Inspector-General of Police

The plaintiff said that he had warned the defendants not to enter into the property, but they ignored the warning.

In a suit filed by Prince N.I.A. Obianyere on behalf of Mr Ogbata, claims that he is the owner of a piece of land known and called as Anyaeru Uzoigwe situate at "mile 4" Oguta Mgbidi road, Egwe Oguta in the Egbema-Obaji Oguta local government area of Imo State, into which he said the defendants trespassed.

He is claiming from the defendants jointly and severally, N1,000 as general damages for the trespass.

He also asked for perpetual injunction to restrain the defendants, their agents or servants from further entry into or interference with his property.

The case comes up in the Oguta High Court on January 18, 1978 for mention.

Moves to end fire out-break

IN response to public appeal, the Kaduna State Fire Service is taking a number of measures to prevent fire-outbreak and the subsequent destruction of life and property.

A statement from the Service Fire Officer in Kaduna, Malam Umaru Badamasi outlined some of the steps to be taken by his unit to enlighten the public against fire-outbreaks.

These include among others, the prevention by parents of their children playing with matches, the need to switch-off electrical appliances when not in use, the need for fire-fighting equipment being installed at public places such as petrol filling stations, cinema theatres, hotel and restaurants and above all, highly inflammable liquids must not be stored in homes.

The statement further said that persons wishing to fight fire or burn their farmlands may first have to notify the nearest fire station.

It further drew the attention of private and commercial vehicle owners of the need to be armed with fire extinguishers.

He appealed to members of the public to report to the nearest fire station any fire outbreak no matter how minor it might be.

Journalists open registry in Rivers

A REGISTER of all working journalists in the Rivers State is now being compiled by the state council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists.

A decision to compile the register was reached at a general meeting of the council held at the office of the Nigerian Tide in Port Harcourt on Tuesday.

Every working journalist in the state is therefore advised by his own interest to register with the NUJ secretariat.

Other far-reaching decisions taken at the meeting include a plan to launch a Press Week later in the year, and a resolution to revitalise the state council to put it on a sound footing.

Already, a committee has been set up to work out detailed plans for the proposed Press Week, while solid plans have been mapped out to ensure a safe keeping of the union's finances.

PRISONS LOSE 1-2 TO POLICE

THE Police and Prisons warders often work together at times they work hand-in-hand. Both perform almost a related type of civil service. They always agree with one another. But last week, both were at 'war' in the Port Harcourt Recreation Stadium.

In their last match the Police Football Club of Port Harcourt narrowly defeated the Prisons Football Club also of Port Harcourt in a 2—1 goal margin at the Recreation Stadium, Port Harcourt.

Taking the kick-off at 4.45 p.m. was the Prisons but were immediately forced to their own half by the police who appeared in a new outfit.

For fifteen minutes the Police kept their opponents in their own half with pressure.

And although Prisons forward starring Moore, Deckor, Moneyman and Stephen Alo tried some goal-hungry moves yet they were warded off by the Police off-side tactics.

— by —
Inengisa Somiari

Game continued this way until in the 16th minute when Police centre-forward man, Agladima receiving a pass, unleashed an 18 yarder which couldn't have beaten the Prisons goalkeeper, but for his stylish catch he was beaten for a goal.

The move that followed this goal would have brought an equalizer for the desperate Prisons boys, but for Moneyman's left flank lob which narrowly missed the goal.

Again they come, the "Warder" boys spearheading the attack were Moneyman and Moore. These combining beautifully, found schoolboy Stephen Alo, the ace Bobo striker who got the equalizer in the 25th minute.

Ten minutes later Police regained their winning goal through Abiondu Kamrel.

At interval play stood at 2—1 against Prisons.

Second half witnessed an entertaining football as Prisons brought out all in them for an equalizer and Police defending their one goal lead.

And although the "Warder" boys put up a thorough fight, narrow misses rubbed them of their much needed equalizer.

Imo thrash Sokoto 6—3 at Kaduna

AT the Ahmadu Bello Stadium early this week, Imo State teachers football team defeated their Sokoto counterpart by 6 — 3, at the current all Nigeria Teachers Training Colleges Games in Kaduna.

Sokoto State which dominated and controlled the play for a number of times, recorded their first goal in the 15th minute of the first half.

Efforts by Imo State team to equalize within the first 45 minutes of the game failed.

The first half ended with Sokoto State leading by a lone goal.

In the second half, Imo State put up a typical "Spartans" fight and equalised in the 48th minute thus the game ended in 1 — 1 draw. Penalty kicks were subsequently awarded.

Imo State scored all their penalty kicks and won. At this stage thunderous cheers went to Imo State from the crowd.

The match ended 6 — 3 against Sokoto.

— From —
Edward Ahemen Kaduna

Also at the Ahmadu Bello Stadium, on Monday Plateau State defeated Ondo State in the football contest by 3 — 0.

In the first half, Plateau State was leading by a lone goal.

In the second half, Plateau State took it more serious with their counterpart and recorded 3 goals in the second half, thus proving that they were four times better than their Ondo counterpart.

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8 match Treble Chance Pool Aways possible points 23	3 Draws Pool N7,940 for 10k
No client with 23 or 22 and half	
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All dividends are declared to units of 10k except the 8 match T/C Draws and Aways PLL which are declared to units of 1k are subject to reacrutiny.

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Inter-State contests put off

THE Inter-State relays and sprint will not be taking place today and tomorrow, January 14th and 15th this year, as previously scheduled, the Amateur Athletic Association (AAA) of Nigeria has announced.

The (AAA) decided at its working committee over the week-end to postpone the competition until further notice.

In its statement in Lagos, the (AAA) did not give any reason why it had decided to postpone the competition. It however, said a new date will be announced soon.

Get registered for the 1979 election. It is your right

Tidesport



Picture shows the Prisons in an earlier encounter with one of their opponents during the Dafa league in Port Harcourt. Here three prisons defenders checking the intention of an opponent forward-man (No. 9).

Bendel top all at Kaduna TTC games

BAUCHI State emerged as the winners in four hundred metres hurdles in all Nigeria Teachers Games at the Ahmadu Bello Stadium, Kaduna.

Bauchi clocked 54.00 seconds; Bendel came second with 56.00 seconds while Kaduna and Oyo came third and fourth with 56.8 seconds and 59.9 seconds respectively.

In 800 metres women final hurdles, Ondo came first with 2.44 seconds.

In 200 metres women final, Agnes Ogboro, Bendel took first position with 24.4 seconds while Ogun State placed second with 25.5 seconds, and Bendel and Ondo took third and fourth positions respectively with 26.1 second and 26.2 seconds respectively.

Imo who played like football veterans displayed classical soccer on the field.

Apart from being faster than their opponents, they were superb in passing and dribbling.

The first half which ended goalless was marked with lots of excitement.

Both teams resumed the second half with renewed vigour.

— From Dele Omorege, Kaduna —

Ogun emerged as the overall winners in 800 metres men final with 1.59 seconds. Ondo was second with 2.05 seconds while Oyo and Sokoto came third and fourth with 2.10 second and 2.14 seconds respectively.

It appeared the Bendel boys were going to put in what could have resulted as the decider, but due to the fact that they were not as organised as their opponents, they could not make it. Not quite 20 minutes of resumption, Imo put in what later become their winning goal.

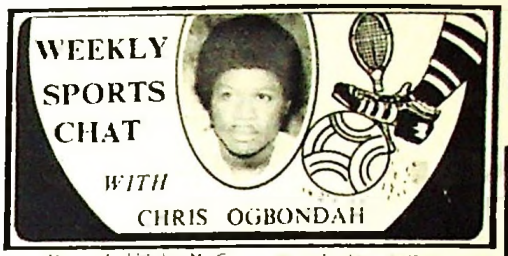
In another development, Imo trashed Bendel by one goal to nothing. In soccer semi-final in all teachers college games played at the same venue.

Reports from Kaduna say that Bendel State had won most of the events so far concluded.

In the first ten minutes of play, Bendel boys made some wonderful moves.

This time the reward for the winners is not based on gems or silver but on certificate.

The Bendel boys lost many scoring chances.



TIDESPORT

Pools forecast

International Pools Pointers Naps

NAPSMAN
HEREFORD 1
HEREFORD 3
HEREFORD 10
HEREFORD 15
HEREFORD 16

TIP
CHESTER XXX
CHESTER XXX
CHESTER XXX
CHESTER XXX
CHESTER XXX

INDIANA NAP
16 XXX 18 XXX 17 XXX
EDITORS BANKER
10 XX 17 XX 27 XX
SUCCESS NAP
15 XX 19 XX 30 XX

VIKS NAP
26 XX 19 XX 41 XX
PAIRS NAP
16/17 XXX 23/30/47/48 XX

BABY NAP
3 XXX 10 XXX 15 XXX 10 XX

HULLO sports fans! After some couple of weeks, writing around looking around the world of sports I decided to open this column to chat sports with you every week in a not-too-light, not too serious, yet serious, passive but decisive punch-packed style.

It'll be a column I may agree with some people or tred upon their toes. When this happens it is my hope that those who feel grieved may remember and understand the world off "forgive and forget" we are living in.

It is also my hope that where the bitter truth has been overstretched, you may play-down emotions and tendencies four vindictiveness and take it easy.

I also expect that the numerous readers of this column may give this columist the welcome opportunity of monitoring their comments, observations, remarks, feelings and what have you as often as possible by dropping letters and notes to TIDESPORT. I will also ask for the silent peace and your pardon if this column fails you any week. God's BBLESSING!

Belated report !

When the Rivers State Sports Council swiftly set up a panel last year to look into the circumstances surrounding the withdrawal of the Sharks Football Club of Port Harcourt from last year's national super league matches, little did the public in general and the supporters of the club know that the report of the panel will be delayed till this minute.

The question many sports enthusiasts and fans of the club are now asking, is whether or not that panel has met AAnd if it has, why its findings/report, have not been made known to the public who support the club with their meager resources.

The Rivers soccer ambassadors to that national super league were leading in their Lagos zone with five points (following the withdrawal of Bendel Insurance Football Club), having defeated the Water Corporation and played 1 — 1 with Spartans of Owerri. Suddenly they were forced to withdraw on technical rules of the league.

Following their withdrawal, the board of the Rivers State Sports Council, at the end of October last year, set up a five-man panel to investigate the circumstances that led to the withdrawal of the team.

The panel which has Mr G. F. C. Toby as its chairman was mandated to investigate

(a) "The circumstances surrounding the disqualification of the Sharks club in the national league.

(b) "Allegation of mal-administration of the fund in preparation for and the league matches in Ibadan and Lagos".

Though not very incisive the guidelines were, but they were expected to be fairly good working bases for the panel.

But it may not go without saying that the delay in the execution of the work of the panel, now generates a number of questions. As such, one may ask how competent this panel of inquiry is. If competent, why has the report not been concluded since it was set up nearly three months ago? If otherwise, should such a panel probe an officer, now dismissed for alleged incompetence? Has work of that panel not found expression with subjectivism, bias, prejudice or indecision?

It is the candid view of this column that the panel has to hasten its little obligation to the many a thousand fans and supporters of the Sharks Football Club and public in general.

For one thing, it may be necessary to observe that football season for this year has changed dramatically — and as such the findings of the panel will go a long way in putting the hands of the clock right during the preparation of the state's representatives at the challenge cup and league matches soon to take off.

If the findings of the panel are so belated, how could the sports council and the state NFA plug valves into the empty holes that caused the deflation of the Sharks Club last year? How could the RSSC and NFA take care of retrogressive elements and anomalies that were are within the club if the report is delayed any longer.

This column strongly believes that we can only make our catch before the rains set in, otherwise we are in for some sad huddle and another helter-skelter in preparing the state teams to those national competitions that will soon take off.

Let us have NFA's ideas for 1978

THE year is still young, now is the time to work out a good football calendar for Nigeria.

There are reasons for such early planning. First, for Africa, 1978 could be a crowded sporting year. Secondly, we must also foresigh; now to know that we once launched a Sporting Calendar with fanfare but it was like great cry and little wool.

So what are the international engagements to consider in planning a football programme? There is the Nations tournament in Ghana in March. Then the various CAFC club matches.

There will be three this year, the Super Champions match between Enugu Rangers International of Nigeria and Hafia of Guinea, the Cup Winners Competition and the Champion Clubs Competition.

These take up the period between March and December with a break between June and September.

Now then, what is the NFA to do? It must take a hard look at the African Football Calendar and use the free weeks to organise our National Competitions. Already it has assembled 41 players in camp and the chances are that the boys will be there until after Algiers if we become zone 4 champions in the qualifying games between Nigeria, Upper Volta, Togo, Niger and Benin Republics. This takes us to June or July.

The NFA must remember that Rangers and HCC will play in the Club matches for which they are registered and the clubs will need their best players. All these facts must be taken into account now.

The nation comes first. Yet we do not want the clubs to dent our National Sporting achievements, owing to poor performances in continental competitions. So while then, is time, let us work out the best programme for the National League and Challenge Cup Competitions. Let us not deny the clubs their boys because of very long unnecessary sacrifices in the national camp.

Someone said that the clubs have been told that once some of their players are chosen for the Green Eagles team, the clubs should use substitutes or in other words get another back-up team.

One hopes our clubs will not be disgraced, because of such a policy, in 1978 continental matches. What one is really asking for is for the NFA to announce early its 1978 programme so that sports fans can send in their comments and suggestions or commendments if you like.

Our National League and Challenge Cup Competitions in 1977 were so hurriedly executed that they nearly destroyed our footballers. Most teams played matches within 12 hours of each other and this was a contravention of well established FIFA and AFC rules, although we could argue that ours was not a tournament but a kind of festival.

So NFA, give us your ideas for ideas they must be. And let the enthusiastic football followers advise on their possibility. This two-way dialogue as it were, will make for participatory democracy where we really are meant to serve the people.

SAYS SEBASTINE OFURUM

Although the Edmonton Commonwealth Games and Argentina World Cup may not directly affect our football here, it is likely to interest many of our sports administrators who may want to attend. But I think that the 3rd All African Games at Algiers in summer is going to affect our football programme in Nigeria as well as in Africa.

Little time will be left there-after for AFC competitions and our local ones like the National League and Challenge Cup.

Sharks bite Prisons Club 2-1

...at PH DAFA league final

SHARKS Football Club, the Rivers State soccer ambassador last Wednesday at the Recreation Stadium played below expectation when they narrowly rendered a 2—1 defeat against the Port Harcourt Prisons FC.

Had Prisons continued with the tempo they started with, the story would have been different, because right from the blast of the whistle until the 15th minute they controlled the play with excellent dribbling and passes.

Trying some new players, Sharks had many disheartening misses. These were mainly by outside left Hamilton Green and centre forward Kenneth Bayo.

by
INENGISA SOMIARI

Prisons took the kick-off which followed with midfield tussles. From defender John Apollo a back pass went to Sharks keeper Peter in the 2nd minute.

Launching their first attack from the left flank Sharks lost their first chance in the 4th minute through Hamilton Green, who overlapping beautifully and facing an empty net shot wide. And in the counter attack that followed prisons had their own sad story when West was played at advantage but failed to connect.

In spite of prisons outside tactics the game continued with narrow misses. Until in the 40th minute when Patrick Beac's ground-der found the net for the Sharks.

Substitute Maxwell Mebrufra brightened up the Sharks forward when he replaced Daniel Omoregie in the second half. Receiving a lob from the outside right, he dismantle prisons defence before finding a well placed Hamilton Green who did not hesitate to hammer a right footer.

Of course it was not all sharks, the Prisons boys also had their turn. Infact they proved big rivals. In the defence were their goalkeeper who made beautiful saves, ace defender Ezeni and Kalio. But for the hard blocking of Sharks captain John Apollo, Prisons forward starring Moore, Decker and Alo would have found the net. However they got their only goal in the 82 minutes during a goalmouth scramble which resulted to a corner kick.

According to the state zonal secretary with this victory, the Sharks who top the league table with ten points and Police who second with eight points have to represent the Port Harcourt zone in the state cup.

NIGERIAN TIDE

Saturday, January 14, 1978



SOME of the protesting traders pictured on Wednesday.

JUDGE JAILS OWN ORDERLY

PROCEEDINGS in the Price Control division of the Anambra State High Court sitting at Nnewi in Nnewi Local Government area took a dramatic turn when the presiding judge's orderly was jailed for 12 months.

The orderly, Edet Ekpong, was among the four people standing trial before Mr Justice Francis Omoniyi Nwokuli for impersonating price control officers.

Elections

(Continued from page 1)

ordinarily entitled to use such vehicle or boat.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-section (1) of this section the Electoral Commission may by notice in the Gazette restrict or limit the use of vehicles of any particular description at any water transport at an election.

(3) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of N100 or to imprisonment for six months, or to both.

Row over stallage fees

Aba market faces giant boycott

from Ray Eke

THE stalemate over payment of stallage fees in the famous N4,000,000 Ariaria Relief Market at Aba in Imo State got out of hand on Wednesday as some 20,000 traders in the market "downed tools."

The traders had begun a total boycott of the market in protest against what they described as "unprecedented increases" in stallage and other fees in the market by the state government.

The giant relief market was completely deserted and sheds, stalls and lock-up shops were closed up and the market's motor park as well as the so-called free zone left empty.

Transporters had withdrawn their vehicles from the market routes, also in protest against the increased park tolls.

Housewives and other local customers, as well as traders from neighbouring states who had travelled to the market to buy their needs were stranded as Ariaria traders loitered about in peaceful demonstration of their grievances.

Anti-riot police, led by Inspector A. C. Nwiowe, and a team of fire brigade men were drafted to the market as precautionary measures against any breach of the peace.

The boycott of the market continued yesterday.

Speaking to newsmen who had trooped to the market to see things for themselves, the secretary of the Ariaria Market Traders' Union (AMTU), Mr Humphrey Nwiwu, said the boycott would last two days.

But he warned that if the Ariaria Market Interim Administration Board insisted on collecting the new rates from the traders, his members would have no alternative but to pack their wares and move into the township for their business.

He claimed that some of the stallage fees were increased by as much as one, two and three hundred per cent, respectively.

"This is very prohibitive and we cannot afford to pay them", he said.

In a public notice just issued by the market administration board, traders at Ariaria were warned that the collection of all revenue, fees and other charges due in respect of stalls and other facilities in the market would be commenced on Tuesday, January 10, 1978, and would be strictly in accordance with the new rates.

The notice further pointed out that "arrears of stallage fees for one year" would also be collected from all holders and occupants of the market stalls, shops or other facilities.

20,000 PROTEST



DR PATRICK JAKPA

No more purge in Railway — JAKPA

EMPLOYEES of the Nigerian Railway Corporation should not be afraid of any purge, for there will be none at all.

This authoritative assurance came from the corporation's Administrator, Dr Patrick Jakpa, on his arrival at the Port Harcourt airport yesterday from Lagos to begin a three-day inspection tour of the corporation in the Rivers State.

Dr Jakpa said although a reorganisation was going on, it would not involve the retirement or dismissal of staff.

Rather, it was aimed at working out better service conditions for employees by increasing their salary grades.

He had come to Port Harcourt, he said, to see for himself the place being made for the new standard gauge system for the corporation.

Dr Jakpa announced that contract for the planning, engineering, surveying and designing of the new standard gauge system had been awarded by the Federal Military Government and that work had already started on the project.

The new railway lines, he added, would help to improve the corporation's services and facilitate the distribution of goods in the country.

He said that the Federal Military Government was seriously committed to the new standard gauge railway lines and that efforts were being intensified to ensure that it went into operation soon.

Port Harcourt, he announced, had been chosen to be the starting point of the new lines and that the corporation would construct a bridge across the River Niger to link the new lines with Aparaku.

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