

DRUM

AFRICA'S LEADING MAGAZINE

MARCH 1974

NIGERIA EDITION 20 KOB0
U.K. PRICE 25p

**WHY I'VE COME HOME -
BY PRINCE OF BENIN**

**Juju victim tells of struggle
for life**

**GRIPPING
NEW SHORT
STORY BY
CYPRIAN
EKWENSI**





Have one!

GOLD LEAF FOR GOOD TASTE!

DRUM-

Bic

FOOTBALL CONTEST



mark
your
X
with a



Bic

of course

Bic, the reputable
ball point pen.

Strong and sturdy,
and so full of ink it
writes and writes
and writes.

Pick a Bic



Bic

NOW
BIGGER
THAN
EVER

**400 N
MUST BE
WON!**



Last month the ball was in the position shown above.
THERE WERE FOUR WINNERS

1. CHUKS JOHN ITABOR, PURCHASING DEPARTMENT, LEVER BROTHERS NIGERIA LIMITED, 15 DOCKYARD ROAD, APAPA.
2. JOEL JIDE OMOPE, 4 DADA LANE, OSHOGBO
3. MUHAMMED SADAUKI, c/o ALHAJI MAIRIGA, BOX 45, MAIDUGURI
4. MR. AMBROSE ALABI, ROOM A-21, KUTI HALL, UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, IBADAN

RULES:

On the picture below the ball has been removed. In this contest of skill, all you have to do is show exactly where the ball was on the original picture. You can mark up to 12 crosses on the picture. The person whose cross shows the exact centre of the ball is the winner.

1. The entry fee must be paid by postal order. 10 Kobo for 5 tries, 15 Kobo for 8 tries and 20 Kobo for 12 tries. All payments which must accompany the whole of this coupon should be sent to DRUM Publications (Nigeria) Ltd.
2. The winner must mark the exact centre of the "a". If no cor-

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

3. Not more than 12 crosses are permitted per coupon.
4. Entries will close on March 21 and the winner's name will be published in April.

SPOT
THE
BALL

IT'S AS
EASY
AS THIS...

Read the rules below, then mark on the picture below where you think the ball was on the original photograph. Complete the coupon and send it together with your Postal Order, and YOU could win 400 Naira

THIS MONTH
COULD BE
YOUR
TURN!

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

6. Employees and families of persons connected with DRUM Publications are not allowed to compete.
7. Postal orders are not to be signed or entries may be disqualified.



To: Drum Publications (Nigeria) Ltd., P.M.B. 2128, Lagos, Nigeria

Here is my complete coupon for the DRUM Bic Contest together with a postal order value

Name

Address

I agree to abide by the rules and will take the judges' verdict as final

(CONTEST NO. 1)

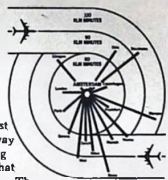
"I flew KLM-All the way to Manchester.

When I called in on KLM they showed me how easy it was to fly to Manchester via Amsterdam. On Tuesday and Saturday from Lagos. On Wednesday from Kano.*"

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



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



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

Like floating through a very entertaining history lesson,

we passed the magnificent houses of the 17th-century merchant princes.

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

I went to the airport early because I wanted

plenty of time to wander round the famous Tax-Free

Shopping Centre.

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

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

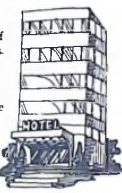
KLM can give you more information, call in at your travel agent or nearest KLM office.



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

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

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



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

Throughout that flight I was made really comfortable. The

* In co-operation with Nigerian Airways.

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Oil producers must help 'Third World'

SOMEHOW the rich oil producing states must save the developing countries from the recent increases in the price of oil. The effect of the rises could prove to be disastrous. The Shah of Iran has told the West that their prosperity, based on cheap oil, is over for ever. But surely the rest of Africa need not suffer.

James Chanda, Lagos, Nigeria.

Our leaders and our bright boys from the Ministries have been pressing the vastly-rich Arabs to be more considerate to their old friends in Africa. Let's hope the Arabs take heed urgently. — Editor.



Nairobi's oldest citizen.

Oldest man has a story to tell

I LOVED your story on Nairobi's oldest inhabitant, Njoroge Kamau (DRUM, February). Young historians should record his memories. What memories and what a life the man must have led. Someone should write a book about him.

Joseph Kaiza, Livingstone, Zambia.

Parents must stop these abortions

I HAVE heard that many schoolgirls are aborting children during the sixth month of their pregnancies. This is really terrible. Apart from any moral issues involved, Kenya badly needs a larger population. I appeal to parents to take great care of their pregnant daughters so as to put a final stop to this terrible practice.

G.B.A., Heye Ok, Homa Bay, Kenya.

Most religions and governments condemn abortion. But surely the root cause of this problem is that older men take advantage of schoolgirls. Certainly Kenya needs more people, but the best way to increase the population in an orderly fashion is via marriage. — Editor.

Essay competition could help us

I REALLY value DRUM. It is an excellent publication because it tells Africans what is happening throughout the Continent. But have you ever considered having an essay competition for your readers? Subjects could include prostitution, the problem of poverty, local customs etc. It would give readers a great opportunity to participate more fully in DRUM magazine.

Sed, W. Tino, Kampala, Uganda.

That is an idea well worth considering and thank you for suggesting it. — Editor.

Governor's wisdom impresses me

I READ the first part of your interview with Governor Johnson and was inspired by three of his remarks.

One: "Other human beings can only delay whatever one will become in life; they cannot stop it". Two: "A man who has got a loving wife must try and listen to her because when a wife is sincere she develops a motherly intuition". Three: "I felt that wives who had just had babies tend to have a feeling of neglect when their husbands go out for too long at night". Those who found the article "too long" should read these important thoughts again and again.

Ayo Kolawole, Caladras.

Brigadier Johnson can be both philosophical and witty.—Editor.

Our oil won't last for ever

I HAVE noticed from the pages of Nigerian newspapers that every government project that was announced now cost millions of Naira. I know that Nigeria is now rich, but have the prices of things gone up so much so fast since 1966 that nothing costs a commodity that will be available for ever?

I hope we don't forget that oil is not a commodity that will be available for ever.

Fadde Ajako, Ilorin.

It is true that oil is an expendable source of revenue. It is why the nation's oil wealth should be used to build the nation. It should be ploughed into education, health, industry and agriculture which is the backbone of Nigeria's economy before the discovery of all in commodities of the present government leaders give the impression that they know what they are doing with the national economy. — Editor.

Who gains from a census fiddle?

I HOPE the mistakes committed in the 1963 census will not be repeated with last year's census in Nigeria. Personally, I don't see what anybody will gain by inflating population figures.

Mupeke Apaturo, Lagos.

Apart from the possible advantages in the allocation of development funds, one major factor which could possibly motivate inflation of population figures was purely political. Allocation of seats in the House of Representatives was worked out on the basis of the number of seats in the Federal legislature. The more people there were in a region the more its number of seats in the Federal legislature. I think that one way to cut out the political temptation to inflate figures is to allocate equal number of seats to each of the 12 states, regardless of the population of any of the states. In fact that will make for greater equality and avoid the political imbalance that contributed to the crisis of confidence that swept the army into political power in 1966. — Editor.



Ethiopian victim of the Great Drought.

West's day of reckoning is at hand

THE day of reckoning has come for the rich Europeans and Americans. They are today yelling about the Arabs who have increased the price of oil. How many ordinary people in the West cared for a drought in West Africa and in Ethiopia? The Arabs are quite right to increase the price of oil: for too long now Africa and the Middle East has given the West its commodities cheaply.

Against the backdrop of starving Ethiopian children, readers should

remember the following: It spent by American world cosmetics every year is almost as much as the combined annual of all African states which achieved their freedom since the developed country quarter of the world's population controls 90 per cent of its income, 90 per cent of its scientific and 70 per cent of its meat and cent of its protein.

M.S., Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

More power to 'Super Mike'

PLEASE allow me some space to congratulate Nigerian wrestler "Super Mike" for winning the World Crown as the Wrestling Champion of the World at a competition in Kampala, Uganda.

I suggest that the Federal Government should encourage "Super Mike" to coach Nigerian youngsters, so that Nigeria can remain a force to be reckoned with in the world of wrestling.

Kunle Joan, Lagos.



FRANCESCA THE FANTASTIC!

Francesca, this month's cover girl, is a teenager with a real Nigerian flare for fashion. In her glossy, shimmering scarlet dress to her glossy gold shoes and six-inch heels is the very latest in fashion, even if it confines her to tall boyfriends!

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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

SUBJECT OR EXAM _____

AGE _____

I WAS

Dominic Edozor tells the story of how enemies analysed H

I WAS sick and heavy when I came back from work at 7 p.m., June 17, 1972. After my wife had served my bath and I had changed with my two children for some minutes, I decided to go to bed and have a sleep.

Shortly after I had gone to bed, my domestic servant came in and tapped me on the body with the palm of his hand. He said that I had a visitor. When I tried to get out of bed and see the visitor who, I thought, was waiting in the sitting room, the boy said that the visitor had left. I then lay back in bed and have dozed off.

At about 11 p.m. I woke up. When I tried to get out of bed, I discovered that I could not move any part of my body. I showed to my wife and told her of my discovery. After one week, the limbs of my body had disappeared completely.

Shutting the grave-slab open and a dead man, wrapped tightly in white cloth, emerged — a light emanating from him. I trembled with fear.

I was advised that my sickness was a thing for native doctors. A friend took me to a native doctor at a village about four miles outside Ijebu-Ode. The man tried his best, but my condition did not improve.

After one month in his care, I was directed to another native doctor who also treated me for a month. This one was in Ijebu-Ode township. He too tried, but my position still remained unchanged.

I tried a third native doctor at Ago-Iwoye, near Ijebu-Ode. This one surprised me. Having faith getting better, my condition got worse. He professed that after one week in his care, I would have plenty of pain. I was feared so.

A consultant then advised me that I should pack bags and travel to my hometown, Alimu-Agbor, in the Mid-

West doct

So left in child effect, mothe native

The sulted wheth

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Egbule, cemetery

at night, never fo

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saying w not go to

or any ot As I coul

my body walked th

me. But I was real s

I found the native awake.

SAVED FROM JUJU DEATH

...n with magical medicine — and how he claims he was saved from death after being exorcised in a graveyard.

...ate, to find a good native
...to cure me.
...n September 1, 1972, I
...u-Ode with my wife and
...and all our personal
...On getting home, my
...put me in the hands of a
...ctor in Owanta-Agbor.
...tive doctor first con-
...an oracle to discover
...or not my sickness was
...f God. The oracle
...three people: a man (who
...emain nameless), a
...who is a petty trader,
...them at Ijebu-Ode, and
...y domestic servant, a
...of my wife. The oracle
...discovered that my
...c servant served as the
...incer of the magical
...which was meant to
...e off.

...did I ...here?

...servant who had
...l home with us con-
...when confronted, that
...n and the woman, a
...wife in our
...rhood, had both con-
...in to help them. The
...I promised the boy that
...his bidding, he would
...obtain a professional
...licence.
...oy also confessed that
...people gave him a
...which he was instructed
...his palm and then tap
...t. I think the man, who
...dly with the woman,
...d for her help in his
...et rid of me.
...y later asked for my
...ss and admitted that
...made a mistake. Ac-
...at him, he did not know
...medicine would have
...on me.
...tive doctor who first
...at Agbor, Mr. John
...ok me to a public
...at about one o'clock
...his is a stage I shall
...ect, because of the
...way in which I
...elf at the cemetery
...y the native doctor.
...ure of what I am
...n I state that we did
...er cemetery in a car,
...form of transport.
...not move any part of
...I could not have
...re. No one carried
...re was not dreaming. It
...d true.
...myself lying down in
...doctor's house, wide
...le drank some

...medicine and gave me some to
...drink too. He then recited a
...series of incantations. Suddenly
...I found myself standing by his
...side at a public cemetery in
...Agbor.

...I was standing on my two
...legs and my body was back to
...life. Then the man took me
...to a grave and recited some
...incantations, during which he
...called the name of a man
...believed to have been buried
...there. Then suddenly the grave
...split into two and a dead man,
...dressed in a white robe wrapped
...tightly as is done to bodies
...before burial, emerged from the
...grave.

...A light came up from
...the grave which seemed to come
...from a huge diamond. I
...trembled with fear, but the
...native doctor assured me that
...I would come to no harm.

...I can't describe the dead
...man's face, although it was not
...covered. He did not utter any
...word. The native doctor ex-
...plained my difficulties to the
...dead man, who then spoke in
...Agbor language.

...He said that I would not die,
...and that I would be cured of
...the paralytic attack. He said that
...my problem was a simple one,
...but that the native doctor who
...brought me was not capable of
...giving me a cure. He said that
...on our second visit he would tell
...the native doctor the name of
...another doctor who would be
...competent to handle my
...sickness.

...When we returned to the
...native doctor's house, I found I
...had become paralysed again. I
...asked for an explanation but
...was told that since I was not a
...medicine man, I would not
...understand even if it was ex-
...plained to me.

My body still lifeless

...When we visited the grave on
...a second occasion the dead man
...named a Mr. Peter Ojerumese
...of Alisimie-Agbor (my
...hometown) as the native doctor
...who could cure me. This was
...another surprise because Peter
...had been my mate at Agbor
...Council School from 1954 to
...1959. His father, now deceased,
...was reputed to be a very power-
...ful native doctor.

...I slept at the native doctor's
...house for the rest of that night.
...It was three days after our first
...visit to the cemetery. The native



...CYCLING around Ijebu-Ode again, Dominic Edobor demonstrates his complete recovery from the paralysis which, he says, was caused by an evil spell put on him by enemies.

...doctor warned me not to tell
...anyone, not even my parents,
...about our two visits to the
...cemetery until I had recovered
...completely.

...The next day my mother
...came and the native doctor
...referred her to Peter Ojerumese
...who had been recommended by
...the dead man. Meanwhile my
...body remained lifeless. My
...penis was no exception. I could
...not even use my hand to put
...food in my mouth. My wife,
...who stood by me throughout
...my ordeal, had to feed me.

...Three days after my return to
...my parents' house, I was taken
...to Peter, my former schoolmate,
...who had taken over his father's
...work.

...gave me liquid medicine which I
...used to wash my body every
...day.

...Fourteen days after I began
...his course of treatment, I
...noticed that life was gradually
...returning to my legs and hands.
...I could eat with my own hands,
...and I could walk, though un-
...steadily. But my penis was the
...first part of my body to come to
...life. This was on the seventh
...day of my receiving Peter's
...treatment.

...Exactly 21 days after I
...started to use Peter's medicine,
...I gained complete recovery. I
...bought Peter two bottles of
...beer, which he accepted after I
...insisted that he should not deny
...me the joy of showing my
...gratitude to him in the little way
...I could.

...Up till now, I have not paid
...Peter his fee of 14 Naira. But I
...shall soon travel home to pay
...him and demonstrate the full
...measure of my deep apprecia-
...tion of the priceless thing he did
...for me.

...Sometime after I had
...completely recovered, I
...travelled to Ijebu-Ode to let
...people who thought I was dead
...see me again on my two legs. I
...made sure that the man and
...woman who had caused all the
...trouble saw me. They could not
...believe their eyes when they saw
...me, and were speechless.

I don't seek revenge

...I thank God for His mercies.
...I also thank all the people who
...helped me in various ways.
...Anyone who says magical
...medicine does not exist should
...quickly pray to God to let
...him have any cause to know
...that it exists.

...When I had sex for the first
...time after my recovery I did not
...believe, at first, that I was the
...one doing it. It was like a
...dream, though a pleasant
...dream. I have since had a baby
...boy by my wife, Elizabeth, who
...stood by me throughout the
...period of my sickness. God
...bless her. I gave the boy the
...name "Omeyeno" meaning, in
...my dialect, "A man who does
...not have a better experience
...does not get wise".

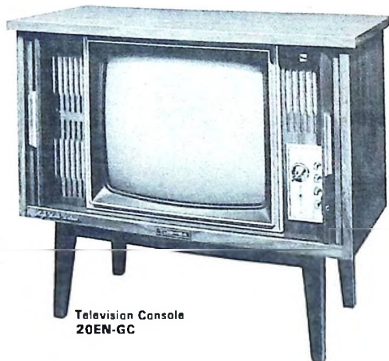
...Peter suggested that I should
...revenge myself upon the two
...people who brought me to grief.
...But I forgave those two in-
...dividuals, and also my domestic
...servant who acted as their
...messenger of death. I leave
...everything to God.

Take a look, have a listen, make a record.

Look...

Something to look at and something to see: Toshiba Television 20EN-GC promises to add a touch of elegance to your living room: fluted sliding doors, for instance, serve a decorative and a useful function—guarding the controls when set is not in use. Picturewise this 20" tube offers the vivid and clear images Toshiba is famous for. Fine adjustments are something you don't bother with—this set is engineered to take care of them for you.

Only 3" less viewing area than the living-room model, this home portable features a built-in dipole antenna to hike up sensitivity. Black filter protects your eyes over long hours of viewing. This set's high performance is enhanced by Toshiba IC circuits—made, like all parts of a Toshiba TV, in our own factories.



Television Console
20EN-GC



Home Portable
17HEB

Listen...

You know what you want in a portable radio. Toshiba thought you'd be interested in four bands—three of them shortwave, choice of AC (115 or 230V) or DC (four ordinary "D" flashlight cells). Model RL-590RF offers the additional attraction of a tuning meter.



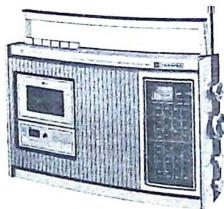
Portable Radio
RL-590RF



Portable Radio
RL-580RF

Record...

Your favorite sounds stick around when you take them right off the air with Toshiba's 4-band Radio Cassette Recorder RT-296RC. The cassette recorder section features automatic shut-off, pause control, and simple pushbutton operation. On the radio side, giant-size dial shows local and three shortwave bands, combination tuning meter, level-indicator, battery-drain check.



Radio
Cassette Recorder
RT-296RC

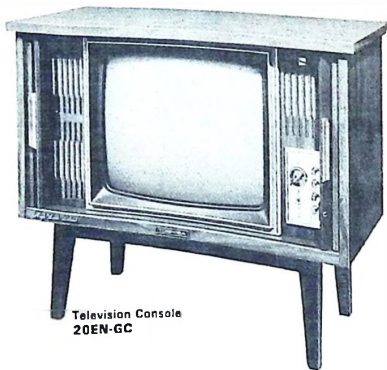
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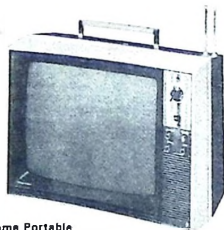
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Television Console
20EN-GC



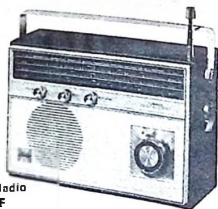
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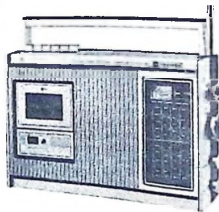
Portable Radio
RL-590RF



Portable Radio
RL-580RF

Record...

Your favorite sounds stick around when you take them right off the air with Toshiba's 4-band Radio Cassette Corder RT-296RC. The cassette corder section features automatic shut-off, pause control, and simple pushbutton operation. On the radio side, quant-size dial shows local and three shortwave bands, combination tuning meter, level-indicator, battery-drain check.



Radio
Cassette Recorder
RT-296RC



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Philo, our kind of girl

MR. DRUM, who has cast an admiring eye over the lovely girls of Africa for 21 years, hasn't lost the touch. Here is his latest discovery — posing symbolically with a Nigerian talking drum — to show that she has a rapport with us.

Philomena Clement is a professional model who works for an advertising company in Lagos. Now 19, she was born in Lagos to a Nigerian father and mother who came from a Sierra Leonian family.

Philo is a product of C.M.S. Girls' Grammar School, Lagos, and art were her favourite subjects. Her ambition is to have a business of her own and model for her through foreign countries, especially Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone, the United States, England, France and Japan. Philo's hobbies are: table-tennis, swimming and cinema, athletics and music.

Her father, Mr. Ignatius Akin Clement, a manager in London, is presently based in London.

"Philo means love, and beauty. Being a bundle of intelligence and beauty, Philo is a beauty that anyone at a glance can put anyone at a surprise and thought the eye

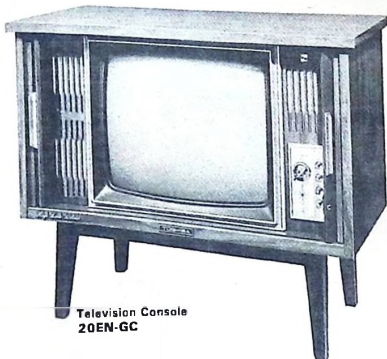


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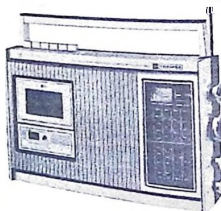
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RL-590RF



Portable Radio
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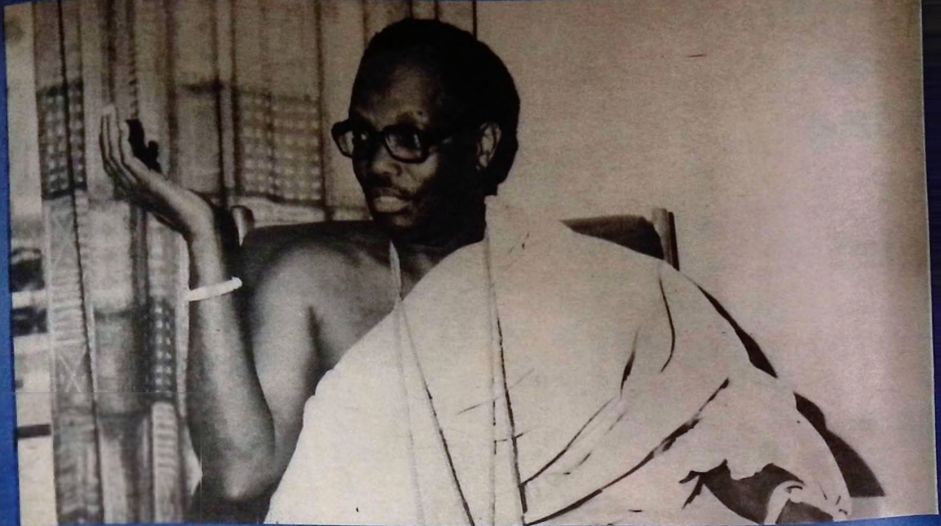
Philomena Bukola Clement is a professional model who works for an advertising and public relations company in Lagos. Now 19, she was born in Lagos to a Nigerian father and mother who came from a Sierra Leonian family.

Philo is a product of C.M.S. Girls' Grammar School, Lagos. Literature and art history, biology and art were her favourite subjects. Her ambition is to have and achieve fame through business of her own and modelling. And she would like to travel to foreign countries, especially Kenya, Liberia, Sierra Leone, the United States, England, France and Japan. Philo's hobbies are: table-tennis, swimming, cinema, athletics and music.

Her father, Mr. Ignatius Akin Clement, a manager in a bank, is presently based in London.

"Philo means love, and Clement means merciful," says Philo. Being a bundle of charm, intelligence and of natural beauty, Philo is a girl who can put anyone at ease, and it is no surprise that she caught the eye of Mr. Drum.





PRINCE OF BENIN: WHY I'VE COME HOME

PRINCE Akenzua was an experienced civil servant when the oil boom hit Nigeria, and he was able to steer clear of the traps that could have closed on more feckless men as the big bribes were offered.

"We had very strong reasons to suspect that a number of people both in and outside Nigeria made a lot of money on the pretext of being able to influence officers of the Ministry of Mines and Power," he said.

"At the time when the Federal Government called for applications for off shore concessions, some companies applied directly from overseas but many others used Nigerians as intermediaries. In the list of applicants, one group was represented by a full brother of mine. Another got a Benin Chief, also my relation, as its representative.

"The one offer of raw cash I received myself came from the brother of a good friend of mine."

"One day I called at his house, as I did occasionally. He said to me: 'I can just open my briefcase and give you X, Y, Z dollars for your drinks.

Prince Solomon Akenzua (above) is a man of two worlds. As a top Civil Servant he has seen the aggressive wrangling over Nigerian oil and witnessed the kind of bribes that were once offered. As heir to the great throne of Benin he is close to a less hurried world of different values. Here, continuing his life story told to OLU ADETULE, he tells how he decided to change roles and come home to his people.

"He meant that after I had done what his principals wanted, more would be forthcoming. There were only two of us there, and I was sure that his sitting room was not bugged, to use the American expression. So I told him that if there was any way I could help his principals, I would do so provided the requirements were met.

"I added that he did not need to make any offer if his principals qualified for what they had tendered for. I also pointed out to him that the one shot of brandy I had taken in his house that evening was quite enough.

"When I learned later what this man said in high quarters, I thanked God that I did not succumb to the temptation. I got to know that he alleged that his principals lost the tender because I had advised him not to produce certain

documents vital to them."

The Prince has some advice for those Nigerian officers who are presently charged with the responsibility of dealing with oil companies, and those who might step into their shoes in the future. He says: "Everyone of them should pray to his God or to Allah to give him the courage to resist temptation. The temptations brought to my doorstep while I was in the Ministry of Mines and Power were so fantastic that I just could not believe at first that any business organisation would accept as the truth the claim of anyone to be a government functionary and therefore in a position to influence decisions.

"It became amusing that such organisations proceeded to make offers of money. It was most strange to see the various channels through

which such offers were made. In dealing with any situation generally, but more especially in dealing with oil companies, one must be quite sure of his ground and thereby be able to stand on principles."

The Prince has always allowed his father's advice, given many years back, to guide him through his career in the Nigerian Civil Service. Recalling one part of the advice, he says: "One of the injunctions I received from my father was that in whatever I do, I should be honest; and that I should have it at the back of my mind all the time that if ever I had to be removed from the Civil Service, let it certainly not be for fraud or dishonesty."

Early in 1971, the Prince was transferred to the Federal Ministry of Health as Permanent Secretary. In that position he had to deal with

the problem of shortage of doctors and other medical personnel. According to the Prince, by simple arithmetic and reckoning on a Nigerian population of about 60 million people, the ratio of doctors to the population is 1:30,000. But in actual fact, owing to the preponderance of doctors in certain areas, the ratio is as high as 1:100,000 in some parts of the country.

Prince Akenzua does not share the popular view that there is often a shortage of drugs in government hospitals. He comments: "It depends on what you call shortage of drugs. It is true that to a certain extent there may be shortage in the store but that may be due to late deliveries.

"Usually when the public talks about shortage of drugs in hospitals they quickly refer to patients taking government prescriptions to buy drugs outside government hospitals. What many people perhaps do not know is that usually there are standard drugs which are stocked in government hospitals. Another thing



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Beginning a new life at 50

continued

that because government hospitals are heavily subsidized by the government, thereby giving the citizen almost free medical care, they cannot stock more expensive drugs. So a doctor may choose to prescribe expensive drugs not in stock in hospitals, in the interest of the patient."

Prince Akenzua's voluntary retirement from the civil service at the age of 50, five years before the age limit specified under government regulations, came as a surprise to many people. This is because there have been allegations that some people go to the ridiculous extent of applying to post-date their birth so as to remain in the service even after they had actually passed the age of 55.

The Prince explained: "Actually when I joined the service, right from the beginning I never had the intention of staying on till the age of 55. I took a decision very early that if I was not a Permanent Secretary by the tenth year of my joining the Civil Service, I would pack it up. I became a Permanent Secretary, though in an acting capacity, about five weeks before that date."

"I don't know if I would have carried out my decision if things had not worked out that way. However, I was lucky. Thereafter, it was my decision to retire voluntarily as soon as I reached the voluntary retirement age of 45. But for a number of reasons, after I had reached the age of 45, my retirement dragged on until this year."

No. 7 in chiefs' hierarchy

Prince Akenzua's immediate plan after his retirement was to go home and start performing, for the first time, the traditional functions of his position as heir-apparent to the throne of Benin. As the Edaiken, he is No. 7 in the group of seven Benin Chiefs known as Uzamas.

The origin of this class of Chieftaincy, he said, was not clear. But according to Benin history the Uzamas were six sons of the Oba, with the eldest son of the Oba was added to Uzamas. The first set of Uzamas were close associates or relatives that came with Prince Oranmiyan from Ile when Oba Oduwaa sent his son, Oranmiyan, to Benin as Oba, at the request of the citizens of the old Benin empire.

The Uzamas, the Prince explained, have the duty of arranging the coronation of an Oba, and, of course, each one has a traditional shrine where he makes sacrifices for the welfare of the Oba and also the entire company.

As heir to the throne, Prince Akenzua's functions will be mainly within what is known as the "palace societies". "If I had been at home all these years," he said, "I would by now have been initiated into one of these societies. In my present position, I would have been admitted to the Iwebo Society. During national festivals, my functions would include attending on the Oba. The major one, of course, would be looking after my own domain as the Edaiken."

Palace to be built for him

"At some stage in my life, I would leave the town to live at Uselu, about three miles from the centre. The actual area is Egu-Edaiken, that is, the Edaiken's palace. There I would run my own palace societies, equivalent to those in the Oba's palace. I would appoint my own Chiefs. But my father had appointed Chiefs on my behalf. There are about eight such Chiefs now. In my palace I would have three principal societies, and I would allocate my Chiefs to each of them."

"In the olden days, I would be responsible for Uselu for looking after the many villages that now constitute what the Local Government describes as Iyekuselu District Council. My stipends would come from that area, but the British form of administration and our new local government administration altered things."

It is the Oba of Benin who determines when to send his heir to Uselu. When the time comes, a palace will be built there. For some reason, the palace has never been made a permanent structure. One of the factors is that the Edaiken's stay at Uselu is temporary. There is a Bini saying: "When the heir-apparent is being sent to Uselu, the people don't wish him a long stay or a short stay; they just keep silent." To wish the Edaiken a short stay at Uselu is equivalent to wishing his father, the Oba, a short life. "Quite a big ceremony is performed when the Edaiken goes to Uselu," the Prince continued. "My father went there in a big way."

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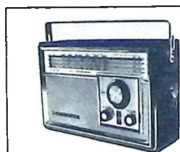


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THE THOUGHTS OF BIG DADDY

Uganda's soldier president, General Idi ("Big Daddy") Amin, is a man of many words. His pungent comments on world affairs have amused many — and infuriated others. His "friends" the British have been the butt of many of his pronouncements. He asked Queen Elizabeth to fly him to her daughter's recent wedding (Her Majesty graciously declined.) Now he has launched a Save Britain Fund to help his old colonial masters through their economic crisis, and also offered them banana rations. Here DRUM presents an anthology of Idi Amin's sayings of the past two years.

President Amin on Mid-East war

"Arab victory in the war with Israel is inevitable and Prime Minister of Israel Mrs. Golda Meir's only recourse is to tuck up her knickers and run away in the direction of New York and Washington." — 16.10.73.

"I have sent a telegram to Golda Meir telling her that I am not a person who fears anyone. I am six-foot three inches tall and a former heavyweight boxing champion."

"The world is now convinced that I was right when I said sometime ago that Hitler was right to bum six million Jews during the Second World War." — 11.10.73.

Amin on Idi Amin

"I am a revolutionary. Less talk and more action is better. Some non-aligned countries should allow some countries to pass their armies and air forces through their territories. That is how we can liberate Southern Africa and the Portuguese colonies." — 10.9.73.

Amin on Malawi

"Malawi is more dangerous than the imperialists themselves. Malawians are imperialist agents." — 9.10.73.

Amin on alcohol

"Alcohol will no longer be stocked in my office. Guests will be entertained either at the State House or in hotels." — 29.8.73.

Amin on God

"If you see people of any country committing a lot of crimes and engaging themselves in bad habits you understand that religious organisations in that country are not with the people and are not teaching people the ways of God." — 12.9.72.

"We have a very beautiful and rich country given to us by God, therefore we have no

territorial ambitions." — 15.10.72.

"We Africans are very strong, but the only thing we need is the blessing of God and we shall overcome our problems." — 26.4.72.

Amin on politics

"The Asians only milked the cow, but did not feed it to yield more milk." — 6.8.72.

"Although Uganda is not going to break relations with Britain, I am teaching them a lesson so that they can follow the right direction." — 4.9.72.

"You should not be like some stupid politicians who cause a lot of damage to property and loss of lives but when it comes to discussing the problem to find out the truth, they pretend to be sick and cover themselves under ten blankets." — 20.10.72.

"Many words are spoken and

written about money these days. We want it because of what we can buy with it, but we can only get it by working for it." — 6.7.72.

"Even Obote knows that I am his best friend. He knows that he has lost a great friend." — 30.3.73.

"I support your policy (Dr. Banda) of visiting countries and seeing their problems on the spot and studying ways of solving such problems. This is better than listening to office-bound self-appointed experts of African politics who were exiled from their countries." — 29.9.71.

"Her Majesty the Queen was my Commander-in-Chief. I love her very much and I respect her much." — 3.10.72.

"The British are my best friends but they are annoyed because I kicked out British Asians. They can say what they like. I have no time for imperialists." — 30.3.73.

Amin on women

"Women should not sleep while men are working." — 22.11.72.

"I want to see Africans marry Asians and vice versa. I shall attend these weddings." — 5.10.72.

"African women must dress decently so that they can get the respect they deserve." — 29.5.72.

"I am planning to act and act drastically against these girls, but men must also contain themselves. There will be no prostitution if men refrained from talking to them." — 30.3.72.

"Even prostitutes can do some work, reporting the subversives." — 20.11.72.

Amin to Nixon

"I wish you a speedy recovery from the Watergate affair. We in Uganda hope that the great United States of America does not continue to use its

enormous resources especially its military might to destroy human life on earth, particularly in the developing world." — 7.7.73.

"I am sure that any weak leader would have resigned or even committed suicide after being subjected to so much harassment because of the Watergate Affair. I take this opportunity to once again wish you a quick recovery from the Watergate Affair and I join all your well-wishers in praying for your success in recovering from it." — 8.9.73.

Amin on priests

"Whites from America and the United States enter Uganda under the guise of being religious heads when they are in fact mercenaries who know nothing about the Bible." — 25.6.73.

"Some of these so-called missionaries do not even know the Bible." — 30.3.73.

Amin on compensation to British

"I will not talk to any British junior officer because I am the top man in Uganda. If Britain wants compensation for their businesses which were taken over because of the economic war, the British Prime Minister, Mr. Heath or the Queen must come personally to Uganda because the economic war was declared in Uganda and not in Britain." — 8.7.73.

Amin on Save Britain

President Amin raised £2,400 for his "Save Britain Fund" and explained that the aim of the fund was "to save and assist our former colonial masters from economic catastrophe." — 30.12.73.

Amin on Kissinger

"His aircraft flying to Arab capitals possesses special instruments recording strategic targets. Dr. Kissinger is also accompanied by Israel intelligence and operational officers who were making targets for their next attack." — 22.12.73.

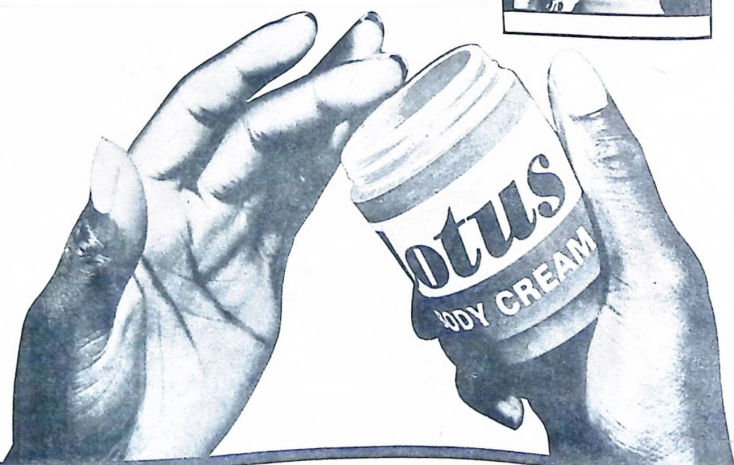


UNIVERSITY leader... another role for General Amin, man of many parts. Here he wears the rich robes of the Chancellor of Uganda's famous Makerere University. General Amin has made a rallying call to the Makerere staff after the disappearance or self-exile of leading Ugandan academics under his regime.



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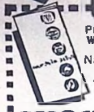
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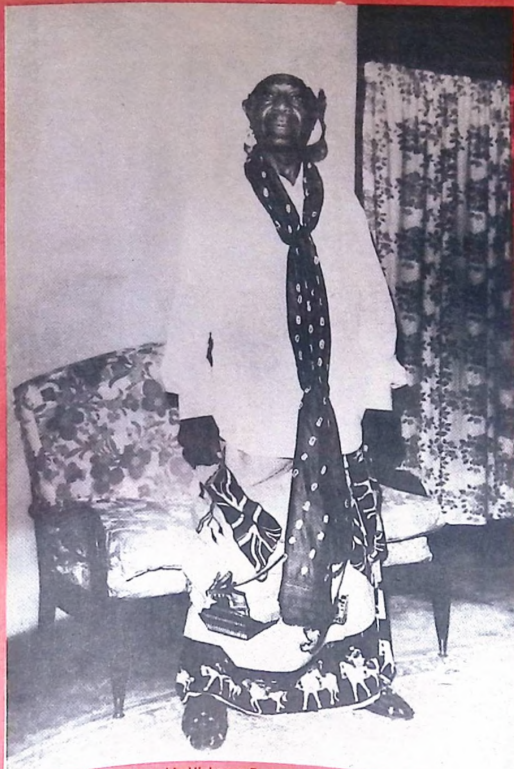


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NEW Obong of Calabar, his Highness Essien Ekpe Oku the Fifth, in a brilliant cloth which includes the Union Jack — a reminder of the days when Calabar was a bustling trading centre to which British sailing ships came like floating supermarkets.

Calabar forgets feud to choose new ruler

The people of Calabar, whose forefathers were among the most colourful and talented traders of the oil rivers, have elected a new ruler and this time peacefully! Here **ERNEST ENIM-BASSEY** reports.

For the first time in a century, the Efik tribe of Calabar in the South-Eastern State of Nigeria, has succeeded peacefully in selecting a new ruler of Calabar and its environs. He is, His Highness Essien Ekpe Oku the Fifth. How did it happen? It was neither a miracle nor a desperate departure from the existing Efik traditions, which antedates the founding of Nigeria as a nation. For prior to this date, the Efiks of Old

Calabar had enjoyed a sustained patriarchal system of administration dating from 1868 when Captain Babbot of the English ship "The Dragon" made contacts with Efik Rulers of Old Calabar. The New Calabar was founded some 250 years ago, according to the historical records of Mary Klugstey in the Ephraim Duke family left Calabar and settled at the spot from whence they retired in

1880." From that period until the present day, Calabar had rulers, many of whom were shortlived, starting from King Eyo Homesty the First (1767) to the late Obong David James Henshaw the Fifth (1971-73). The fascinating fact of history before the bar of public opinion in Calabar is that the selection of a new Obong of



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Calabar had always been characterized by violent disputes, acrimony and polemics, dating from the death of King Eyo Henshaw the Sixth, whose death in 1871 led to the first ever recorded major confusion in Calabar (see "Old Calabar Through the Centuries" by E. U. Aye, page 613).

The Efiks themselves, though appearing to have been caught in the doldrums, were never unaware that the "Priest-King" tradition to which they were primarily accustomed, and the plurality of "petty chieftainship" sponsored by the early foreign mercenaries (the super-cargos) in the middle of the 16th Century, had been the sources of persistent misunderstanding, confusion, disunity and unhealthy rivalry with the concomitant strangulation of the tribal ego.

Aside from that, the accountability for the malady and persistent bickering is also due to the traditions of the Efiks of Calabar. For instance, the "Obongship of Calabar" is not hereditary as it obtains in

British monarchy. Instead, the Efik tradition demands that on the death of an Obong of Calabar his successor must be chosen from among the Council of Etuboms, who are virtually the traditional clan heads.

A consensus of opinion to this effect is recorded in the Old Calabar Native Court Rules No. 4 of 1902 — a unilateral measure by proclamation. The same proclamation contains relevant conditions for the selection of a new Obong of Calabar.

This important document stipulates that 30 days are required for the selection of a successor on the death of the Obong of Calabar.

But it is a fact of history that due to bitter disagreement among the contenders, the vacant stool of the Obong of Calabar was never filled for eight years (1940-48).

The new Obong is elected from among the Council of Etuboms, and by secret ballot after ascertaining his eligibility to contest for the vacant stool. This eligibility includes the new Obong-elect being of royal blood; holds an Efik "Ekepe" title; and must be among the oldest of the Etuboms of Calabar. Of interest is the fact that the proclamation abolished the Efik titles of "Eldidem"

(King) and "Einyin" (father of all) and the introduction of the present title of Obong of Calabar.

The other side of the story is that the Eastern Nigeria Recognition of Chiefs Law, 1960, had limited or made obsolete some of the provisions of the 1902 proclamation.

It also isolates chieftainship matters from the jurisdiction of the High Court, while it appoints the Minister of State responsible for chieftainship matters as the final arbiter in case of any major disagreement among the contestants. This chieftainship law is among the adoptive laws of the South-Eastern State.

Even then, Obong Archibong the Fifth of Calabar (1948-61) was reported to have been deposed in 1961 by the defunct Efik royal fraternity, an organisation of Efik royal families, even before his coronation date; while his successor, Obong Edem Ephemra Adams the Second (1961-67) was never crowned before his death with the coveted Efik Royal crown (Ninyu) despite the fact that he was recognised by the defunct Eastern Nigeria Government, following the publication of the celebrated Hart's Commission of Inquiry Report (1963-64).

In effect, "whether an Obong created in those circumstances, could enjoy the love, command and respect and loyalty of his etuboms and subjects is like the riddle of the owl and the egg." Hence the traditional funeral rites of Obong Edem Ephemra Adams the second, who died shortly before the Nigeria Civil War in 1967 has not been performed. However, one cannot fail to pay tribute to that humble ruler who was a victim of political infighting and tribal conflict.

His successor, Obong David James Henshaw the Fifth (1971-73) ceded to the throne of the Obongship of Calabar after the famous and impartial Udo Commission Report, which recommended that "the ancient and inalienable right of Henshaw town to have an Obong of Calabar be recognised by the Military Government of the South Eastern State".

For one thing, the commission was the climax of another bitter wrangling among some ruling Efik families for the vacant stool of Obongship of Calabar.

Unfortunately, Obong David James Henshaw did not live long to enjoy his popularity due to ill-health. He died on May 4, 1973 at the age of 96 years. His accession was July 13, and his official recognition by the State Government was on August 12, 1973. His exit from the political scene of Calabar Chieftainship beleaguered Calabar with another



OBONG with his daughter (standing on right) Mrs. Effwatu, a nursing sister, and some of the Obong's grandchildren.

atmosphere of uncertainty as to who would be the new Obong of Calabar.

The riddle was miraculously overcome, when on May 11, 1973 the Etuboms Council of Calabar announced the successor to the late Obong.

The Obong-elect is Edem Ekpenyong Oku Esien Ekpe Oku Atal, who has chosen the title of His Highness Esien Ekpe Oku the Fifth, the Obong of Calabar.

The Obong-elect of Calabar, Esien Ekpe Oku V, is about six feet tall, ebony-black in complexion, kind, humble and very humorous. The soft-spoken new ruler is massive in talent. At a close range he is a spectacular volcano of a man.

One minute he is smiling, the next he is deadly serious.

According to his autobiography, the Obong-elect of Calabar hails from the Oku Atal group of Efik aborigines, which settled in Creek Town, on the Western sector of Calabar Division — some 30 minutes by engine-powered canoe from Calabar beach. He is married with five children, and six grand-children.

His Highness was educated at both the Duke Town School and the famous Hope Waddell College, Calabar. On completion of his secondary school education in 1910, he worked as a teacher for four years before joining the colonial Civil Service in 1914.

He served at several stations, including Jere and Lagos, as a draughtsman in the Department of Lands and Survey.

He retired in 1947. His love for national service

and his untiring effort as an educator endeared in him the spirit to serve his people.

From 1951-1953 he took up appointment as the editor of the banned "Nigerian Daily Standard" Calabar, and led a delegation of journalists from Calabar to watch the proceedings of the now defunct Eastern House of Assembly in Enugu.

Until his selection, the Obong-elect was an Elder of the Presbyterian Church, President of the Creek Town Customary Court and a member of the Obong of Calabar Council.

His mother was Princess Elizabeth Pepple Yanibo of Bonny, who had never thought that in this century a Bonny prince could ever accede to the throne of the Obongship of Calabar.

His father was Asuquo Ekpenyong Oku — a descendant of Ekpe Oku Atal Iboke, the founder of the Ambo lineage of Efik families at Creek Town.

From all sides of the mirror, the Obong-elect of Calabar has family connections with the seven Efik clans of Calabar, as well as the Efuta, whose ancestors migrated from the Cameroons to settle in Calabar.

His maternal grandfather, King Yanibo of Bonny, abdicated in 1848 and voluntarily came to Calabar on exile, where he died later. According to an official announcement by the Etuboms Council of Calabar, the Obong-elect will not be formally installed until after the funeral rites of the late Obong David James Henshaw the Fifth.

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AT 4 a.m. he had still not come home. After eight years of marriage, his wife was used to seeing him for a few minutes each day, but never had she known him to keep away from home so late.

She went across the room and again dialled his office. The phone rang a few times before it was picked up. A female voice answered.

"Dr. Kalu's office."
"This is Mrs. Ada Kalu. May I speak to my husband, please."
"Hold on!"

The phone dropped. She waited. It seemed there was a consultation. She heard a distinct murmur of men's voices, some laughter and then — "Madam, your husband said I should tell you — he's coming home soon . . . He's chair-manning a meeting of international experts . . ."

"At 4 in the morning?"
"The meeting began actually at 10 last night, madam . . . It's this new expansion programme. We have Consultants from Kuwait and Trachensberg . . ."
"Expansion of what — for God's sake?"

She put down the phone in a rage. Going out into the night in search of him would be futile. Anyone who ran into strange characters in the streets at night must not complain or be surprised. Handitry had been on the increase and the authorities were nightly exchanging bullets with the armed robbers. Worse still would be the humiliation of a lone woman being taken for questioning by armed patrols. Much better to try and sleep.

At about 5 in the morning she was alerted by the barking of dogs. Then she heard a bang on the front door, and the voice of the houseboy saying welcome. She sighed with relief.

She was aware of his coming in. In a semi-awake state, she drifted towards him just before he threw himself into bed with clothes on. To all her questions and her pleadings to eat or drink even hot soup, anything at all — he answered in a slurred voice and soon she heard his measured snoring.

He had slept for barely thirty minutes when the telephone rang and continued to ring.

She picked it up.
"Is Dr. Kalu there?"
"He's in bed. He just came in from work."

"Oh, please remind him. He has that special operation to perform. And everyone is here. Dr. Hamazuki from Japan and Dr. Ali Marbello from Pakistan have just flown in. The Dean of the Faculty of Advanced Socotomy has volunteered to be present with a group of visiting students under the UNESCO

THE INDISPENSABLE

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"He's perhaps

continued

plan."
"What?" she breathed. She should really be feeling proud of all this, but instead, she was afraid.

"We are still expecting the Clinical Pathologist from the faculty of Haematology in the University of . . ." the voice rattled on.

After a while Mrs. Kalu put aside the phone. The voice was still coming to her like a muted trumpet.

"Hello, hello . . . are you still there?"

"Eh . . . oh yes . . . oh yes!" There was an interruption from Dr. Kalu's bed. "Is that the hospital? . . . tell them I'm on my way."

"Breakfast is ready, dear."

"Later."

"This means — what? You won't eat? Please take something or you will collapse. Are you the only doctor in the world?"

She stood before him in her nightgown. She was a very beautiful and alluring woman. Scarcely one day passed without some Romeo suggesting love to her ears. She herself could never quite explain why their sweet baits went untasted. Many of her own friends, happily married, spend a good deal of their time hunting male companionship. Some cared nothing for age or status as long as they were male.

Mrs. Ada Kalu was a qualified teacher and mother of three. Her marriage had been happy until Leo Kalu was appointed Specialist Surgeon at the World Health Research Hospital in the city. To this internationally financed hospital came specialists from all the nations of the world.

Then the doctor published his findings on hepatitis, followed by one on bone-setting among the Umuonacho people and the mad rush began. He was sought after to advise on all problems — economic, social, financial — relating to tropical surgery and orthopaedics. An offer to be Health Commissioner came and was turned down, but that made little difference. He found himself on all kinds of Advisory Bodies and Committees, of many of which he was Chairman.

More fame, less husband

Ada's misery had begun. More fame, less husband. A first she was convinced a woman was involved but she discovered she was wrong.

Now she was insisting on breakfast. "Take what you like . . . eggs . . . bacon . . . akara balls . . . hot pap . . . fried rice . . . steaming roast coffee with

The best doctor Africa has produced"

... strong coffee aroma . . . take our choice, Leo. Have a heavy breakfast in case you do not find the time to eat again."

He washed quickly, grabbed a coffee, jumped into his clothes and ran out of the room. She heard the car start downstairs and, soon after, the ambulance siren screamed and faded into silence.

She looked through the window and saw the ambulance parked outside. A man in white overalls came over.

Hundreds of lives would be lost

"Mrs. Kalu . . . Is the doctor still here?" He wore heavy glasses and looked like one of the specialists. "Where's Dr. Kalu?"

"He just left for work."

"Good . . . Everybody is waiting for him. He's our most brilliant medical research fellow. Perhaps the best Africa has produced . . . quite indispensable . . ."

She took him up.

"Do you really mean that?"

"I mean it . . . there are just a few people like that in the public service. People who are dedicated . . . one in a million. Without him?"

"Something in the tone of her voice made him start.

" . . . the hospital would close down. Hundreds of . . . er . . . of lives we are saving daily would be lost."

He moved away as he spoke. "Time is against me, I must be rushing off."

Mrs. Kalu had a lot of questions to ask him, but he was already waving at her from the ambulance. She would have liked to know what would happen when they worked this willing horse to death. "What do I get out of it? — a black dress, and new proposals of marriage before his dead body gets cold."

She went back to her lesson notes but she could scarcely concentrate. Then she began to mark some essays, but time for school was getting near. Ihanyi, the 7 year old boy, and his sister Ihoma, aged 4, had had their baths and were being dressed for school by the maid. Everything was laid out for months the little girl aged six months.

She sat on the little stool with a song on her lips. If this was the way it was going to be, she had better adjust and accept the situation. Consultants from Trachensberg — where was that? Blast the whole lot of them. Hypocrites! Couldn't a man serve his country, or for that matter, the world, without

having to destroy family life? After nearly ten years in the United States and eight years in the Public Service, her husband still rode in an old jalopy. When you talked to him about getting a modern car, he would reply by talking about economic development. Everyone else managed to look after himself but not Dr. Leo Kalu. Too busy even to eat properly, to relax well, to think about himself.

Try as hard as she could she would never succeed in convincing him that he must work and live, not work and die. This was simply not the modern way.

"When will we go on leave?" she once asked him.

"Leave? There's no one to take over my work."

"Then — just leave the work!"

He laughed, "Ada, how like a woman! You just don't understand."

"I understand that you are my husband, father of our children and head of the family. Your children never see your face. Your father is an old man and you have not seen him for a long time. I understand that your presence means more than money to all of us."

"The work will suffer."

She was weeping.

"What's wrong?" He placed his hand on her shoulder.

No-one knew how it happened

He left for work one day and did not return. This time it was not a question of returning at 5 a.m. or at any other time. She knew that his life had become a whirlwind of meetings, operations, travel,

conferences in foreign countries. How it happened, no one was could satisfactorily explain. Leo was working in the laboratory. He was peering down into one of the new research microscopes. He seemed to spin round and fall on his face unconscious. From the laboratory to a hospital bed was not far. He died on the

At the graveside, she noticed the man in the white overalls. There was a gleam in his eye, perhaps tears, as he bent down, took a handful of earth and threw it on the coffin in the pit.

"I'm sorry, Madam," he said, as their eyes met.

"Are you?"

"Truly I am."

"Is it because he is dead, or because without him, the hospital will close down — remember?"

The officiating priest raised his voice and she was silent, weeping and mumbling a prayer.

In her heart was black grief, because to her, his black anger, his voice and she was silent, indispensable. But now all she was left with was the bitter cold dispense with anyone at any time, and the River Niger would still rise in the East and set in the West, not caring who on earth is, or is not, dispensible.

The day he was buried, another specialist returned, this time from the USSR. He was appointed to act in place of the indispensable Dr. Leonard Kalu.

And as Mrs. Ada Kalu had already forecast with her woman's intuition, the World Health Research Hospital did not close down.

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THE famous Alapala masquerade, robes and mask of the Kurumi of what was once called Yoruba Country are subjects of fresh attention from Nigerian scholars. Moreover, a new look is being taken at the traditional chieftaincy title of Ara-Ona-Kafanfo, a title that was conferred upon only the greatest soldiers and tacticians of the old Yoruba Empire.

The last recipient of the high honour, akin to a field-marshal or generalissimo, was Chief Samuel Ladoké Akintola, late Premier of Nigeria's former Western Region.

But like some of the men who received the title before him, Kurumi came to a sad end.

DRUM lived and talked with a number of people including a Kurumi of the great warrior and descendant of the great warrior.

The house in which Kurumi lived and died is still at Ijaye. His bedroom, which also served as his magical medicine strong room, is still virtually as he left it. His famous Alapala masquerade robes and mask preserved. The masquerade reveals that Kurumi was a tall and hery man.

A man from Ibadan, one Oyekan and attempted to carry it away to Ibadan suddenly became blind on the way back to Ibadan at the river Ose. When he regained his eyesight immediately. He therefore returned the masquerade to Ijaye, but succeeded in stealing three items from the robe: a piece of velvet cloth, a boa constrictor's skin, and a leopard's skin. He took the stolen items to Ibadan and added them to the robe of an

Samuel Onikola is present at the Kurumi family and a man who is steeped in history.



BATTLE-dress of the Kurumi. A man from Ibadan who foolishly tried to steal it was

Ibadan masquerade. The stolen items were later removed from the robe because of the sentence of death which it cast on any man who would participate in the masquerade. He Egungun Festival but would certainly die before the time of the festival in the next year.

Kurumi's shrines are still preserved up until this day.

Apart from being a great warrior These he found guilty of the capital offences of the period, he ordered to be beheaded. His great-grandson, Chief Samuel Onikola, the Ashipa if Ijaye said that Kurumi, the severed heads of capital offenders thrown into a stream running near one Ape tree which provided his Court with shade from

the sun. According to him, about 200 skulls were dug out from a spot near the stream when a road was being constructed in Ijaye.

There are conflicting reports about how Kurumi died. Some people say that Kurumi later opposed the suitability of an Oyo Prince for the post of Alafin. But as the Prince's father, an Alafin, had decreed that he should ascend the throne after his death, the Prince was enthroned as Alafin. But Kurumi still refused to pay homage to the new king. The king then sent a coded message to Kurumi to choose between surrendering to his authority or losing his head. The message consisted of two calabashes. In one, the new king put kola nuts, a sign of his hand of love and peace. In the other he put a sword, a sign of war.

Kurumi ch sword and emissaries's between th and Kurumi were defc defeat. se among 1 pledged t' fight the Some pe Ose Rivi being cific dis- tured a taken 1 victory ple of just d still in

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people in pictures

OK stars pack 'em in at Lusaka

The famous O.K. Jazz Stars are always an attraction in Central Africa. But while the dedicated few listen to the band's music, the front-liners in the audience are busy appreciating another, less publicized, side of the band's appeal. They are, in fact, goggling at the "go-go" girls who travel with the band throughout the Continent... and who can blame them?

Old meets new in Midwest

When the military Governor of the Western State in Nigeria, Brigadier Oluwole Rotimi, visited the Mid-West State last year at the invitation of the Mid-West Governor, observers said that here was the opening chapter in the two state's relationships. That was indeed, a prophecy. Pictured below: His Highness, Ereluwa II, the Olu of Warri, gave a broad smile as he shook hands with guest Brigadier Rotimi at his palace.



One up and lots to go for little Chinyere

Pretty little Chinyere Ucha Oji Agha (right) is a girl with lots to celebrate. She's wearing her party dress and celebrating to celebrate. She's wearing her party dress and celebrating to celebrate. She's wearing her party dress and celebrating to celebrate. Her very first birthday with sister Nwanneka Alu Agha Oji—her who has seen this kind of thing before. The girls are both daughters of Mr. A. Oji of the Community Development Division of the Abakaliki Divisional Administration. And it just goes to show that there's a more pleasant side to life in Abakaliki than the reported killings and ritual murders.



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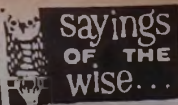
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If you would like a Pen Pal send brief details (as on this page) with a small photograph to DRUM magazine.



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

The earth is Man's to subdue; but how much has Man subdued himself?
— Edward Biesie, Ajegunle

Lucky is the man who never expects, for he is never disappointed.
— Stephen Julius, Kinyanjui

Discipline of mind is the source of a great man's greatness.
— Joseph Omu, Owerri

He who talks of a better future is disappointed with the present.
— James Pembe, Malindi

Anger cooks food that you will regret eating.
— Flocie Mugula, Limuru

A church should be a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints.
— Wycliffe Aineach, Bungoma

A man's word is like an egg: once broken it cannot be repaired.
— Alex, Al-Kalou



The Kikuyu businessman was called in to see his bank manager.

"Do you know that you're 3,000 shillings overdrawn?" asked the irate manager.

"Don't worry," said the businessman, "I'll write you a cheque."

A little girl at a school was asked by her teacher who sat on the right hand of God. "Mrs. God," she replied.

An old Irishman on his deathbed was asked by his priest if he had renounced the Devil.

"Hold on Father," said the dying man. "I don't think this is the time to start making enemies."

A wit once invented a poem. How odd of God to choose the Jews. A quick-witted Jew replied: But not as odd As those who choose A Jewish God But scorn the Jews.

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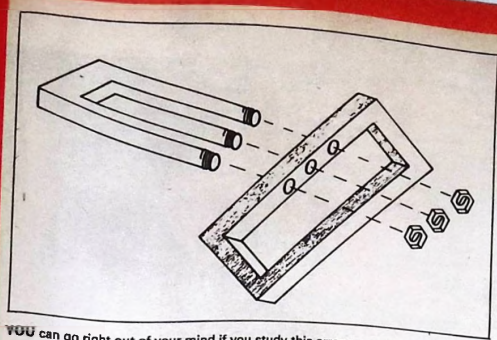


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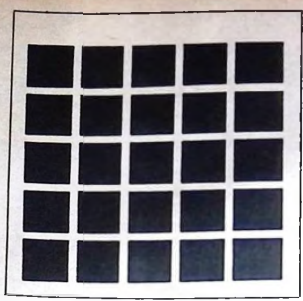




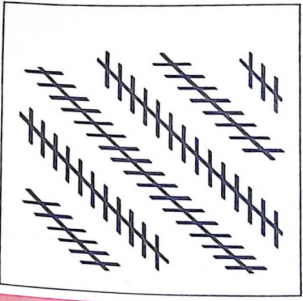
YOU can go right out of your mind if you study this arrangement! The fork on the left has three prongs coming in the normal way from its base . . . or has it? Just look carefully. And then . . . the prongs are made to fit the hollow oblong (right). But let your eye follow the oblong's sides right round . . . and you realise the structure just isn't possible!

SEEING THINGS!

Seeing is believing, so they say. But science has long known that the eye, with its impressionable link-up with the brain, can play the strangest tricks. It can be confused and deceived and, sometimes, see not what's there, but what the beholder wants to see. If you don't believe us, here we begin a brief series of eye-twisters . . . with a few more next month.



DANCING DOTS appear in the white margins between the corners of the squares if you look at this diagram long enough.



SLOPING OFF. The two long lines in the centre, which seem to slope towards each other, aren't sloping at all. They're really parallel with each other. The arrangement of all the other lines mislead the eye.

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"I've driven my car to Kano and back nine times this year already, so I should know about the Peugeot 404. In my opinion you can't get a tougher or more reliable car. All the years I've been driving 404's I've never suffered anything worse than a puncture and that's one good reason why I don't mind paying that little extra to begin with. Yes, the Peugeot 404 is fast, comfortable and tough, and it's good to know it's simple to repair, too. You see, one thing I've noticed is that Peugeot spare parts are available all over the country and what's more, even the mechanics out in the smallest villages seem to be quite familiar with the 404".



404

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Minding our own business

THE establishment of the Nigerian Bank for Commerce and Industry (N.B.C.I.) under the N.B.C.I. Decree 1973 of May 5, 1973 was a demonstration of the determination of the Federal Military Government to put "teeth" into the Indigenisation Decree of 1972.

Although Nigeria became independent on October 1, 1960, it was far from being independent economically. In other words, although Nigerians gained political independence, they were denied the sweet fruits of freedom. For as long as the country's economy remained under the thumbs of aliens, Nigerians would continue to play only a secondary role in the country.

Basically, the Business Indigenisation Decree barred aliens from participating in a total of 22 different types of businesses. It allowed, however, foreigners to remain active in certain businesses.

As a result, foreigners whose businesses fell under the category reserved for Nigerians were forced to sell out to Nigerians. The aim of the N.B.C.I. was to help Nigerians to participate as fully as possible in the economy.

The principal functions of the Bank include the provision of equity capital and funds by way of loans to indigenous persons, in situations and organisations, for medium and long term investments in industry and commerce; the performance of all aspects of merchant banking; and the conduct of other banking and commercial businesses as deemed appropriate.

The authorised capital of the bank is N50 million which comprises 500,000 shares of N100 each. Of this, N10 million has been paid up by its shareholders — the Government of the Federation of Nigeria (60%) and the Central Bank of Nigeria (40%).

A proportion of the shareholding of the Central Bank of Nigeria, not exceeding 20% thereof, is available with the consent of the Federal Commissioner for Finance, for acquisition by approved insurance companies, licensed banks, and other financial institutions.

In addition to its equity capital, the Bank has the facility of a Loan capital to be provided by the Federal Government, the Central Bank of Nigeria, and other approved financial institutions as becomes necessary for the exercise of its functions.

While medium and long term loans to indigenous persons and institutions will be granted, especially in furtherance of the Indigenisation Decree during the Bank's first phase of operations, such loans and credit facilities will also be available in respect of other viable



HEADQUARTERS of the Nigerian Bank for Commerce and Industries (N.B.C.I.) in Prison Street, Lagos.

our kind of people



He's just out of school, in his first job. He's experiencing all the joys of young adulthood. Pretty girls, trendy clothes, parties. He's our kind of people.

He hasn't allowed his newly found freedom go to his head either because he hasn't forgotten his responsibilities. With rent to be paid and aged parents to be looked after, he knew he needed advice on how to handle his money matters, so he did the wise thing and came to Barclays.

We've helped many young people like him before so we knew exactly what

to recommend. A current account to enable him to send money home to his parents and pay his bills, and a savings account to put money by for a rainy day. Of course, he hasn't all that much in it now but he's confident that one day he'll have enough. We're sure he'll make it, too, because our kind of people usually do.

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together
with...**



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NIGERIA**

Barclays Bank of Nigeria Limited

If you too are just starting out, you'll be needing all the help you can get. Come to us at Barclays. You'll meet your kind of people there.

NBCI continued

businesses and projects including expansions of existing businesses and new projects. The Bank will not normally engage in financing real estate business, bulk advances to any entity, including State Governments (loans made by the Bank shall be in respect of specific viable projects), infra-structure such as roads, schools and hospitals, and mining businesses.

The Bank also will not normally grant applications for loans below N20,000.

In respect of businesses reserved for Nigerians under the Nigerian Enterprises (Promotion) Decree 1972 (Schedule), the Bank will be primarily interested in granting the required financial assistance to indigenous limited liability companies. In appropriate cases, however, the Bank may consider partnerships and other arrangements for loans in this regard.

Loans will only be granted by the Bank in respect of businesses which meet its criteria of viability, particularly as regards the competence of the new owners to manage the business, proven credit-worthiness of the financial owners, and reasonable commitment of the new owners in the business. The level of reasonable financial interest will depend on the nature and character of each business; the provision of a minimum funds from 30% of the required funds from applicants for recovery of the loans granted, including interest charges, in the normal course of business, and appropriate security.

The Bank gives financial aid to local companies by way of underwriting the shares of viable companies which are offered for sale to the general public, which shares are not taken up by the general public will be sold to the public, as the demand for them arises in the future. The rate of their interest will be determined by the commission which will be underwriting commission will be appropriate time and shall be payable in accordance with the terms of the respective underwriting agreements to help the expansion of

existing businesses the N.B.C.I. engages in the following activities:

LOANS: Subject to the need for expansion project or new business to meet the Bank's standards of viability, the Bank will finance such businesses primarily by way of provision of funds for the acquisition of fixed assets.

The extent of loan facilities granted in respect of any particular project will depend on the circumstances of each case, but will not exceed 70% of the cost of the fixed assets concerned. Loans are not distributed in a lump sum. They are disbursed against satisfactory evidence of the payment purchased or other capital expenditure incurred in connection with the project; and such items of expenditure should have been agreed with the Nigerian Bank for Commerce and Industry during its appraisal of the project.

The repayment period for loans granted by the Bank shall be 12 to 15 years. A shorter or longer period of repayment will however be considered in exceptional circumstances. A moratorium period, during which the borrower will be expected to repay only the charges on the loan facility will also be considered in appropriate cases.

The rate of interest chargeable on loans will depend, inter alia, on the risk content of the project under consideration and shall take into account the prevailing interest rate structure in the capital market and the practices of banks and other financial institutions. A commission charge of 1/4 of 1% per annum shall be payable on approved loans to the extent that such loans remain unutilized.

In all cases, actual legal expenses incurred by this Bank in connection with the examination of title to properties, the preparation of documents, etc. are recoverable from the applicant.

Loans granted must be adequately secured. While the form of security to be determined as circumstances require, the Bank will normally accept the following securities against credit facilities granted by it — first legal mortgages on fixed assets (such fixed assets should relate to the project being financed by the Bank. In the case of joint financing, such

legal mortgages will be shared (part pro rata), Bank Guarantees, Government Securities or other marketable securities.

The Bank may ask for additional safeguards for its investments, such as limitation on the distribution of dividends and on the creation of additional debts by the borrowers. The Bank also reserves the right to appoint a director to the board of the enterprise financed by it when the need arises. This right will normally be exercised in consultation with the board of directors of the enterprise.

Loan agreements provide for periodical reports on the financial and physical progress of the enterprise to be forwarded to the Bank and also give the Banks certain rights of inspection of plant and accounting records.

EQUITY CAPITAL: Equity participation will be considered by the Bank in appropriate cases. Such equity participation by the Bank in any company shall not exceed 40% of the paid-up capital of such a company.

Where loan and equity capital is provided by the Bank, the sum total of these facilities will not exceed 100 per cent of the Bank's paid-up capital and free reserves. The Bank reserves the right to appoint a director on the board of the enterprise being financed where it is satisfied that its financial interest in the enterprise is material or in circumstances which suggest that its investment or interest is in jeopardy.

In addition to the various forms of financial assistance rendered by the Nigerian Bank for Commerce and Industry, it also assists Nigerians to identify viable projects. It also helps in the preparation, surveys, and the provision of guidance on the appropriate means of achieving reasonable returns on their investments, including advice on relevant technical and financial matters. Appropriate charges will be made by the Bank for such services.

A questionnaire is furnished for use by applicants requesting N.B.C.I. loans or financial projects in respect of individual projects as much as the Bank is called upon to appraise many types of projects, no standard questionnaire can be fully applicable to all potential borrowers. The questions included have been designed to furnish the Bank with as much information as can conveniently be submitted in written form before a field investigation is made by the Bank staff. Some of the questions may not be applicable to a particular applicant, but additional questions will always be necessary in particular circumstances. In all cases, the written submission with a field appraisal.

Applicants are accordingly requested to provide the Bank with the information outlined to the extent that the questions apply to their project.

All enquiries should be sent to The Managing Director, Nigerian Bank for Commerce and Industry, Lagos, P.O. Box 4225.



CHAIRMAN of the National Bank of Nigeria, Mr. Michael Omoloye.

'Shilling' bank grows to great things

THE history of the National Bank of Nigeria Limited can be classified under three broad headings. The first period started in 1933 and went on for almost two decades.

Then came the era of Nigerian independence and the creation of the Richard's Constitution, followed by the inception of regional governments in 1952, continuing through the fifties, and ending with the First Republic in 1966.

The third period — the present one — started with military rule in Nigeria in 1966, when the then Western Nigeria Government decided to insulate the bank from politics and reorganise it along purely commercial lines.

But a close examination of history is always useful.

Africans agree that the story of Nigerian banking commenced with the incorporation in 1933 of the National Bank. What does this mean? History books show us that political awareness and civic inclinations were keenest in the then West Coast of Africa. Educated and well-travelled Nigerians were agitated over the colonialist designs to subjugate the "natives" or the "aborigines".

Exorbitant bank rates, racially discriminatory credit policies and banking monopolies all saw the light of day during that period.

The primary objective of these measures was to put off successful African enterprise, not only in banking, but also in other spheres of trade and industry.

Aware Nigerians saw through these machinations. In desperation two local banks

were formed in Lagos during the 1920's. They both had a very short history.

The failure of these two banks provided ammunition for the colonialists, who ridiculed the idea of Africans controlling their own affairs.

The situation became once again extremely depressing, but was a challenge which was promptly taken up by a group of nationalists under the moving spirit of Chief T. A. Doherty, I. Akinola Maja (both still living), Hamzat Ad. Subar, Chief Akintur Adeshigbin and Mr. Latu Johnson.

After careful planning countless deliberations, National Bank of Nigeria Limited finally emerged on Feb 11, 1933.

Many expatriates forecast the bank's early collapse.

The company's certificate of incorporation was issued on April 1933 and, with a modest paid-up share-capital of N1,000, National Bank rode the crest of nationalist wave.

It ended its first year of operation with a net profit of N50.

Another important step taken in 1936 with the founding of the now famous Christmas Shilling Fund. The fun an instant success because appealed to the ordinary save.

Only eight years after the bank was launched some N1,700 had been collected through the 14 branches — a record for its day.

Bouncing the bouncers

MOST Nigerians are completely honest. But a minority of bank users has managed to damage the good names of the majority. The minority consists of people who change cheques they do not have money full in the bank. That is the reason why the Government has passed the Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Decree 1969. The original decree covered only the Lagos State, including Lagos. Under this decree, anyone who issues a cheque knowing that it might be disallowed guilty of an offence. That, in the beginning, only people who lived in Lagos were liable to such a charge. In December 1973, however, the Federal Military Government announced in Lagos that it had decid-

ed to amend the decree to cover other areas of Nigeria.

Under Section 1(1) of the Decree, any Nigerian or foreigner, who changes a cheque — knowing full well that he or she does not have enough money to meet the cheque is liable to imprisonment for the maximum period of seven years.

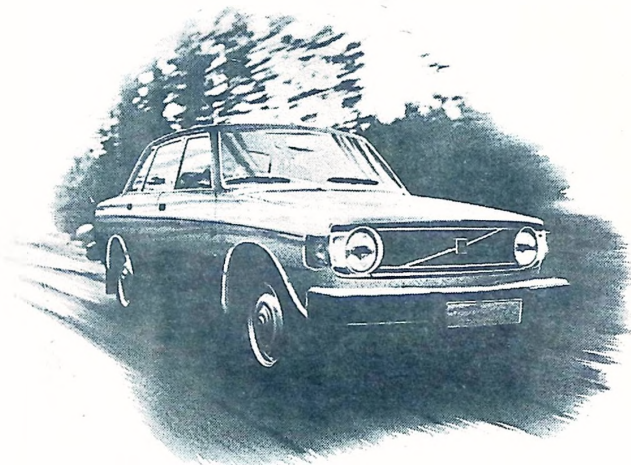
A statement issued by the Cabinet Office revealed that the activities of the cheque forgers were being increased over the last few years. Hence the need for the new decree.

In short, this means that the "honest broker" is protected. Only the clients will be hit. The new "bouncers" will disappear and the man with money in the bank and a cheque in his pocket will feel that much more confident.

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NATIONAL BANK continued

Over the years the Bank's pioneering campaign to convert local people to the habit of saving continued to bear fruit. The traditional habit of digging the ground to "have" money was on the wane.

Eventually the bank was quoted on the London Stock Exchange — a unique achievement in itself.

In 1943 the Bank established its first branch outside Lagos — in Kano, Northern Nigeria. In 1944 branches were established at Agege and Ibadan.

And in 1948 the Bank opened up a branch at Aba.

The Bank was now a truly national organisation. Today it has



MANAGING Director of the National Bank, Mr. Joseph Court.

representatives throughout Africa, North America and Europe.

Then came 1952 and the birth of active party politics. The country had been divided into three political and administrative areas, the North, Western and Eastern Regions.

The bank enjoyed Government patronage and was appointed bankers to a number of Government institutions including the Nigeria Cocos Marketing Board and later the Western Regional Marketing Board.

Insurance for the 'little man'

NIGERIA is a latecomer to the insurance industry even though an insurance law was enacted in the country some 25 years ago. But some have made the grade since Independence.

Insurance plays a really important role in any developing nation. Unfortunately, it is still viewed with suspicion by many Nigerians. But, now people are beginning to appreciate the vital role played by insurance in all kinds of developing world against all kinds of natural hazards.

Large sums of money collected as premiums from the insuring public are invested by insurance companies in gilt-edged securities and Government bonds and the accrued interest is distributed among the policy holders in the form of bonuses.

Life assurance has moral and psychological advantages because the money he manages to save

But, in retrospect, the Bank grew too quickly.

Large sums of money found their way into unshored projects. The situation worsened. By 1962 there was a crisis.

The Bank was saved following the intervention of the then Western Nigeria Marketing Board which came to its rescue by injecting funds through the purchase of shares to the tune of over N2,000,000. Then followed the first attempt to re-organise the bank.

And even during those "dark days" the Bank helped to patronise local businessmen.

In 1956 the Bank expanded its activities to London and opened a branch office at 15 Throgmorton Street, hub of the western financial "empire".

Today, the Bank is represented in New York and Moscow and in a number of European capitals.

It was in 1966 that the most far-reaching reforms in the Bank's structure were implemented. A new board was appointed and charged with the duty of "taking the bank out of politics and politics out the bank". A new era had begun.

Shortly after its inception, the new board ordered a capital reconstruction exercise. A number of former shareholders sold their shares to the Western Nigeria Marketing Board, increasing the board's shareholding to over 98%.

The Marketing Board was thus in a position to exercise effective control over the affairs of the bank on behalf of the Western Government. At the end of the reconstruction exercise, it was decided to write off some N6,000,000 as bad debts.

By 1970 there were 12 branches of the Bank operating throughout Nigeria.

Even during the Civil War the Bank operated in Port Harcourt and at Enugu, main theatre of the Civil War.

The new management set about recovering outstanding debts which boosted funds, so badly needed for national reconstruction.

makes a man self-reliant.

Apart from providing for the family, life assurance can be used as security for loans. Of special benefit to the individual, and ultimately to the community, are pension for house purchase. Owing to competition for labour, employers are now almost bound to institute occupational pension schemes, thus contributing to the increased standard of living and happiness of the community.

Life assurance premiums can be regarded as a form of saving for the so-called "little man". The large institutional investors such as banks, building societies and insurance companies.

Insurance companies help, in so many ways, to develop the nation. They help the farmer, always a victim of pest or drought, always a small businessman, as well as the shield of insurance around his particular caste.

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angrily
lovingly



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LESSON in leopard-hunting from Nigeria's Power Mike, who forces his massive fur-clad opponent to his knees. The Tanzanian crowd loved it!



MIGHTY arms raised in victory. Mike leaves the ring.



MIKE wields the upper hand again in the wrestling bout.

Power Mike lays out the Leopard

REMEMBER Power Mike — that great muscle man from Nigeria who claims to be the strongest man in the world? He's back in the news again. The wrestling champion of Africa thrilled thousands of fans in Dar es Salaam during a recent visit in which he tackled a giant of a man — Mustad from Australia.

Mustad arrived at the wrestling ground clad in a leopard skin. He vowed that he would knock out Power Mike in the first round after dramatically unmasking himself.

But it was not to be. He found the African champion a hard nut to crack, and in the second round Mustad bit the canvas. So it was another victory for the tough-talking, well-muscled Nigerian who received thunderous applause from the huge crowd.



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Coloured clothes are brilliantly brighter — whites amazingly whiter! Everyone can see the difference. They'll know you're a mother who cares when they notice those Omo-bright clothes. Its extra brightening power means super active blue Omo washes brighter...and it shows.

ABOUT SEX

body via her kidneys and bowels.

The other structure is a fine membranous bag, which fills with a clear fluid. This contains the baby, which floats in the waters which provide shock absorbercy.

The ovaries provide some of the hormones necessary for the pregnancy. The placenta also makes hormones.

As the baby grows, the uterus grows too; it does not merely stretch. The abdominal contents are displaced upwards and sideways, as the uterus begins to occupy more and more of the abdominal cavity; at full term, the crest of the uterus reaches the lower border of the ribs; the abdomen swells forwards into a high round bump. At the same time, the breasts undergo considerable development. Milk-making tissue grows, the nipples enlarge and the blood supply to the breasts is greatly increased, with extra blood vessels feeding them.

Due to the need for an extra supply of blood for the baby, the total quantity of blood circulating is about 20 per cent more than in the non-pregnant state.

It is an increase in fluid mainly, although there is, also, an increase in the number of blood cells. Because of the greater fluid needs, the mother retains more liquid in her body cells, and therefore may show a general plumpness apart from the enlargement of breasts and abdomen.

Not only really knows why the body starts to eject the baby when it is full grown. It may be that as the placenta ages, its hormone production alters in such a way that it triggers off activity in the pituitary. Whatever the cause, after about nine months from the time of conception, the uterus is stimulated into pushing the baby out of the mother. The baby uterine contracts and relaxes rhythmically, opening wide each time, until it is quite effaced, and the baby has a clear passageway through to the vagina.

The uterus then pushes the baby downwards, by contracting strongly; possibly the baby also makes muscular efforts that assist. The vaginal walls, which are ridged, stretch to accommodate the head (most babies are born head first) and the child passes out of its vaginal opening, which is itself capable of considerable stretching.

The umbilical cord can then be severed, and carefully closed on each side of the cut. The portion left on the baby shrivels and drops off within a week or so of birth, leaving the scar which is the naval. The uterus makes a final effort to push out the placenta shortly after the baby is born. The placenta is

then discarded.

The uterus gradually returns to the pre-pregnant state, the extra muscle growth being absorbed, and the wound on the mother heals (where the placenta was attached) healing. This involves a blood loss for the mother which lasts for some ten to 14 days after the birth.

For the first three days after the birth, the breasts produce a thick yellowish substance called colostrum. On the third day, true milk starts to be produced, and the breasts fill quite markedly. When the baby sucks at the nipple, the breasts are stimulated to produce more milk. This lactation will continue as long as the baby is breast fed. It is possible to go on feeding a child for some four or five years (Shakespeare's Juliet was breast fed until she was four).

The emotional changes

Ovulation in the mother is restored within a few weeks of the birth; the mother usually has a menstrual period about six weeks later. Lactation may delay this, although some mothers do not ovulate again for several months, but this is by no means true of all.

What effect do these processes have on the mother, apart from the obvious ones? There will generally be a change in her emotional state. The sex life and is secure in her relationship with the father of her child is generally deeply relaxed and quiet, often drifting into fantasies about her child, and gaining great pleasure from preparing for his care after birth. She will lose some interest in her intellectual life, and may lose interest in her working and social activities.

As well as these feelings of pleasure, there will be other feelings. Fear is high on the list. Most pregnant women fear for their own health, and for that of the unborn baby. Minor physical disturbances may produce an exaggerated anxiety response.

In the case of an emotionally immature woman, or one who does not want to be pregnant, resentment will override the pleasurable ones.

With all these influences at work, obviously pregnancy has a strong effect on sexual activity. If both partners experience an increase in desire during a wife's pregnancy, they can enjoy tremendous pleasure. They may develop their capacity for enjoyment to such an extent that their sexual relationship is cemented firmly forever, easily overcoming any temporary up-

sets of the sort already described.

Certainly, they need not be ashamed of their increased pleasure, or fear enjoying frequent intercourse. As long as the wife enjoys her sensations, and experiences no pain or discomfort, the pregnancy is unlikely to be harmed.

As time goes on, and the enlarging abdomen makes face-to-face positions in intercourse quite impossible, alternative positions can be used. During the last month or so of the pregnancy, however, positions which permit deep penetration are probably best avoided. This is because the cervix is tightly closed at the beginning of pregnancy and starts to relax at this time. It is possible for deep penetration to cause premature rupture of the bag of membrane that contains the baby in its water. This can lead to premature birth.

An acceptable alternative to penetration may be for the wife to lie on her side, almost at right angles to her husband, who approaches her from behind. If she keeps her legs closed, the erect penis can be moved along the vulva instead of within the vagina. This will give an orgasm to the husband, and satisfying stimulation to the wife. If she places herself properly, the tip of the thrusting penis will touch the clitoris.

Although it is possible for a man to live without having intercourse for the greater part of

a pregnancy, experiencing nocturnal emissions that relieve the build-up of semen, most men will desire some form of satisfaction with their partners.

It is rare for a woman who desires sexual intercourse during pregnancy to seek it extramaritally because of her husband's loss of interest. This is simple to understand, for a woman who has been rejected by her husband because of her pregnancy will not feel able to attract another partner and will therefore not attempt to do so. She will, naturally, suffer considerable frustration. If the relationship can be brought back to its original state of happiness soon after the birth of the child, no harm has been done; but sometimes, the wife has become too estranged from her husband to be able to make this possible. A breakdown in the marriage may occur some time later, due to the problem which originated during the pregnancy.

The answer to all these problems is the same. It is essential for the couple to discuss their feelings and their needs. A loving pair will be able to find unusual substitutes for their usual satisfactions if each can recognise the other's right to feel as he or she does and sympathise.

This special series on love, sex and marriage has been written by a qualified doctor. NEXT MONTH: Love after baby's birth.



LOVE AND BIRTH

WE have already seen that sexual activity between a man and wife has two functions. It provides satisfaction of deep drives, giving pleasure and relief from tensions; it also ensures the continuation of the species. So far, we have considered only the former function. But as for the vast majority of couples, the production of children is desired, it is necessary to consider the effects of parenthood on a marriage.

It is not possible to do this without a knowledge of the processes of conception, pregnancy, and childbirth.

When the fertilised cell buries itself into the wall of the uterus, it has already started the growth that will result in a baby. The cells rapidly divide into groups of structures, one of which will become the placenta (often becomes the after-birth). This called the placenta. This organ is closely attached to a wall of the uterus and acts as a go-between for mother and baby. Each have quite separate blood supplies, nervous systems and excretory mechanisms. The placenta contains myriad twisting blood vessels which run into the umbilical cord. This is connected to the baby in the centre of its abdomen. Food, oxygen, and other essential materials pass from the mother's blood vessels in the walls of the blood vessels in the placenta into the baby's blood. Waste material from the baby passes back in the same way, to be excreted from the mother's

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Doctor Drum

SHEDDING A RAY OF LIGHT

XRAYS are used in medicine both for diagnosis and treatment. The discovery of X-rays is as fascinating as the uses to which the discovery has been put.

One foggy November morning in the year 1895, a scientist called Wilhelm Rontgen was concentrating on an experiment in his dark laboratory. He was studying the effect of passing a high-tension electrical discharge through an opaque glass tube.

Since this experiment was not leading him anywhere, he was about to dismantle the apparatus when he noticed a gleam of light at the far end of the dark room.

In the darkness he could not see clearly what was happening. He lit a match, and saw that the light was located on a small screen made of a special chemical known as barium platinocyanide.

He concluded that while passing the high-tension electrical discharge he had produced radiation. This radiation had invisibly travelled the length of his laboratory, and become visible when it reached the special screen made of barium.

This radiation is what we now know as X-rays. They are measured in units known as Rontgen, in memory of this great scientist.

Medical science used this discovery to help in the diagnosis of diseases. The first application was in taking pictures of human bones by X-ray machines. Bones which are clinically suspected as broken are X-rayed, and the resulting film shows if a bone is broken and how badly it is broken. X-rays also help the surgeon by enabling him to check if the reduction of fracture

Wife misses periods

My wife has missed her period and is overdue by a week. What contraceptive can be used to stop this pregnancy? Please tell us the name and the method of administration.

M. S. Zanzibar.
Contraceptive medicines are used to prevent pregnancy and cannot help after pregnancy has occurred. If your wife is pregnant, she will not complete this pregnancy. After her confinement, you should approach a doctor who will advise an appropriate contraceptive method suitable to you and your wife.

Unable to have kids

I am a young married man, twenty three years old; my wife is nineteen years old. We have been married for three years and have not been able to produce a child. I am told that the defect lies with my wife. A

Scars over my body

I have had a small black scar near my elbow joint for the last five years. Recently it has started growing and I am worried whether it will spread over my body.
 Tony, Lusaka, Zambia.
I do not think it will spread over your body, but any mole that does start spreading can be removed by a small operation.

Large right breast

I am 16. My problem is that my right hand breast is much bigger than my left hand breast. What can you say about this abnormal state of affairs?
 Esther, Lagos.
One breast is usually slightly bigger than the other. This is normal in women, so don't worry about it unless you have reason to believe that there is an infection or growth which may be causing a swelling.

Dandruff problem

For about five years I have been suffering from dandruff. I get a lot of irritation in my scalp. I have tried all kinds of hair oil but

nothing has helped. Can you please advise?
 F.N.G. Mbat, Uganda.

Go to a chemist shop and buy a bottle of medicinal shampoo. Use it instead of soap to wash your hair. This may help.

Weighty problem

What can I do to regain my weight after a recent serious sickness?
 Ayan, Nigeria.

It depends on the cause of your loss of weight and state of malnutrition. See your doctor to find out.

Slimming and blood

Please tell me what happens to my body three months after I have donated blood. Does blood donation help in slimming?

Francis, Zanzibar.
In three months, your body has reformed most of the blood you donated. Blood donation does not help in slimming.

I'm so wide awake

During the last 12 months I have not closed my eyes to sleep. Despite strenuous efforts, I always lie awake on my bed till daybreak. I have at one time or the other taken almost all types of sleeping

tablets, all to no avail. What can I do to pass through this ordeal?
 I am 25 and a soldier.
 Josay, Ughelli, Nigeria.

I think you should see your doctor immediately, whom I think will direct you to a psychiatrist.

I'm without energy

I am 22. Since I was struck by a disease in 1972, I have lost all the energy in me. I cannot now run for 10 minutes without feeling something in my chest aching. How can I overcome this?
 Baro, Nigeria.

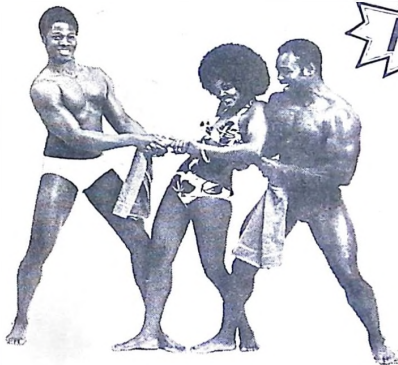
Your symptoms point to either a respiratory or heart disease. Breathlessness after exertion should not be taken lightly. You should see your doctor immediately for a thorough examination which should certainly include a chest X-ray.

Never stop itching

On the inner side of my thighs I have a skin disease which itches terribly. When I apply some ointment it disappears, only to reappear when I stop using the ointment. Please doctor, what is the cause of this condition and how can I have it cured?
 Samuel, Ikinga, Tanzania.
You are suffering from ringworm

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YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

My friend of my wife is prepared to exchange his reproductive organs so that my wife can have a child. Is this possible?

B.H., Maseru, Kenya.
It is important that you and your wife are thoroughly investigated at a wife one hospital before you reach a good hospital you have. If it is the conclusion you cannot conceive, your wife may have many reasons for it, there can be absence of eggs, like blocked tubes, absence of eggs, etc. There is surgical treatment for the former and medical treatment for the latter. Transplantation of the reproductive system is not possible.

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Look Better
 Feel Better
 Gain Extra Energy

ase and you seem to be re-
fecting yourself. Continue to app-
ly the ointment that temporarily
cures it, but throw away all your
old underwear which probably is
the source of re-infection.

Worried about skin

I am very worried about my skin.
When ever I scratch, the skin
swells up there. I make people
laugh by writing my name on my
skin, though after half an hour it
disappears by itself. Is this a
disease?

Mleky, Kisumu, Kenya.
This is not a disease. Your skin is
very delicate and reacts to an out-
side irritation by giving an ur-
ticarial rash.

Forget-me-not

I am terribly worried about the fact
that I am too forgetful. People can
be introduced to me, and I can
forget their names soon after the
introduction. Could you please
prescribe some tablets that will
help to improve my memory?

Omo, Nanyuki, Kenya.
I am afraid that there are no
tablets to help you. You will only
have to increase your power of
concentration.

Recurring ulcers

I am thirty years old man. I suffer
from small ulcers inside my mouth
and on my tongue. They are very
painful and I cannot eat. They dis-
appear by themselves but come
again. I need your advice.

Omalio, Lusaka, Zambia.
It sounds as though you are getting
fungus infection on the inside of
your mouth. The treatment is ap-
plication of methylene-blue dye,
plus taking medicine containing
high doses of vitamin B and C and
antifungal tablets. To obtain all
this I think you will need to see a
doctor.

Blood in urine

I am a boy of 24. Each time I
urinate something like blood ac-
companies my urine. My friends
tell me not to worry as the position
will soon become normal. Shall I
believe them?

Ade, Ibadan, Nigeria.
Causes of blood in urine are many.
One of the commonest is bilharzia.
Others include kidney and urinary
diseases, and bleeding diseases.
You should see your doctor im-
mediately for a thorough screening
to ascertain the cause, if necessary
and provide a cure.

Fear scares me

Doctor, please can I know the
cause of my fears. Fears of my ex-
istence, of death and of everything
else just strike into my mind at any
time of the day. What can I do?
How can I be cured of my fears?
O.B., Ogoni, Nigeria.
Your fear may indicate emotional
disturbances. A detailed and in-
timate interview with your doctor
may help to reveal the causes of
your disturbed emotions. If
necessary, he may recommend you
to see a specialist.

Problem in hand

I am thirty years old man. My
problem is that I need to indulge in
daily masturbation. I am frightened
to get married because of this habit
of mine, and I need your advice.
Solomon, Kigali, Rwanda.
It is repeatedly said in this column
that masturbation is not necessari-
ly a harmful habit. I think you
should get married, because it is
very likely that after you are
married, you will not need to con-
tinue with masturbation.



zoo-keeper. 'I've just been
told I've got to bury it'.



A beautiful girl walked into
a psychiatrist's office. "My
problem, doctor," she said, is
that whenever I have a drink I
want to make love to the first
man I see. What can I do?"

"Don't worry" replied the
psychiatrist. "Take a seat and
as soon as I've finished mixing
this cocktail we'll discuss it".



"It's not that", replied the

When his mother-in-law
died, the undertaker asked the
son-in-law whether he
wanted her buried, cremated,
or embalmed.

"All three" he replied, "I'm
taking no chances!"



An idle worker was called
into his boss's office one day.
"I just want you to know," said
the boss, "that we were going
to replace you with a
machine. But we've not been
able to find out yet what you
do all day."

A man stood in front of a
firing squad. The officer in
charge said to him: "Have
you any final request?"

"Yes", said the prisoner.
"I'd like to see my mother".
"Where's your mother?"
"In Australia".



A nightwatchman told his
friend that he had been given
the sack for talking at work.

"Just for talking?" queried
his friend.
"Well, actually for talking
in my sleep".



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PEN PALS



John Ekanjo, 22
Esplanade Street, Ibadan, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, photography, sports. Age 22.



Steven Y.M.C.A. Hosi, 103
Lovers Street, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: current affairs, travel. Age 22.



Roy Nwokedi, P.O. Box 273
Midway, Ikorodu Estate, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: general. Age 24.



Malim Adams, P.O. Box 26
Wada, Ikorodu, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, football. Age 23.



Raymond Olorun, 42
Abebe & Co. Ltd, P.O. Box 405, Adapa, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, sport, current affairs. Age 19.



Adebayo Adedokun, P.O. Box 2181
Mopel Mall, Ibadan, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: travelling, politics. Age 20.



Andrew Odu, St. Columba's College, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: general. Age 16.



Lashley Adesobe, 28
Olofero Street, Ikorodu, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from USA, U.K., and India. Interests: general. Age 23.



Justina Ogunniyi, 45
Officer Road, Abeokuta, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: photography, football. Age 18.



Moses Okunribido, Box 44
Ejibode, Western State, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: general. Age 22.



Jacob Walton, Central Book Shop, 313 West Street, Bauchi, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from India, China, USA and Britain. Interests: reading, music. Age 18.



Felix Ezialaf, 8
Dunham Street, Warri, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world, especially Cameroon. Interests: films, dancing. Interwaving Age 21.



Festus Ogunwumi, P.O. Box 11
Yebu, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: general. Age 22.



Francis Karama, P.O. Box 485
Kuala, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: teaching, Christianity. Interests: current affairs. Age 24.



Nahashon Duro, P.O. Box 66
Makoko, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: general.



Jairo Sando, P.O. Box 10183
Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, photography. Age 21.



Joseph Boy, Box 275
Ikorodu, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: general. Age 22.



Rigoberto Sarguena, P.O. Box 3008
Ibadan, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: dancing, letter-writing, photography. Age 17.



Mathias Luyombo, P.O. Box 66
Makoko, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: sports. Age 17.



Hassan Damwagga, P.O. Box 5110
Mombasa, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: general.



Samuel Mwalu, P.O. Box 137
Kiambu, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: dancing, swimming, sports. Age 22.



Richard Mujuru, P.O. Box 3021
Nairobi, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: dancing, music. Age 19.



Okello Rogituro, P.O. Box 20
Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, movies. Age 20.



Joe Morico, P.O. Box 1130
Saitan, Tanzania, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, dancing. Age 20.



M. Sanyal, P.O. Box 17
Kerala, India. Wants pen pals from anywhere in the world. Interests: music, research. Age 22.



A. M. Amavayo, P.O. Box 3021
Moshi, Tanzania. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: soccer, dancing, reading, music. Age 17.



John Kiang, M.S.E. University, P.O. Box 20
Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: electronics, letters, photos. Age 28.



Hafan Nwagwu, P.O. Box 1130
Saitan, Tanzania, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, dancing. Age 22.

Billie's Black Humour

Continuing our column of anecdotes and humour compiled by young Nigerian writer **Ullibe Onyiasama**.

SAM ULLA, Nigerian journalist:

Young Africans used to say of the missionaries: they came to us and said: "We want to teach you to pray." So the missionaries told us to close our eyes and learned to pray. When we opened our eyes there was a Bible in our hands, but our land was gone!

A White American in Ghana noticed a Ju-Ju ring on the finger of a young African Christian. "If you wear that," he asked him, "how can you say you are a true Christian?" "Well," replied the African youth, "I surely believe that God will punish anyone who does me harm, but this ring is to make sure he doesn't do it in the first place."

CHARLIE WILLIAMS, Black English comedian:

A man went along to a construction site and said to the foreman, "Please give me a job, I have a wife and fourteen kids at home." "Fine," said the foreman, "What else can you do?"

An African was invited to the home of an Englishman, but when he entered he was perplexed by the Englishman's bulldog who rushed up to him, barking furiously and baring its teeth. "Don't worry," said the Englishman, "I'm sure you know the old proverb that says the dog that barks a lot doesn't bite." "Yes," the African replied angrily, "I know the proverb. You know the proverb. But does the dog know the proverb?"

WILLIAM DUBOIS, Black American author (1868-1963)

I say grace before lunch and having mumbled a few words under my breath, was asked **why he did not speak so that his hosts could hear what he said:**

"I wasn't talking to you," he replied, "I was talking to God."

MALCOLM X, 1925-1965, Black American activist and author:

The Black man in this country (United States of America) has been sitting on the hot stove for nearly 400 years. And no matter how fast the brainwashers and White liberals think they are not fast enough; it's still too slow for the man whose behind is burning on a hot stove!

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El Mohr

WHAT YOUR DREAM MEANS



PISCES

You are standing at the foot of a range of mountains. At the top of the highest peak stands a fine mansion surrounded by green lawns and beautiful gardens — an oasis among the snows. Your heart sinks at the prospect of the climb which lies ahead before you can reach it, and your limbs feel as heavy as lead. Yet as you watch, an old man climbs the mountain side with an amazing show of energy and quickly reaches the place where you long to be. Nothing is ever easy for you Pisceans, born under the sign of the fish. The mountains represent the difficulties which will always be at your heart's desire. But which will always be between you and your motto through life. "onwards and upwards" could well be your motto though life and, however long it takes, you will eventually scale the heights. You and the middle years can be hard, wearying times for you. Youth and the middle years can be hard, wearying times for you. When life seems nothing but work and effort. It is much for you as the old man in the dream came so successfully to his journey's end.



AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21—
FEBRUARY 20

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



PISCES
FEBRUARY 21—
MARCH 20

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



ARIES
MARCH 21—
APRIL 20

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



TAURUS
APRIL 21—
MAY 20

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



GEMINI
MAY 21—
JUNE 20

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



CANCER
JUNE 21—
JULY 20

Relatives or friends will call you away from routine, and social life takes on new interest. Try to avoid becoming involved in someone's secret affairs. Romance is linked with pleasure trips this month.



LEO
JULY 21—
AUGUST 20

Important mail may be subject to delays, but the news when it does arrive, will be some about benefits to come. Romantic affairs tend to come to some definite conclusion. Marriage will be the outcome for many.



VIRGO
AUGUST 21—
SEPTEMBER 20

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



LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 21—
OCTOBER 20

An elderly person will cause a dispute in the family circle, and all your tact will be needed to regain a peaceful atmosphere. Whatever the stresses avoid making a break with someone you care for.



SCORPIO
OCTOBER 21—
NOVEMBER 20

A person who has been standing in your way is now removed from the scene, and you can feel free to carry out a long cherished scheme. Your personal magnetism for the opposite sex never stronger.



SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 21—
DECEMBER 20

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



CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 21—
JANUARY 20

Postpone any important decisions until you are in a more optimistic mood. You look too much on the black side of things at present. Do not let family arguments upset you.

For a Cold Cold Drink you need a Cool Cool FRIDGE

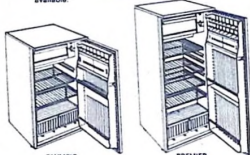


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(5 extra shelves for 10 large beer bottles in the door)





She promised me anything

I wanted

I am 19 and a certain girl is making life hell for me. It so happened that we both shared a table at the examination hall. She begged me to give my paper open for her to crib from. She promised to leave me alone if I wanted. After the exam, she accompanied me home and confessed to me that she had fallen in love with me. I had sex with her that very day. She has now forbidden me from seeing my other girlfriends. I have moved to a new place just to avoid her, but I fear she will find me. Please help me as I do not want her. Denis, Utomok, Nigeria.

You don't have to run from her. Simply tell her that you are not interested in her and that she should stop annoying you.

Oh! How I miss my distant angel

My beautiful angel and I live very far apart from each other. We exchange letters regularly. There is no doubt that we miss each other very much but I cannot bear to leave school and come to me, while I cannot bear to leave my work and go to her. What can we do? She is 17 and I am 19. Augustino, Zambia.

Keep on writing to each other until you are both free to marry and live together.

When I tell them to be good, they leave!

I am a handsome boy of 21. I left school two years ago. Since then I have had several girlfriends. I always advise and encourage them to be good, but I think this honesty on my part drives them away because they never come back to me. Do you advise that I change so as to keep them?

Y.B.M., Ekot, Nigeria.
It is likely these girls find you dull, hence they desert you after the first visit. Girls like men who are not only honest but romantic.

They both want to marry me

I am 23. I hope I am not being vain when I say that I am a beautiful. Shortly after I left high school I married a man I did not love. We have since parted. Since then I have had a number of boyfriends. One of them is a woman who is bent on marrying me. One of them is a father of two children, although he is not married. The father of two children, although there are a number of other is single. He tells me that there are a number of rumours being circulated about my past behaviour. I do not say that he doesn't care about them. I do not doubt his sincerity, but I find it difficult to convince myself that he can ever trust me. I really want to settle down again but please tell me which of these two men I should marry.

Margaret, Lagos, Nigeria.
Marry the man you truly love. One thing though — if you want to be trusted you must now behave yourself.

I've been offered her sister as substitute

I am 24. I was very much in love with a girl of 20. We loved each other so much that we planned to get married immediately she left school. Meanwhile, I was hastened to pay her dowry. A few days before parents, in-to-join me, I received a telegram from her parents, informing me of her death. I thought I was dreaming. However, everything is now calm and because of the love her parents have for me, they have advised me to marry their second daughter who is now in form three.

I am confused, so please advise me whether to have the girl or forget my expenses on the dead sister.

M.B.C., Kano, Nigeria.
First and foremost, accept my sympathy. The choice is entirely yours, but this much I have to say: If you are thinking of expenses you incurred on your late girl, I would advise you not to accept the substitute you are being given. But if you still wish to marry from the family and you feel you can love the new girl, then you can go ahead and marry her after her course.

Should I woo the younger sister?

My girlfriend and I parted because she made love to a friend I introduced her to. Now her younger sister, who is 18, is interested in me and she has made it known to me. Do you advise that I go ahead with her? I am growing fond of her.

Sam, Blantyre, Malawi.
Do not fall in love with her. That way you will not create bad blood between the girl and her sister.

Now they say no money, no marriage

I am 21 and he is 26. We fell in love five years ago. I lost my father the year that my boy left high school. He sent me to a commercial school and I hope to finish there in 1974. My people, seeing my academic progress, now want me to disappoint my boy because they want to use me to make money. My sweetheart would like to marry me before he goes to university this year but my people insist that unless he promises to train my younger brothers, they would not give their consent. Please help us. We are very worried.

Chlymz, Owerri, Nigeria.
I agree with you that your people are being very unreasonable. Discuss this matter with your parish priest or other family elders. I am sure they will be able to make them see reason.

I can only afford one wife, so which?

My wife is 22 and I am 29. I have now fallen in love with a relation of hers. I love my wife very much and also the girl but I cannot afford to marry two wives. Do you advise that I marry my new love?

A.O., Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
Discuss it with your wife, but I find it hard to believe that you love both her and the girl. Think twice.

They always force me to make love

I am 16 and I have a great problem. Whenever I fall in love I am forced against my will to make love. After that we part after only two or three months. I remain in love, so don't you think I should stop falling in love?

C.C.B., Tanga, Tanzania.
You can't stop falling in love. But next time keep your body to yourself. Then if the boy loves, you won't feel quite so bad about his departure.

How can I get my girl back from Lagos?

I am 20 and I am in love with an 18-year-old girl. Both of us agreed to marry. I returned from leave last year when she had left for Lagos. She even wrote to come to me.

Bob, Awka, Nigeria.
Make arrangements to marry her as soon as possible; that should ensure she returns quickly.

She visits me wearing six pairs of pants!

My girl is 19 while I am 22. We love each other very much. The problem with us is that she will not go to visit me until we are married. When she is coming think that this girl really loves me? Do you B.B., Lagos, Nairobi.

She does, and she is only being sensible.
How can I tell if he is still faithful?

My boyfriend and I fell in love in 1970. At that time we lived in the same town. Now I am working in Lagos and we exchange letters regularly. The problem is that I keep on wondering whether my boy has got

another girl. I have not got another boy because I want to be faithful to him. What shall I do? I am 20 and he is 23.

Mary, Lagos.
Stop tormenting yourself! The fact that he writes to you so regularly should be enough to assure you that he loves you.

I love her, but not her beads

I am a handsome trader of 22. My lover is an illiterate girl of 17. We love each other very much. The trouble is she is fond of wearing beads round her waist. I have tried in vain to stop this habit. Please tell me what to do.

Supergo, Bagamoyo, Tanzania.
I don't see any reason why beads should cause trouble between you and the girl you love. There are some men who would pay anything to make their women wear them. Of course, one man's meat is another man's poison. If you feel so bad about it, I can only advise you to continue to try to dissuade your girl from wearing beads.

My heart is broken now she's gone

I am 20 years of age. The girl I am in love with has been taken home by her parents. My heart is broken because I have not heard from her. While we were in the same town, I did not have sex with her, but I spent a lot of money on her. I still love this girl. Please, what can I do? She is 15.

R.S., Lagos.
This may be a case of out of sight, out of mind. Try and get her address and get in touch with her.

My friend says he has taken her to bed

I am 18 and she is 16. She always tells me that I am the only boy in her life. One day, I went to visit a friend of mine. During our discussion, I learnt how he had taken the girl to bed and many other things. I pretended not to know her. Please help me before I go mad.

A.K., Lusak, Zambia.
Confront her with what your friend told you. If she denies she even went to bed with your friend, I suggest the three of you meet to thrash out the matter.

What should I do now she is pregnant?

I am a student of 17. My girlfriend is 19. There was time I went to her house and asked her for sex and she agreed. After going to bed with her three times she became pregnant and came to my house with her parents who wanted to know whether I was the father of the baby. I admitted this because I was frightened. But I do not wish to marry the girl. Please, I need your help.

W.P.M., Agbo, Nigeria.
What help do you need? If you cannot marry her you should at least take care of her until she has delivered the baby. I should not need to tell you that you must also look after the baby after its birth.

My father's threats scared him away

I am 21. I fell in love with one of my colleagues promised to marry me. My mother is not against plans but my father is the great stumbling block has even threatened to curse us if we disobey. Now my boy has stopped seeing me and has weeded me out to visit him any more. Please help me. My heart is breaking.

Jumoke, Zaria.
It is a pity you had to part with your sweetheart as a result of your father's action. Before you give heart to another man in future, you should take parents' feelings into consideration.

Will somebody snatch this girl, too?

I am a student. I have suffered a lot of heartbreak from girls. I do not seem to be able to keep a girl long time before she is snatched away by another. I have a new girl and we are very fond of each other.

