

DRUM

WITH THE COMMENTS OF
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AFRICA'S LEADING MAGAZINE

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February 1977

Meet the
Queen of
Abiriba

Death is
a deadly
business

Regrets
of a Lagos
prostitute

Memoirs of
political thug
'Sticking Mosquito'



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DRUM

THE NATIONAL TRULY NATIONAL MAGAZINE

Get rid of old coins

IT IS a matter of regret that three years after the change of Nigerian coins many parts of the country still regard the old coins as legal tender.

People in the villages of the Northern States, such as Borno, Gongola and Kaduna states, still exchange the coins in their markets.

Please, Mr. Editor, help to educate these uninformed Nigerians about the disservice they are doing to the country's economy by trading with the old coins.

Salami Shehu, Maiduguri, Nigeria
If you are sure of your facts, the Central Bank of Nigeria should take note.

A victory for the OAU

THE people's Republic of Angola has finally been accorded the desired membership in the United Nations. This is a victory for the Organisation of African Unity. This should prove to the Fedted States that her veto powers cannot continue to hold the entire world to ransom in the world body.

If the O.A.U. extends her painstaking approach to the Angolan trials to other African problems, the entire continent will soon be rid of the vestiges of foreign occupation and exploitation.

Long live O.A.U. Long live Africa.

Christopher Obinaginnam, Lagos, Nigeria

Youth corps are lazy

KINDLY ALLOW me a space in your journal to call on the Federal Government of Nigeria to review its policy on Operation Feed the Nation.

The present policy of engaging members of the Nigerian Youth Corps in the OFN should be repealed if the scheme is to succeed. The students are lazy and unproductive. Many of them are being dismissed daily from their location. I therefore suggest that, in place of the youth corps, labourers and villagers should be employed.

Nigeria has enough land for food production but the problem is lack of productive labour.
Remmy Ifeanacho, Umuahia, Nigeria

Stop traffic in blood

BLOOD trafficking in Nigerian hospitals has assumed alarming dimensions. Blood donations to hospitals are a humanitarian and noble service to one's country. It is never done by force. It is intended to save the



Oh, boy! We'll stick with Astrid

I want to see men on DRUM covers. If you keep showing us women I will stop buying your magazine.

C. M. Malimba Makawa, Obuasi, Ghana

We are sorry you don't like our girls. Read readers, could you bear to miss such lovelies as this month's cover girl, the delightful Astrid (ABOVE) — Editor.

lives of others with the help of the medically fit. But our youths unfortunately have today been flooded by applicants who resort to blood trafficking as their means of livelihood. It is a shame to us all. It beats my imagination to expose and condemnation of this practice by newspapers and radio, in the Nigerian leaders still allow it to persist. May I Federal Government to stamp out this evil in our society?
Remi Thomas, Abeokuta

An appeal to Jimmy Carter

It is certain that the 39th President of the United States of America, Mr Jimmy Carter, will face a number of problems, in his relations with the rest of the world.

Of greatest interest to Africa, of course, is Carter's attitude towards the Southern African problem. It is not clear whether he will evolve a different policy from that of

But whatever his overall policy may be, I would strongly appeal to the United States President to pressure the South African racists to disengage themselves and their Bantustan policy and allow for universal adult suffrage in that African land. Innocent Agas, Lagos

Help the farmers

I AM a farmer in Ewohimi in Ishan Division of Bendel State. I read with full interest the article in DRUM "Operation Feed the Nation". My suggestion is that the Federal Military Government should start buying farm products from farmers directly to sell to the public, in order to control both the cost and selling price.

Most of our products are not costly, but when they reach the markets through middlemen their prices have risen sharply, to the detriment of the public. Let the Federal Military Government see to this point. Thanks.
Farmer Terry Jones, Benin

Accountants: change exams

ALLOW ME a space in your favourite magazine to call on the Nigerian Institute of Chartered Accountants to make examination centres for its students available in towns

outside Lagos. A system that is really Nigerian should be devised by the institute. Its present training whereby students are allowed to enter for their final examinations after years of practical experience — is frustrating and bad. Our country cannot afford the wasteful exercise of training its high-level manpower.
P. K. Lawal, Kano

Reduce cars prices in Nigeria

WITH the indigenisation of the Nigeria economy, I thought that the people of this country would enjoy some relief in the prices of some goods. Rather we have helped world-wide inflation by increasing the prices of vehicles in our country. It is now biting us hard.

A foreign company here

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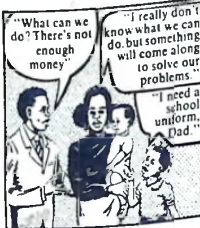
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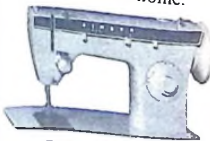
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simply imports the car from a company abroad at a very low price and sells it to us at a high price. The next day the company announces a huge profit from sales. Besides, this company enjoys an importation monopoly from the manufacturers. Does this buttress our indigenisation policy? Why are we suffering in our own country?

The Government should reduce the prices now. P. G. Oluani, Ilesha, Nigeria

Drop modern mathematics

A CLOSE look at the new system of learning in Nigerian primary schools will prove to theory. It is merely an empty of imagination.

You can't allow a young pupil in a primary school to circles, triangles, squares and arcs related to their daily lives already low standard of the education in this country if it is not stopped.

The modern mathematics our schools should be dropped in I. O. Oluie, Uzeru, Nigeria

Over to you, Federal Ministry of Education — Editor.

Help my search, please

PLEASE help me in my search for my sister-in-law, Mrs Comfort Songo-Davies, and Songo-Davies, Miss Maud living in London for more than 14 years. Mrs Comfort Songo-Davies was the daughter of the late T. P. Barlalu-Hughes of Kano. I am the husband of the late Barlalu-Hughes. Thank You, Patricia Williams, E. E. Williams, 6 Johnson Street, Onitsha, Nigeria

That's calling you, London! — Editor.

Building a nation

I WISH to support my co-reader, Vincent Chekus. Nigeria is one of those world nations which have built a division through constructive addition to the former 12 states. Nigeria now has 19 states, since Nigeria is a united States, I think the name United States of Nigeria would be appropriate. Prince Osofo, Bendel

More calls for a U.S.N.

I HOPE that the Federal Government is considering Mr. Vincent Chekus's view that since our country is divided into 19 states, we should call it United States of Nigeria. I too support this view. Ibrahim Aliyu Bliu, Bauchi

Studying an Indian dream

I AM interested in making a career in marketing and management and I would like to study abroad, especially in India. I shall be very grateful if you can please give me the addresses of the institutions that are offering these courses in India. Jimoh, Mushin

We think if you direct your inquiries to the Indian High Commission in Lagos you may be helped. — Editor.

Rangers rule, OK?

RANGERS International of Nigeria deserve congratulations for their playing. For two years now, they have won most of their matches. I think Nigerians are proud of their achievements, because not only have they retained their good name, but have also put Nigeria on the sporting map.

S. Chikaodinaka Nwosu, Lagos

Drumming up business

YOUR EXPANDED coverage in recent months of Business News is something which has pleased me (and many of my friends and acquaintances) and is something of which you can be justly proud. Please keep it up — and please let it grow too! One question: do you charge for space in the Business News columns? I know of many men like myself in small businesses who would like coverage in your columns of our progress. What do we do?

Remi Fadaka, Mushin

Thanks for the praise! It's very pleasing to know that our efforts have been noted — and please everybody note that this is a service we offer FREE to all our readers. We are keen to report on the activities of as many businessmen as possible, however small their concerns.

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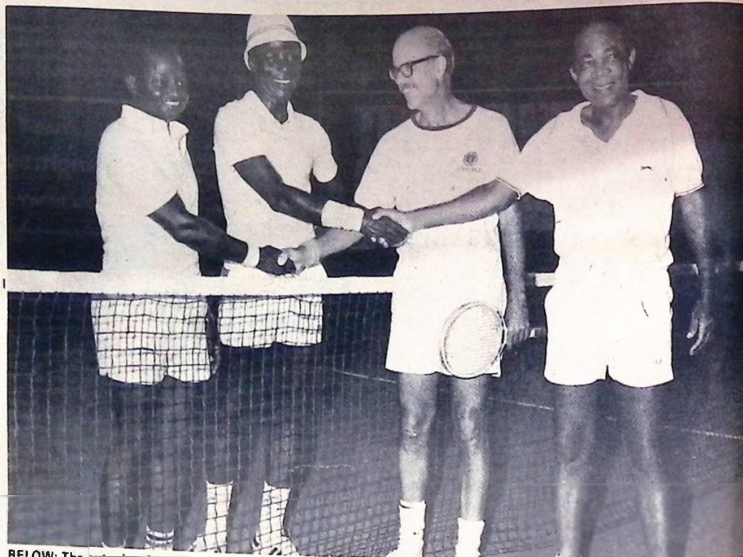
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... in
pictures

LEFT: Lt-Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo visits the Lagos Island Maternity Hospital and holds Mrs Remi Oduko's baby while she looks on at right. In the centre is Dr Dada, Chief Consultant of the hospital, and the Lagos State Governor, Commodore Adekunle Lawal.

BELOW: Walter Obianwu (extreme right) and the American Ambassador, Donald L. Essum, winners of the 1976 Nigerian Open Tennis Championships Veterans Doubles, congratulate runners-up Alhaji Issa and C. Kayode Sanwo after their final match at the National Stadium.



BELOW: The outgoing Australian High Commissioner in Nigeria, Mr W. H. Bray, pays a farewell visit to the Head of State, Lt.-General Olusegun Obasanjo, at Dodan Barracks.



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'Politics can go to hell'

HE WAS called the 'Sticking Mosquito' and he cherished it. Mr. NCNC thug, George Nwazuonu Onuoha was an opponent of the banned party; and he protected the personnel and properties of the party. The arrival of the military government and the ban on political activities robbed the 'Mosquito' of his sting. He has settled down as a trader. Here he tells his story to DRUM's Innocent Ezeh.

GEORGE ONUOHA now sits in his store at Bright Street, Onitsha and wonders how, after many years of relentless struggle, the much sought after success has dawned on him — as a trader. But of all his tracks of endeavour, the most eminent and striking was that of political adventurism where Mr Onuoha's nickname Sticking Mosquito — gained him much prominence.

As a political thug, Sticking Mosquito served as a personal bodyguard to many eminent Nigerian politicians. He cared not a hoot but believed in the political attitude to life in a "do-or-die" attitude to life in a very much respected as a terror in the entire territory of the banned National Council of the Nigerian Citizens, especially in the Eastern district.

The name "Sticking Mosquito" became dreaded by many people, spelling trouble and hell. He wielded such influence that he could commit

any offence and get away with it in the interests of his party. And he even used the police as his instrument.

As a leader of the NCNC vanguard, Sticking Mosquito did many marvellous feats. He led the triumphant entry of the then Premier of Eastern Nigeria, Dr Michael Okpara, into Ogbomoso in Western Nigeria in 1963 in spite of a stiff opposition from political foes.

If ever, at that time, you were known to be opposed to the policies and principles of the NCNC, or its leadership, you would have found yourself in the net of Sticking Mosquito. Burning down houses; beating up political opponents; smashing up cars of opponents; influencing support from electoral colleges, and looting — all these activities characterised political thuggery in Nigeria in those days.

But the irony of fate has today compelled George

Onuoha, one-time Sticking Mosquito, to realise the futility of political thuggery. He now condemns this type of vandalism and has appealed to the military administration to stamp out the use of thuggery in politics before retiring to the barracks in 1979.

He told DRUM that he had collected together all his property after the war and sold it to start life as a businessman in Onitsha.

Now a successful businessman, Mr Onuoha has vowed not to return to politics. Now he believes in capitalism and wishes to live up to his ideal through business.

Married with six children, Onuoha still keeps up his interest in boxing as a hobby. When he retires in the evening to his Amobi Street home in Onitsha, George goes out for boxing practice with his friends.

Above his Bright Street shop — where George deals in textiles — is a big sign-post reading: "Sticking Mosquito."

PLEASE TURN OVER

'Sticking Mosquito' talks to DRUM

Memoirs of a thug

CONTINUED

But, after many years of active participation in political brigandage, George Onuoha has come to repent his past activities and actions.

He condemns the traces of political terrorism and contends that the youths of present-day Nigeria should be properly instructed on the futility and evils of what he terms "crude politics."

George is now contented with his life as a simple businessman. "Politics," he says, "can go to hell."

Pictures by Abim Oladejo

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STICKING MOSQUITO: works quietly at his new trade.

'It is not a good thing to be a political hatchet-man'

DRUM inquiry

The man-eating goddess of Agu Owa

THE PEOPLE of Agu Owa live in daily fear of their lives because, they say, they have ended a centuries-old custom of making human sacrifices to their river goddess. Innocent Ezah investigated the villagers' startling claim that the angry goddess is now taking lives in revenge.

THE SMALL community of Agu Owa settled in the picturesque coastal areas of the notorious river Ekulu, near Enugu in the Anambra State of Nigeria some 50 years ago. Since then, the unfortunate villagers have been under the spell of a river goddess who has a reputation for spreading disaster among the people of Agu Owa.

The only way to appease the goddess's anger, it was said, was to present a human offering at least once a year. This was the custom before the law was changed to ban human sacrifices.

In those early days, slaves were fed to the goddess by leaving the carefully selected victim to be claimed from the

deserted river banks. The ritual murder continued until the ending of the slave trade. But another method of appeasing the hungry goddess was soon devised, feeding the spirit with the laziest villagers.

When the white men came and tamed Enugu into a town, one of them died in an attempt to erect a bridge across the infamous Ekulu river. Another European plunged mysteriously into the river never to be seen again.

With the advent of Western civilisation the Agu Owa villagers felt it impossible to live up to the allegiance of the goddess.

Instead they offered fowls and goats as a substitute.

But this did not appease the goddess and it resorted to carrying off villagers in mysterious circumstances.

During DRUM's investigation, one of the villagers, Mr Marcellinus Opara, told us that a man and a woman both disappeared recently.

The woman was waiting on the bank for help to cross the river when a male villager came and helped her across.

Suddenly, as they were halfway across the shallow river they both vanished from sight.

Chief Chijioke Agu, who the leader of Agu Owa village told DRUM that the goddess of Ekulu river began her demands for human sacrifice 1,000 years ago. The village was then a small clearing in an impenetrable jungle. Numerous villages were located in both the bush and river. Chief explained.

In one recent case a train carrying Government materials fell into the river and two men in the vehicle disappeared.

Taxi cabs have disappeared in the river, their passengers including school children losing their lives to the man-eating goddess, claim villagers.

● Chief Chijioke Agu (LEFT) appeals to the goddess to spare the lives of his villagers.



WORRIED villagers prepare an animal sacrifice on banks of the river Ekulu to appease the demands of their man-eating goddess.

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Memoirs of a thug

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STICKING MOSQUITO: works quietly at his new tr

'It is not a good thing to be a political hatchet-man'



'When the big men moved, I moved'

THE one-time "Sticking Mosquito" speaks:

"I was born in Afara village of Owerri in Imo State in 1940 in a poor village farmer. I received my early education at St. Joseph's School, Abonima, in the Rivers State from 1947 to 1954.

"I was interested in physical training while at primary school. This later became a growing inclination towards boxing, and so I boxed while in school.

"After school I began my boxing career in Port Harcourt. My performances in the ring earned me the title of 'Sticking Mosquito'. But later I saw boxing as a profession of non-financial interest so I decided to quit.

"Dashing down to Onitsha town I landed a job as a local government police constable under the then Onitsha Urban County Council. Nevertheless, I was not satisfied with the job as my ultimate goal to become a rich man could not be achieved with the meagre salary of a constable.

"Suddenly, in 1955, I thought my ambition could be realised through politics, so I joined the then Zikist National Movement under the NCNC led by Dr Nnamdi Azikiwe, the then Premier of the Eastern Region.

"Now I could combine my experience as a boxer with my job as a political thug and I really proved my competence on the job beyond reasonable doubt. I made a good impression on Dr Michael Okpara when he took over the leadership of the NCNC from Dr Azikiwe.

"My name - Sticking Mosquito - attracted such popularity in my party that the Premier himself picked me up as the leader of the East Regional wing of the NCNC national vanguard when it changed from Zikist National Movement.

"I served as a contact man between Dr Okpara and people in the remote areas of the region. And I



GEORGE ONUOHA: now a respectable trader in Onitsha with the hurly-burly of political thuggery behind him.

used to lead both Dr Okpara and Dr Azikiwe to various party conventions.

"My duty was to protect them from attacks by opponents. All rival political party thugs were kept well away from the NCNC strongholds anywhere in the Federation.

"We exchanged violence with political enemies and fought our way back to victory without taking chances. We did not rig elections, as alleged by party enemies. We regarded this allegation as a figment of fallen detractors.

"When the big men moved, I moved with them.

"My duty, among other things, included ensuring the overall security of the vehicles in which our big men moved about. In fact, we pulled down houses and destroyed many trees in those days.

"Alhaji Aminu Kano, Chief T.O.S. Benson and many other leading personalities of the NCNC were my masters in those good days.

"When the army took over in 1966, what bothered me most was the fate of these my masters. I thought that all those who had participated in politics would be eliminated. So I went into hiding for fear that, as a party stalwart, I was not safe.

"This fear was soon allayed by a fellow stalwarts who told me

that the army was not out to kill, but to correct the ill done to the nation by the politicians. He not going to handle the affairs of the nation for too long before retiring to their barracks.

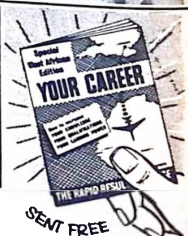
"After the ban on political parties and the subsequent announcement of the closure of all party secretariats throughout the Federation by late General Ironsi's Government, I returned to my Onitsha. I later abandoned this job to trade in Onitsha with a petty little or no capital.

"During the Civil War, I joined the Biafran Army and rose to the rank of a military police corporal, a post I held until the end of the war. I did all I could as Sticking Mosquito, but I failed to earn a higher rank in the army.

"It is not good to be a political hatcher-man, defined in all its ramifications. People should not fight for political offices by means of thug-ragard brothers. We must regard ourselves as one, irrespective of political creed.

"The makers of the country's constitution should make it impossible for anybody to use political thugs in the future, civilian govern-

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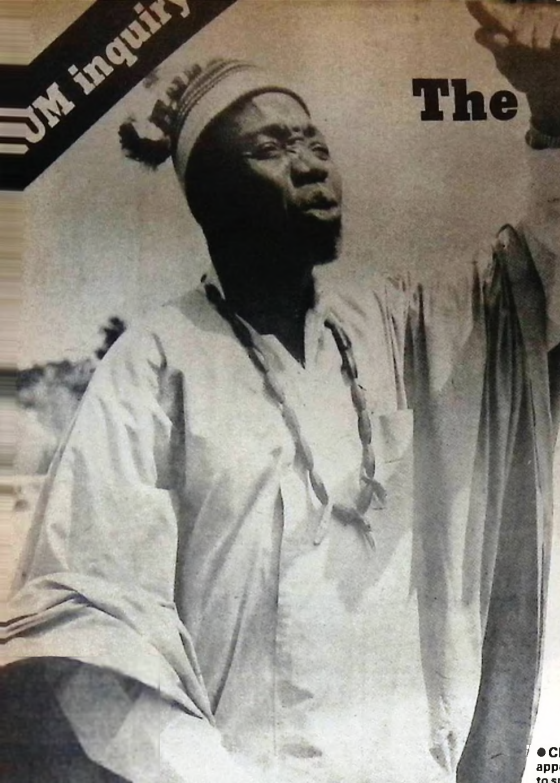
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The man-eating goddess of Agu Owa



THE PEOPLE of Agu Owa live in daily fear of their lives because, they say, they have ended a centuries-old custom of making human sacrifices to their river goddess. Innocent Ezeh investigated the villagers' startling claim that the angry goddess is now taking lives in revenge

THE SMALL community of Agu Owa settled in the picturesque coastal areas of the notorious river Ekulu, near Enugu in the Anambra State of Nigeria some 50 years ago. Since then, the unfortunate villagers have been under the spell of a river goddess who has a reputation for spreading disaster among the people of Agu Owa.

The only way to appease the goddess's anger, it was said, was to present a human offering at least once a year. This was the custom before the law was changed to ban human sacrifices.

In those early days, slaves were fed to the goddess by leaving the carefully selected victim to be claimed from the

deserted river banks. The ritual murder continued until the ending of the slave trade. But another method of appeasing the hungry goddess was soon devised, feeding the spirit with the laziest villagers.

When the white men came and tamed Enugu into a town, one of them died in an attempt to erect a bridge across the infamous Ekulu river. Another European plunged mysteriously into the river and never to be seen again.

With the advent of Western civilisation the Agu Owa villagers felt it impossible to live up to the allegiance of the goddess.

Instead they offered fowl and goats as a substitute.

But this did not appease the goddess and it resorted to carrying off villagers in mysterious circumstances.

During DRUM's investigation, one of the villagers, Mr Marcellinus Opara, told us that a man and a woman both disappeared recently.

The woman was waiting on the bank for help to cross the river when a male villager came and helped her across. Suddenly, as they were halfway across the shallow river, they both vanished from sight.

Chief Chijoke Agu, who is the leader of Agu Owa village, told DRUM that the goddess of Ekulu river began demands for human sacrifice 1,000 years ago. The village was then a small clearing in impenetrable jungle. Numerous villagers were lost in both the bush and river, Chief explained.

In one recent case a train carrying Government materials fell into the river and two men in the vehicle disappeared.

Taxi cabs have disappeared in the river, their passengers including school children losing their lives to the man-eating goddess, claim villagers.

● Chief Chijoke Agu (LEFT) appeals to the goddess to spare the lives of his villagers.



WORRIED villagers prepare an animal sacrifice on banks of the river Ekulu to appease the demands of their man-eating goddess.

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my name
is Mary!

Mary and Sweet Joy

HERE's a bonus for DRUM bird fanciers — two chicks for the price of one. Joy and Mary are both sweet things, but when a girl answers to the name Sweet Joy, then a man knows what to expect.

Sweet Joy, as Joy Jebor is called, hails from Bendel State, Nigeria.

She is a cosmetician, and has helped many girls in Lagos to look beautiful. Her hobbies are the movies, detective stories, and "getting to know good people."

Asked about her love life, Joy told DRUM photographer

Abim Oladejo: "One boyfriend is enough for a good girl. As for marriage, I am ready as soon as I meet a good guy who shows that he knows what marriage is all about. Sex? I'm as good as the girl next door!"

Joy's friend, Mary Akporehe, is a beautician in Lagos, who likes swimming, movies, and cooking for pleasure. She collects recipes from various parts of Africa and all over the world.

Mary, who is getting married soon, says: "I have got the man of my dreams." Mary's quite a dream, too, as Abim Oladejo's pictures show.





declined the offer to ascend her late father's throne, 78-year-old Princess Mgbo Nmaju has at last yielded to the call of her people. Today she is the Queen of the wealthy Igbo community in Imo State - the Abiriba people. DRUM's Innocent Ezeah (pictured, RIGHT, interviewing the first Igbo Queen) wrote this report.

ON SATURDAY, 6 November, 1976, Princess Mgbo Nmaju, the eldest daughter of the late Enachoken of Abiriba, Eze Nnam Nmaju, was formally crowned the Eze Ndinyom of Abiriba.

The coronation took place at a colourful ceremony watched by government officials and other VIPs from in and outside Abiriba. Abiriba is the wealthiest community in Igboland, with a population of over 25,000.

Her Royal Highness Mgbo Nmaju Urenma Uwakwo Egoronk Obasi was born into the Nnem-Ubi family in Abiriba in 1898. She later married Egoron Obasi, a prominent Abiriba business man.

Her grandfather and father were both kings. Being the only child of the family, she came directly in line for the throne on the death of her father.

"I am now the queen of Abiriba," she declared with obvious satisfaction when DRUM called on her.

For nine years, Mgbo Nmaju refused to take the throne because she felt that she was not ready to take on the enormous task of leadership. Besides, the events at that time did not favour the traditional ceremony.

Like her late father, who was the rallying force of the entire Abiriba, Princess Mgbo



MEET THE QUEEN OF THE IGBOS



Nmaju has also become a rallying force uniting Abiriba women folk.

This is not necessarily because of her progressive ideas about the liberation of women, but from her dedicated leadership of both men and women of the entire community of Abiriba.

The queen believes that in her 78 years she has become wiser through experience and she clearly has a very useful influence on her people.

As a young woman Mgbu Nmaju was a good social mixer, and leader of a teenage group of women called "Ukwesweye". This group was then known for its fervent belief in the dignity of Abiriba culture. It promoted the cause of traditional dances in the community.

Unfortunately for Mgbu, she was denied the opportunity of proper education. In those days, only boys were allowed to go to school in Abiriba, so her father was not able to give her a school education.

She made several attempts to get into a primary school. She tried to persuade her father to use his personal influence as king to change the schooling policy so that girls could be allowed to go to school, but she didn't achieve anything.

When all efforts failed, she decided to join her father in farm work and consequently

became a farmer. She concentrated on increasing the farm output and worked very hard.

She grew up to become an elegant woman, with the result that she found the admiration of many young men in the community focussed on her. Marriage offers began to pour into the royal household from all corners of Abiriba but Mgbu was not interested as her burning ambition to read continued to absorb her interest.

After a long period of pressure from her parents, the young princess surrendered to the wishes of her people, and married a wealthy Abiriba trader in 1918. As with other Abiriba princesses, her marriage was a lavish ceremony that featured local orchestras and traditional dances.

But Mgbu Nmaju, after settling down in her matrimonial home, was faced with the initial problems of difficult childbirths. She had a number of miscarriages. Some of her children died in infancy, and concern grew over her inability to give birth to healthy children.

Native doctors were consulted as hospitals were not then readily available. The ordinary people spent hundreds of pounds, and made many sacrifices to pay for the treatment prescribed by the herbalists. For several years none of their children survived, despite the treatment.

Several years later the

couple were blessed with a healthy child. And today, Mgbu has three grown-up sons. One of them is Dr M. E. Obasi, a former university lecturer, now a company director. The other two are also businessmen.

After the birth of her sons, her belief in God became stronger and she declares the view "that only God can solve the problem of any human being."

This was made manifestly clear in the way she promoted the cause of Christianity in Abiriba when missionaries arrived in the area.

Although women were looked down on by many men, in any society, the Abiriba queen has successfully proved the cynics wrong. She rules her subjects without fear or favour and has established the entire nation.

She hopes to do all in her power to transform Abiriba into a progressive, economically self-reliant and developed community.

She explained that Abiriba, from time immemorial, has been a community with a very strong conviction in self-development and in progress. We must strive to enhance our dignity and show other communities that we are equal to our ideals, she said.

Queen Mgbu-Nmaju sits in her palace, always busy receiving and attending to visitors. At times, she appears in her traditional colourful attire, particularly on important visitors when the people also pay her homage.

She has proved herself a worthy queen of the people of the Igbos in Imo State.

THE QUEEN acknowledges her many devoted subjects who regularly pay homage.



QUEEN Mgbu Nmaju displays her full regalia after the throne in the Imo State's wealthy Igbo country.

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CUP JACKPOT



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3: SHALL we dance? Getting to grips with each other are the Tonnere No. 11 and an over-anxious home defender.

4: SHOOTING Stars have that confident look about them as they line up at the start of the match in Lagos, which they won 4-1, to put the tie beyond the grip of the Cameroon team.

5: IT'S there! Once again the fans celebrate while a dejected Tonnere goalkeeper has to pick the ball out of his net.



6: THE chairman of Oyo state N.F.A., Chief Lekan Salimi, helps a Stars player drink from the coveted cup while skipper Sam Ojobode (in hat) looks on.

7: THE Nigerian Head of State, Lt.-Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo, and the Commissioner for Sports, Maj.-Gen. Olufemi Olutoye, admire the cup.





Regrets of a prostitute

PLEASE read or winked at me and I would respond in the same manner. All of a sudden I realised that I had developed a soft spot for this white man. So every day at a particular time I would stand by the window of our house, he would peep out from the window of his building and we would make passes at each other.

One day he met me in the street and asked me to go to his apartment at 8 p.m. I did not hesitate. At exactly 8 p.m. I knocked at his door. His houseboy was standing by the door, and it opened immediately.

I was ushered into his sitting-room. He entertained me lavishly. There was plenty to eat and drink. I remember that I took two bottles of a locally brewed beer which he offered me and it made me a little tipsy.

After the entertainment he dragged me into his bedroom, he kissed me and started to romance me. Later he asked me to undress and I did so. If I say I did not know what he wanted, I would be deceiving myself. I knew he wanted to sex me, and although I had no experience, I really wanted him to.

He realised that I was a virgin, and when I started to cry with pain he pulled back.

But I encouraged him to try again. This time he came with great force, and then fell helplessly on the bed. Later I dressed and went back to our house. We did not even say

At the age of 19, Christy decided to become a prostitute. Leaving her parents behind in Cotonou, in Benin Republic, she travelled to Lagos, and moved into a brothel at Ajegunle. One year after her decision to offer her body for money, she is filled with regrets. Here is her story, as told to DRUM's Seinde Law

goodnight to each other. I left at exactly 11 p.m.

I did not see him the next day. In fact, I did not make any effort to see him.

But on the third day I came to peep from the window where he used to make passes at me and he, too, was already at his own window. I immediately saw me he beckoned me. I noticed that there was urgency in the way he called me, so I wasted no time in calling at his house. Hardly had I entered than he asked me to his room.

He started to ask me questions, such as: "How do you feel? Are you all right? Did your parents ask you any questions? Are you sick?" I answered his questions as best I could. But I knew he was afraid something might have happened to me.

He did not try to have sex with me that day. He entertained me lavishly as usual, gave me the equivalent of \$50 to buy what I wanted and we went to the movies.

But after that second meeting we started to see each other regularly. We often went shopping and he bought many beautiful things for me.

After the second week I started to sleep in his house. By now I knew my parents were aware of our association, but neither of them asked any questions. Later my mother said I should introduce him to my father, but the man refused to come to our house. So later, when he asked me to marry him, I refused.

Not just because he did not want to come to our house, but also because I thought I was too young for marriage. On that note we parted and I did not see him again.

For about two months I had no boyfriend. My mother asked me if I had quarrelled with the white man, and I said yes. She did not ask why and she did not mention it again.

Then I met a policeman in Cotonou. He approached me so nicely that I had no choice but to go to bed with him. He gave me \$50 to buy what I liked, and asked me to go to his house the next day.

I went, but unlike the white man, he offered no lavish entertainment.

He produced some French whisky, but I told him I didn't drink any anything, and he invited me to his bedroom. By now I was willing to have sex with him, but he was a half view of starvation.

After about two weeks I was a lot better and dealt with it in a lot better and blacker than the white men than happened.

Although this did not happen to me, the experience of others I know is that most whites pay a lot, but demand little or no sex.

Some pay good money just to romance you and look at your body. Some just want you to keep them company and pay for some blacks, when they want to.



love until you cannot breathe. Some of them are very violent and rough.

My police boyfriend locked the door and undressed. He asked me to undress. I hesitated. I did not want him to feel that I was sex-starved or cheap. But after a little persuasion I yielded and undressed. Unlike my white boyfriend, the policeman had sex with me violently. He wriggled and jerked so fiercely that after the first round I became help- less. Hardly had he rested for five minutes than he grabbed me again.

In all, he had sex with me four devastating times. When I reached home that night I slept like a log. I was completely fagged out. I hated the way the policeman took me and made up my mind not to see him again. Honestly, I have not seen him since.

The white man had spoilt me with money. I wanted money to buy the things I needed and the only thing that came to my mind was to have another boyfriend who would take care of my needs.

But nobody even talked to me about love. I had a nice I could confide in, so I told her my problem. She advised me to depend on myself and not to sell my body for a living if I wanted a happy and respectable life. She arranged for me to work as a maid for a private clinic in Cotonou.

That was the best advice I have ever had. But I did not take it. A week before I was to start work in this clinic, the devil walked into my life.

I had a friend who had been living in our street since childhood, but for some years I had not seen her. Now she had grown. Her breasts were big and she was wearing very expensive clothes and shoes. She was very happy to see me, and she told me she had been living in Nigeria since leaving Cotonou.

She told me Nigeria was a beautiful place and the people were friendly. I told her about my new work and I told her the salary, which was about \$20 a month.

She laughed and laughed until tears came from her eyes. Then she punched me on the chest and said: "My friend, you

are wasting your time trying to be a maid in a third-rate clinic. With your looks, you could earn \$20 in one day." I asked her how, but she did not tell me. She just said she would show me proof of what she meant. She went out that night and in the morning she showed me \$30 which she had earned that night. Throughout the week she came back with amounts ranging between \$30 and \$40 and she kept going out to buy costly materials.

At the end of the week she let me into the secrets of her success. She was a prostitute. I did not care what she was. All I wanted was money to buy all the good things I wanted and I did not really give a damn how I got it.

She told me Cotonou was not good for me, because I grew up there and many people knew me. So she suggested I come to Nigeria. She formulated a lie which I should tell my parents... that my new employment needed a particular brand of shoe which is not sold in Cotonou and that I was going to Nigeria to buy it. That was how I deceived my parents and came to Nigeria to begin a new life of prostitution.

We lodged in a hotel at Ajejunle. I am still living in the hotel. I took one room and my friend also took a room. We pay \$2 a day for each of the rooms. When I had rested for about two hours, my friend came into my room and taught me the tricks of the profession. She told me to come between \$4 and \$5 a time and said I should insist on payment before service. That was how I became a prostitute.

On my first night only two people patronised me. One gave me \$5 and the other \$6. The second day followed the same pattern, but with more clients, and I made about \$20.

By the end of the week I was very rich. So I went out and bought many things. Because of my age I had many customers, the men seemed to prefer younger prostitutes.

When I went with one man, two or three more would be waiting for me outside. I made a lot of money. But the big haul is when sailors, mostly

"A prostitute's life is full of fun, but very unrespectable," says Christy.

white men, come to the hotel. They are big spenders.

They pay between \$40 and \$50 a night when I go to sleep with them on their ship. At one stage I thought I might fall sick, but before I left Cotonou my friend took me to a white doctor, who gave me an injection which cost about \$30 a time. My friend paid for the injection. According to her it was to be taken once a year.

Now I sell myself to men and I make money, but one thing I am sure of is that it won't continue indefinitely like this, and that unless I retrace my steps before it is late, the end may be disastrous.

The way some men treat some prostitutes in this hotel is terrible. Sometimes I wonder if murder will not be committed here one day. Some men will have sex and won't pay.

Instead they start to beat the girls up mercilessly. I take precautions. I scrutinise my men very well before I take them in. If I sense that one is likely to be troublesome, I will not let him into my room — even for \$100.

But I have a feeling that very soon I may run into serious trouble, and that is why I want to get out — now!

Prostitution is not good. My friend misled me. How I wish I had taken the honest advice of my niece. Now I have money and the good things I wanted, but no happiness — and no peace of mind.

Above all, I have no respect.

Nobody respects a prostitute. Right now I pay a young man every week to protect me against attack from some vicious men. I still have this feeling that I am a subject for attack. I urge all young girls not to attempt to taste prostitution. I want to quit. I want to go home and look for a job. I know I cannot get a job where I would be paid \$50 a day. But no matter how little the money I earn through a decent job, I will be satisfied that I am living a decent life.

I want to get married and have children of my own while I am still young. I am prepared to marry any man who is prepared to marry me, regardless of his nationality. I just want to live a decent life, have peace of mind and happiness, and be respected.

The beauty of a girl is like a flower. Sooner or later it will fade away. Then even the men who swear on their mother's life that they love you and will love you for ever, will desert you for younger and more beautiful girls.

But if you are married, and put your marriage above all material gains, your husband will continue to love you — even after your beauty has left you.

I am very sorry for myself, and I am full of regrets. But if my story helps to make some girls see the realities of life, develop the right sense of values, and realise that one of the worst things a woman can do is sell her body, then I shall know I have done some good, even after the bad life I have lived.

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























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Why we do a sea

THE CONTINENTAL SHELF may be referred to as the sea-bed and subsoil of the submarine areas outside the area of 200 metres or, to a depth of 200 metres or, beyond that limit, to where the sea-bed allows the exploitation of the natural resources of the said area, or (b) to the sea-bed and subsoil of similar submarine areas adjacent to the coasts of islands.

It is acknowledged that if Nigeria were to exercise her sovereign right and extend the limits of her territorial waters to 200 miles as most countries have done, the islands of Fernando Po, Corsica and Annobon would lie within Nigerian waters. This problem may no longer arise in the light of the agreement of the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea which coastal states now have the right to explore the sea-bed within 320 kilometres economic exploration zone. The agreement has not yet been translated into a formal treaty nor has the concept attained the status of customary international law.

Just as no one can make an omelette without breaking an egg, nobody can discuss the Continental Shelf without reference to the Truman Proclamation. The Truman Proclamation of 1945 has been described as "one of the decisive acts in history, marking the beginning of a new epoch in both law and technology and gave birth to a new legal doctrine under which states became entitled to push their frontiers seaward and enjoy exclusive rights to explore and exploit the natural resources of a vast new area of submarine territory near their coasts.

Understandably, little attention was paid during the infancy of this doctrine to the formulation of the precise rules for delimitation of the area of the Continental Shelf. At the Geneva Convention on the Continental Shelf of 1958 — to which Nigeria was party — the law is at least codified in Article 6 although its interpretation presents certain difficulties, as revealed by the North Sea Continental Shelf cases. The North Sea region — Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands — have concluded agreements by which a partial delimitation was effected on the basis of the principle of equidistance from the nearest points on the baseline of the territorial seas of the respective parties. The three states could not reach agreement on the remainder of the boundaries because of disagreement over the rules in accordance with which delimitation should be effected.

Denmark and the Netherlands maintained that the question was governed by the formula expressed in Article 6(2) of the Geneva Convention, i.e. the boundary should be determined by application of the principle of equidistance from the nearest points of the baselines from which the territorial sea of each state was measured. Germany argued, however, that the delimitation should be governed by the principle that each coastal state was entitled to a just and equitable share.

THE IMPORTANCE of Nigeria on our coastline does not stop at the shoreline edge but — increasingly — extends to the sea beyond, with its varied riches. Here Mr. MATTHEW T. MBU, a legal practitioner, discusses "continental shelf" and its relation to Nigeria's national interest.

Knowledge of these negotiations could be useful to Nigeria and her neighbours. This of course depends on the extent to which Nigeria has already committed herself by way of concessions.

It was agreed to submit the dispute to the International Court of Justice which found that the use of the equidistance method was not obligatory and laid down two "principles and rules".

(1) delimitation is to be effected by agreement in accordance with equidistance principles and variant circumstances, in such a way as to leave as much as possible to each party all those parts of the continental shelf that constitute a natural prolongation of its land territory into and under the sea, without encroachment upon the then of the other.

(2) if the delimitation leaves areas that overlap, these are to be divided between them in agreed portions or, failing agreement, equally.

Although decisions of the ICJ do not constitute formal precedents, it is likely that the judgment will also be a guide in other similar controversies. It is my submission that Nigeria should take note of this judgment, particularly in these days of oil politics.

As *The Times* of London commented at the beginning of the period of finds of commercially exploitable quantities of oil in the British sector of the North Sea "There is no industry in the world that is more mixed up with politics than oil". Nigerian interest in her continental shelf, therefore, cannot be divorced from her interest in the exploitation of commercial oil in her adjacent waters. The discovery of oil in commercial quantities off-shore has implications to have far-reaching external policies of Nigeria's neighbours.

The knowledge that our continental shelf has become a set our adjacent hydrocarbons making us to what claim they think validly lay to portions of our contiguous zone in order to constitute an oil. Nigeria must, therefore, have her own national interest clearly define by legislation the limits of her continental shelf. Nigerian offshore oil politics must be spelt out without ambiguity.

It is not enough that Nigeria has ratified the Geneva Convention thereby accepting the principle

Need law

that the continental shelf falls within the jurisdiction of the coastal state.

As has been argued in the Truman Declaration, the continental shelf may be regarded as an extension of the land-mass of the coastal nation and thus naturally appurtenant to it. The chief doctrine enunciated by the Truman Declaration has been described by the International Court of Law as conferring on the coastal State an original, natural and exclusive right to the continental shelf off its shores.

The court drew the conclusion that, in accordance with "the basic concept of continental shelf entitlement," the process of delimitation was essentially one of drawing a boundary line between areas which already appurtenant to one or other of the states affected.

In the absence of bilateral agreements allegedly concluded by our former Head of State, General Gowon, and President Ahidjo of the Cameroon, it is difficult if not invidious — to comment on whether or not their agreements conform with these fundamental rules laid down by the court.

Most Nigerians would welcome an examination in depth of the agreements concluded with our adjacent neighbours in the light of Nigerian interest. The North Sea cases made it clear that there are treaties which states may take into account to ensure the application of equitable principles in safeguarding their interests.

I am in a dilemma to comment on the Gowon Ahidjo agreements. One is tempted to ask (1) tutored by our technical experts or were our technical advisers privy to their conclusions, (2) are the agreements subject to ratification, or are the conclusions reached by the two heads sacrosanct?

These agreements are so fundamental that they should be presented to Parliament or the National Assembly for ratification. Nigeria cannot afford to allow her sea and shelf to be treated lightly by her neighbours.

Therefore, whilst Nigeria's policy of fostering good neighbourliness has been applauded at home and abroad as a step in the right direction in the promotion of African unity, we must avoid right-granting concessions in a transient moment of adulation. It could be embarrassing if a successor government were to feel obliged to renege on such concessions in the national interest. The sovereignty of any nation belongs to all who inhabit it. No single individual or incumbent to political power can purport to absolutely in contemporary politics, there is no room for absolute power.

Alleged isolationist and chauvinist sentiments on our eastern coast-line are only pointers to what could become a regular feature of lawlessness if Nigeria's sovereign continental shelf is not clearly defined by legislation and supported by the presence of an effective navy of Nigeria's waters.



A PROMISING solution to the problems of port congestion and rapid expansion of port facilities has been announced by the British Hovercraft Corporation. "Hoverlifters" (see model ABOVE) offer a rapid ship-to-shore link. The Hoverlifter is a flat-decked hovercraft based on the highly successful SR-N4 cross-Channel passenger and car ferry craft which is currently transporting two million passengers and about 500,000 cars across the English Channel each year.

A typical operation using a fleet of five Hoverlifters, each with a payload of about 200 tonnes, working a ten-hour day, could move up to 10,000 tonnes daily. Offering a versatile and low-cost solution to port congestion, the craft could form the backbone of river transport systems where the natural terrain of mudbanks, rapids and shifting sandbanks make the use of conventional freighters impossible.

'Join the economic revolution!'

THE FEDERAL Commissioner for Finance, Mr. A. E. Ekukimam, has appealed to Nigerian businessmen to identify themselves with the economic revolution going on in the country.

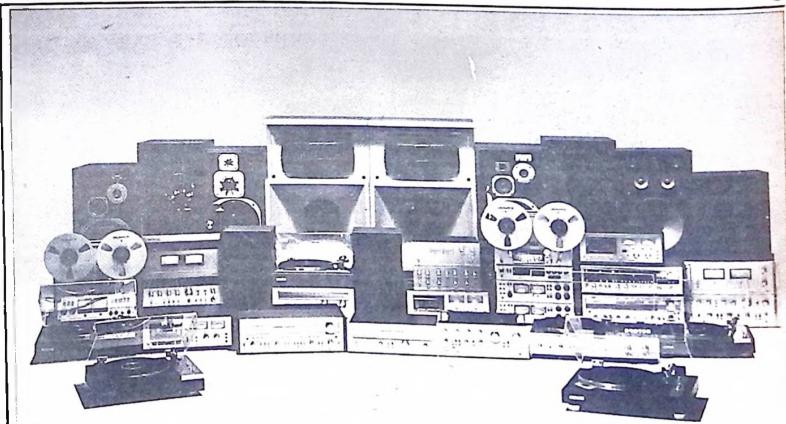
Speaking at the annual dinner of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Ekukimam remarked that the Indigenisation Decree had opened up opportunities for all to take part in the revolution. It was now left for those with aptitude to grasp them.

The Commissioner noted that successful business management required more than native wisdom, stressing that knowledge was the supreme tool, coupled with experience. He urged Nigerian businessmen to work hard to make money by engaging in legitimate and profitable enterprises.

Mr. Ekukimam said it was far better to make Nigerians economically independent of government than to teach them to be utterly dependent on and perhaps slaves to government.

RECEIVING a delegation of textile dealers from Bendel State, Mr. Ekukimam explained why the FMG had placed a ban on certain categories of imported goods. He said this was necessary to enable the country to have enough money to finance the nation's industrial, educational and other development projects.

He advised the traders to pool their resources so that they could build factories to produce imported goods locally and more cheaply. He also appealed to traders and importers to be patriotic by patronising local industries.



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PIONEER

DEATH IS A DEADLY BUSINESS

Police action in the recent riots in South Africa has again emphasised how tough life is for blacks. Here DRUM reports on how police have also moved in on death.

ON A sweltering Sunday afternoon late in 1976, a crowd of mourners arrived at Doornkop Cemetery, Soweto, near Johannesburg, to pay their last respects to 22-year-old Jacob Mashabane, of Dube Village.

Mashabane, a student of the University of Zululand, had died in prison while being held under South Africa's internal security laws. Police said that he had committed suicide in his cell, as they have claimed of dozens of others who have died in police hands.

The traditional burial rites had hardly begun when the cemetery was rocked by terrifying explosions as riot police in camouflage uniforms opened fire on the mourners.

Horrified, the mourners scattered in different directions. Men and women, young and old, dived behind cars and lorries to avoid being hit. Some dived into the bush and hid in the long grass, while others hurled themselves into open graves.

The dead and the many injured were

hurriedly loaded into vehicles belonging to some of the mourners, and into ambulances called to the gruesome scene from nearby Baragwanath Hospital.

There were ten dead and more than one hundred seriously injured.

Later, senior police officers said that the mourners had endangered the lives of the riot police by throwing stones at them.

The mourners emphatically denied this, stating that at no time were the police threatened or attacked with stones, and that the police had absolutely no reason to shoot to kill.

Many of the mourners accused the police of sheer brutality, and of having desecrated the grounds of the dead by their ungodly actions.

It is also on record that on the afternoon of the previous day, at the same cemetery, riot police opened fire on mourners who were burying another student, Anna Mkhwanazi, 17, of Mapeta Township. One of the mourners was killed and several others were seriously injured.



RIOT police in camouflage uniforms fire on mourners at Doornkop Cemetery, Johannesburg.



ONE of the many dead mourners being put into an ambulance from Baragwanath Hospital, near Johannesburg's black townships.



TERRIFIED mourners at the cemetery run for cover under a hail of police bullets. Ten were shot dead and many more were hurt.

asburg.



HOCKED bystanders carry away one of the dead mourners to a place of burial.



ABOVE LEFT: Sydney Khaje, a father of four from Orlando West, Soweto, died instantly with a police bullet through the heart.

ABOVE: A shell and bullet picked up in Sydney Khaje's car.



LEFT: Phillip Sediane miraculously escaped death in Sydney Khaje's car when Khaje, another man and a woman were killed by a hail of police bullets.

Essay of

Role of the Judiciary in Nigeria



SIR LOUIS MBANEFO, a retired judge of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, seen (LEFT) giving this recent lecture at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs.

OUR COURT system began with the Courts of Equity which were commercial or mercantile associations organised by merchants at Bonny in the middle of last century. The members were the Chief, and the white and black traders in the place.

All disputes were brought before this court—and, with the consent of the king, fines were levied on defaulters. Anyone who refused to submit to the decision of the court or ignored its jurisdiction was "tobooed" and no one traded with him. The populace regarded the court with much awe and readily paid their debts when threatened.

The success of this unofficial court was so remarkable that, with the sanction of the Consul and naval authorities, similar courts of equity were established on the different rivers. It was never clear why they were called courts of equity. The reason might be that they were not properly constituted under any law. They were a spontaneous response by the traders to the problems of law and order posed to a growing trading community.

In 1870 the courts were working at Old Calabar, Bonny, New Calabar, Opobo, Akassa and the Benue River. By an Order-in-Council of 21 February, 1872, it was decreed that "it shall be lawful for Her Majesty's Consul to re-organise the local courts known as the Courts of Equity appointed for the settlement of trading disputes between British subjects or between British traders and Natives, such Courts of Equity to be composed of British agents and traders at the place where the court is established." From their members, assessors were to be appointed to assist the consul in the trial of more important cases. The consul was empowered to lay down regulations for the guidance of such courts and "decisions of the courts were taken to be the decision of Her Majesty's Consul—and shall be final and conclusive and shall not be open to appeal."

The same Order-in-Council also gave the Consul jurisdiction to try both criminal and civil cases.

From this spontaneous beginning grew in time our system of courts: Native Courts, District Courts, Provincial Courts, Magistrate Courts, Protectorate High Courts, and the Old Supreme Court which was a court of original jurisdiction with power to hear appeals from magistrates courts and the Full Court composed of three Supreme Court judges, with the Chief Justice as President, which heard appeals from the Supreme Courts. At Independence, the High Courts and the Federal Supreme Court were created.

Lawyers were not allowed to appear in the province and district courts presided over by adminis-

trative officers, or in the native courts. It would have been anomalous for trained advocates to appear before lay court members. But official attitude was very much against lawyers appearing and for a different reason. These courts were regarded as an arm of and subordinate to the executive powers of the administration and the presence of lawyers would have been embarrassing and so was viewed with hostility. The administrative officers who would accept appointments in these courts. There are today 6,000 lawyers on the Supreme Court's roll. You need many times that number before you could appoint trained lawyers to customary or local court benches. Efforts have been made in some states to abolish customary courts and transfer their jurisdiction to the magistrate court, but the effect has been almost chaotic, resulting in the denial of justice to a large number of people and a scandalous accumulation of cases and congestion in the courts and in the prisons.

First Nigerians

The lawyers maintained that by the exclusion of counsel from the courts, the public was deprived of the best advice and ignorant litigants were unable to secure justice. On the other hand, the official view (which aimed to paint the legal profession black) was expressed by Lord Lugard in his report on the *Amalgamation of Northern and Southern Nigeria and Administration* as follows:

"There can be no doubt that the appearance of counsel in district courts—and even in the native courts—under the old system had led to the fomenting of litigation by lawyers' agents especially in land cases, with disastrous results to the ignorant people who had spent their substance on bootless litigation."

At the time that Lord Lugard wrote, there were very few lawyers in the country and it had not been the policy ever to appoint counsel (as they were then designated) as a magistrate was appointed a magistrate was the late Sir Olumuyiwa Jibowu in 1921. One of the first Nigerian Crown counsel appointed was the late Mr. Justice Richard Doherty in

1940. Even then, the appointments were made grudgingly.

Under the colonial system we had two parallel judicial systems operating in the country: the native courts and district courts system on the one side and the magisterial, protectorate and supreme courts systems on the other. Lawyers could appear in the latter but not in the former. Since independence, the problem has been how to harmonise or fuse the two.

The key solution to the problem is the availability of lawyers who would accept appointments in these courts. There are today 6,000 lawyers on the Supreme Court's roll. You need many times that number before you could appoint trained lawyers to customary or local court benches. Efforts have been made in some states to abolish customary courts and transfer their jurisdiction to the magistrate court, but the effect has been almost chaotic, resulting in the denial of justice to a large number of people and a scandalous accumulation of cases and congestion in the courts and in the prisons.

Until 1963 the Privy Council was our final court of appeal. With the creation of the Republic, this was abolished and the stable and balanced and still is the final Court of Appeal. At this moment of our history, when the country is engaged in the preparation of a constitution for the Federation, the position of the judiciary needs re-examination. It is a significant factor to be reckoned with if we are to have a stable and balanced constitution.

I should like to premise that no constitution, however perfect, will work if there is no goodwill and, conversely, a constitution, however imperfect, will work given the necessary goodwill as a background. By "goodwill" I mean a general acceptance of the constitution, coupled with a desire on the part of the citizenry to respect and observe the constitution.

One of the reasons for the collapse of the First Republic was the absence of such goodwill among the politicians. Instead of respecting and observing the letter and spirit of the constitution, the politicians devoted their energy to finding how they could use or circumvent it to achieve their political ends. It was for that reason that the Judicial Service Commission was abolished, thereby undermining the independence of the judiciary, and the position of the Director of Public Prosecutions, which had been entrenched in the constitution, was down-graded to a mere office in the public service. The independence of the two institutions are essential for the successful maintenance of the concept of the Rule of Law.

The Importance of the Judiciary

The essential duty of the judiciary is the administration of justice. In the discharge of that duty, the courts try to adjudicate subject but also between states and people. The existence of human rights is the foundation of free-maintenance and protect human rights without the Rule of Law. The existence of the Rule of Law is essential to a peaceful, orderly and democratic society.

Independent

And you cannot have the Rule of Law without an independent and courageous Bench and Bar. The stability and quality of a democratic constitution is sometimes determined by the degree of power it attaches and the fact that reason the position of the judiciary deserves a great deal of attention in the preparation of a constitution.

Separation of powers:

The concept of the Separation of powers was classically expounded by Montesquieu in 1748 when he drew a sharp and logical distinction between the legislative, the executive and the judicial powers and insisted that they should be handled by separate and distinct bodies.

Experience has shown that the triple separation of powers was only one means of solving a broader constitutional problem, namely "How to ensure the restraint of governmental power by dividing power without carrying the division to an extreme incompatible with effective government." Federalism, the division of power between existing territorial jurisdictions, was another means of achieving this purpose.

This concept has been sharply attacked in the name of democracy by fascists and communists who radically rejected the idea of dividing governmental powers and insisted on the need to concentrate it in the hands of a single group dedicated to the revolutionary transformation of society. One can see these trends in the constitutions of some of the newly-independent countries in Africa. A constitutional democracy presupposes a balanced system of divided powers, for only within such a system could the citizen hope to enjoy a measure of independence through a guarantee of civil liberties. This concept was embodied in the Independent Constitution of the First Republic and it is not clear how we can substitute it in our future efforts to devise a democratic constitution.

In a federation as we have in Nigeria, it is clear that in order to maintain adequate restraint on government excesses, the judiciary has a most vital role to play. There is no other body better qualified to do that than an independent and courageous

judicial defence order. For effective are nec are basi the Rule constitu democr

Pre-

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The month of the Judiciary in Nigeria

a look at
the past and
the future

It is the last line of
for the liberties of the
citizen.
The judiciary to function
certain pre-conditions
are necessary. These conditions
also to the existence of
of Law without which no
one can claim to be
free.

conditions

dependence of the Judi-
should be fully en-
d in the constitution
courts should have full
under the constitution
are null and void any
such are inconsistent with
visions of the constitu-
is only then that the
of the Separation of
can work effectively
pointment and dismissal
as should be completely
political influence. To
this, there should be a
Service Commission
creation, composition,
and functions should be
stated in the consti-
tution.

allowances and
of judges should be a
of the Consolidated
Fund of the state and
direct to yearly appro-
priation. The judge
such that he can retire
with ample comfort. He
not have to seek employ-
ment further employment.
The pension of a judge
should be such as to command
respect and approval.
The judge's wife,
like Caesar's wife,
should be above suspicion.
The pension of a judge
should be such as to command
respect and approval.
The judge's wife,
like Caesar's wife,
should be above suspicion.

where in Nigeria. His
amendment in 1963 and the Judicial
Service Commission abolished,
the views of the judges were not

academic interest in juris-
prudence. He must be a man of
learning. Appointments to the
Bench should not appear as
gratifications for past political
services. A judge should be a
man of courage and conviction.

As a supplement, you cannot
have competent and learned
judges unless you have a strong
and learned Bar. Therefore our
facilities for training lawyers
must be improved and
expanded.

To do its work effectively, the
judiciary should be provided
with adequate facilities and per-
sonnel. It must have courts in
sufficient numbers to meet the
demands of the public.

The judiciary of this country —
especially the Supreme Court, as a
final court of appeal — has shown
itself alive to its responsibilities.
Everything considered, we have
reason to be proud of our
judiciary. It has often shown
courage, erudition and impar-
tiality, maintaining a high
standard of learning, research and
clarity in stating and adminis-
tering the law.

The future:

As we are now engaged in the
preparation of a constitution for
the country, this is the time to look
again at the structure of our
judiciary.

As a result of the constitutional
conferences of 1953-54, the
judiciary was regionalised and
each regional government had its
own judiciary. This was contrary
to the view expressed at the time
by the judges through the Chief
Justice, Sir John Verity. Unfor-
tunately, the politicians felt that it
was for them to decide what image
the judiciary should have and so
they disregarded the views of the
judges. When the constitution was
amended in 1963 and the Judicial
Service Commission abolished,
the views of the judges were not

even sought.

It has always been the view of
the judges that the judiciary, from
the level of the High Court up,
should be a federal matter. There
are good reasons why this should
be so and I wish to state them
here.

Federal courts

1. Whereas under the Indepen-
dence Constitution we had three
regions, now we have 19 and,
when you add the Federal
Revenue Court, you have 20
superior courts exercising
original jurisdiction in civil and
criminal matters and all under
20 different governments and
each under a Chief Judge or
President.

Even states that have not got
qualified personnel must have
their own judges and chief
judges. In the effort to meet
local demands, people who
normally would not have been
considered have been appointed
judges.

2. States are now so small com-
pared with the former regions
that indigenous state judges are
susceptible to local pressures
and prejudices. The indepen-
dence which you expect of
judges at the level of the High
Court is diluted by each chief
judge having to court the favour
of the executive before he can
get what he wants. Even if an
executive authority is liberal in
his attitude to the judiciary, you
cannot be sure that the whole
20 would be like-minded.

It is a sorry situation where
the chief judge and his judges
have to queue before a perma-
nent secretary in order to get a
writing desk or a typewriter or
duplicating machine or an air-
conditioner for the court. You
can imagine the situation when
this is happening in 19 different
states.

3. If we must have Nigerian unity
as we are pledged to achieve,
there must be a limit to the
degree of balkanisation we opt
for. A federal judiciary like the
Federal Executive Council
should be a strong unifying
force. A judge should not be
appointed with an eye to serving
his state of origin. He should
be prepared to serve anywhere
in Nigeria.

4. By making the judiciary federal
you insulate it from the
pressures of local or state
politics and remove the
anomaly of judges appointed
and serving in states with poorer
revenue having less attractive
conditions of service than those
in other states. It is known that,
whereas some judges are pro-
vided with certain fringe
benefits by their governments,
others do not have them.

If the judiciary at the level of the
superior courts is made a federal

matter, the need for having 19
chief judges or judiciaries will
be eliminated. In the event, it is
proposed that the country should
be zoned for purposes of judicial
administration in such a manner
that each zone will comprise a
number of states and a chief judge
appointed for each zone. There
should be a Court of Appeal for
each zone presided over by a Chief
Judge, and further appeals should
lie from the Court of Appeal to the
Supreme Court, which will be
presided over by the Chief Justice.

The Sharia courts could be a
division of the High Court in the
areas where they operate and
judges of the Sharia courts could
be appointed to the Court of

Appeal for these areas.

Organised in this manner, the
superior courts would be insulated
from politics and from local
pressures. If the army and the
police can be organised on a
national basis, there is no reason
why we should not do that to a
certain extent with the judiciary.

Our objective is the unity of
Nigeria and the judiciary has an
important role to play now and
in the future of our country. To fulfil
that role effectively, the judiciary
should be given the power,
authority and the means to enable
it to perform its functions. A
strong, independent and impartial
Judiciary is a force for stability in
any democratic society.



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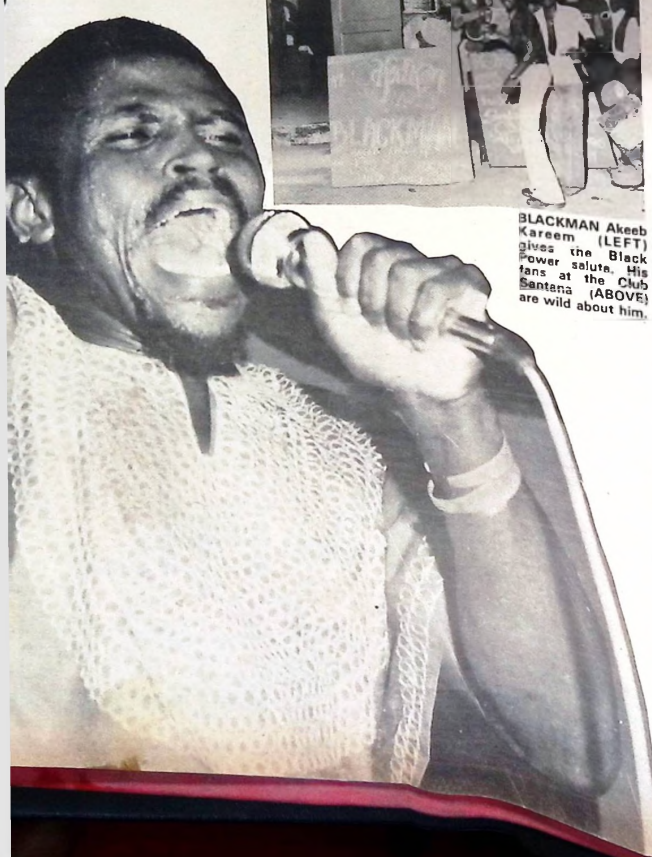
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WHERE THE ACTION IS

becoming more and more popular all around Nigeria. Even with the advent of discotheques, resident bands have not lost their following. DRUM's Seinde Lawson visits a hot spot in Ibadan.



BLACKMAN Akeeb Kareem (LEFT) gives the Black Power salute. His fans at the Club Santana (ABOVE) are wild about him.

IN THE heart of Ibadan, Adamasingba roundabout to be precise, is the centre of action, the hottest nightlife spot — the Club Santana. The club, formerly known as the Kongi Club, has changed not only in name, but also in what it offers in relaxation and good music.

It's music is original and very African, produced and presented by the one and only Blackman Akeeb Kareem.

Remember him? He was the guy who nearly shifted the crowd from a popular Lagos spot with his African rhythm. He played at the Lido International, Idi-Oro, the Ritz in the heart of Lagos and of course at Club Chicago, Surulere.

But right now, Blackman pitches his tent in Ibadan, Oyo State of Nigeria, where he plays regularly at the Club Santana.

What makes the club unique is the crowd that patronises it. They're young, revolutionary and radical-looking guys in their African dress. Any time Blackman Kareem comes on stage the crowd gives him a huge welcome. Then they crowd onto the floor and sweat it out as Blackman releases verses and verses of African lyrics.

Blackman — full name Akeeb Iyanda Kareem — was born at Abeokuta, Ogun State of Nigeria in 1948. After finishing his secondary school education in 1964, he began an apprenticeship in printing. But it did not work.

He knew he was made for music — an art which he had been practising since his elementary school days. He joined "King" Kennystone's band in 1967 as a vocalist, and later contributed to the Hunters' beat.

Today, he leads his own ten-man band — and they are not doing badly. Blackman Akeeb told DRUM: "My music is African. I have no intention of copying foreign music or artists. Very soon, the crowd will appreciate my music and get the message I send out to them."

"Right now, Lagos fans have got the message. I am trying to make Ibadan fans understand and they are responding very well.

"Sooner or later, the message will spread to other parts of the country. I am planning a country-wide tour to spread the message."

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cameras show up every tiny flaw. But I haven’t time for elaborate beauty rituals. So I trust my skin to Lux. That’s my one beauty routine. And it’s one I never miss. Every morning and every night I let LUX’s rich, creamy lather smooth my skin to flawless perfection. All over.” Susie is right when she says her skin is

perfect. It glows with natural healthy radiance. And it’s soft as satin. Everyone who works with her will agree. Susie has true glamour. Even under the harsh, pitiless glare of the television lights and the merciless cameras, her skin is as beautiful and flawless as only LUX can make it. Be like Susie and trust your complexion to Lux.



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The final part of DRUM's special adaptation of Lari Tunde Williams' play, STORM BABY.

Storm Baby

OJOLA WAS in his bed-sitter in Kentish Town, London, when there was a knock on the door. He opened it to find Julia's father, Eric, standing there.

Eric was taken aback. "Oh, excuse me," he stammered. "I must have the wrong address."

Ojola nodded, closed the door, and returned to his meal of eba and pilehards. There was another tap at the door. He opened it again to find Eric still there. "Eh, can you tell me," he asked, "if there is anybody called Joseph living here?"

Ojola thought for a moment. "No," he replied, "but my friends call me Joe."

Eric started, his eyes wide as his mind struggled to accept the possibility. "Can I come in?" he muttered.

Ojola ushered him into the room and indicated a chair. Eric sat down, his mind in a whirl. After a moment, he took a photograph from his wallet, showed it to Ojola. "Do you know this girl?" he decided.

THE STORY SO FAR: OJOLA LAWAL is a Nigerian student in England. One evening he calls on JULIA, an English girl student he once met, to seek temporary shelter from a very bad storm. Julia's parents, NANCY and ERIC, are away from home and the weather and natural attraction of the young people result in Ojola staying the night with Julia. Her parents are unaware of this until, some months later, they are shocked to discover she is pregnant. A furious and tearful row results in Julia rushing from the house, not to return. Her parents find a letter from "Joe" (Ojola) and set off for London to find him and their daughter, not suspecting that the father of their grandchild is an African!

"Why, yes, I think so," Ojola replied, "it looks like Julia."

Eric sank back in the chair, his head in his hands.

There was a pause, then Ojola said quietly: "You must be Julia's father?"

Eric stared at him, and slowly nodded. Noticing that Ojola was wearing only sokoto trousers, he asked quietly: "Could you put on a shirt?"

"Why?" replied Ojola. "Are we going somewhere?"

"No. But you have company." Eric got up and opened the door. "Nancy!" he called.

Nancy appeared in the doorway, together with Julia, whom she had met downstairs in the house.

They all looked at each

other in silence, and then Ojola said, to break the tension: "Won't you come in and sit down?"

Nancy looked round the poorly-furnished room, and reluctantly sat on the edge of the bed. Suddenly she broke into convulsive sobbing and turned accusingly to her daughter.

"Oh, Julia," she mumbled, "how could you? Why didn't you tell us?"

"Tell you what, Mum?" asked Julia.

Eric comforted his wife. He looked across at Ojola, anger and resentment in his eyes.

"Well, young man, I suppose you realise our Julia is pregnant?"

Ojola returned his stare in astonishment.

"Well, you know now," Eric said. "What are you going to do about it? What do you do for a living?"

"I'm a student," replied Ojola.

"Well, your studying days are over," Eric snapped bitterly. "When I think of all the money we put into educating our daughter, I could..." He stopped as his wife put her hand on his shoulder.

"Studying what?" he demanded, after a moment's reflection.

"I am a medical student."

Eric regarded him with disbelief. "Studying English medicine?" he queried.

Ojola nodded.

"When do you expect to

become a doctor?" Eric continued.

Ojola explained that it was six months to his final examinations. Eric considered this thoughtfully. "Then keep to your bookwork," he said, "and make sure you pass. And don't practise on her!" he added, indicating Julia.

Ojola sensed the lowering of tension. He smiled and put his arm around Julia. "I don't intend to," he replied.

Nancy rose from the bed, firmly. "Well, until then, Julia must return with us."

The two young people adamantly refused.

"But, Eric," Nancy appealed to her husband, "she can't stay here eating jungle pudding! She pointed to Ojola's half-eaten plate of eba.

"He seems to thrive on it," her husband replied. "And, after all, it's their decision."

Nancy considered this, and then whispered to Eric: "All right, but tell him to look after Julia, and not feed her that... that... ough!"

PLEASE TURN OVER

atched

Dear MATCH-MAKER,

My trouble started when I wanted to get married and I could not get anyone to lay my hands on. This must have been six years ago. It wasn't that I had never had a girlfriend, but the only one I ever had was snatched away from me. Since then I have been hoping and praying for the right girl to come my way. But she never has.

Perhaps I might be given a chance in your column to throw myself open to prospective girls who might be interested. I am 30 I am not

particularly handsome, but with the trend of things there is hope of reaching that peak in due course. I am not so handsome, but not ugly. I am just 1m. 60cm., not too fat and not thin either. My interests are travel, reading, sports and gardening.

My demands of a future partner are quite modest, but she should be below my age and height and should not have given birth yet or married or divorced. She should be a bit modern and well-educated, not too fat and neither too thin, and averagely beautiful. A girl interested in the Muslim faith will be preferred.

LONELY HEARTS

Match-maker

Everybody passes through lonely times. Most people find happiness when they meet partner with whom they will spend the rest of their lives. But for some, the magic spark compatibility doesn't occur. For this DRUM publishes this column. O MATCH-MAKER will help you find match if you want. Write to Lonely Heart DRUM Publications (Nigeria) Ltd., PM 2128, Lagos, Nigeria. You won't regret it few minutes you spend writing to MATCH-MAKER

Mohammed, Nigeria, c/o

Match-maker

All modern, well-educated and averagely beautiful girls please write, SOON!

Unlucky

Dear MATCH-MAKER,

I am one of the unlucky girls who find it difficult to get a

partner. I am 24 years of age. I know I am not bad looking. Socially and academically I know I am all right. I am average height. The type man I want should be well educated and very social. He should be tall and a Muslim and he should be handsome. I am relying on you, Match-maker, to get me that man. **Worried Girl, Lagos, c/o Match-maker.**
 You won't be W.G. any more but H.G. after your letter published. Where are you lucky men?

Tasty

Dear MATCH-MAKER,

Hey, ladies! I will be pleased to meet any of you who meets my taste. I am 22 an undergraduate, taking medicine and I live in Lagos. I'm a nice-looking guy and tall. My interests include music, dancing and photography. My type of girl should be beautiful and at the same time sensible and have good manners. She shouldn't be unduly restricted and we should be able to exchange visits and go out together.

Obiwe, Lagos,

c/o Match-maker

Girls, he is too good to resist! Cut strings and get him.

Lonely

Dear MATCH-MAKER,

I will be grateful to you if you can rescue me from loneliness. I was born 26 years ago of medium height. I won't say I am handsome, but not bad physically. I am a graduate of Quantity Surveying. I am a Yoruba from Oyo State. I had a girl who had to go abroad on a scholarship from her firm. Within a year of her departure, she wrote to tell me she had married her director.

The second one happened to be serious but when I discovered she had run away from a husband, I had to keep my hands off for I don't think I need to start my life wrangling over another man's wife.

The girl of my dreams should be well-educated, fairly beautiful and a Christian, and between the ages of 22 and 26. She should be jovial and tolerant. She can come from anywhere in the world. Of course, she must be sincere and faithful, honest in all things.

Hastings, Sokoto, Nigeria,

c/o Match-maker

You've suffered a lot and you deserve a nice chick to make the rest of your life happy. Ladies, give us a hand here.

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BOOKS

The high cost of compromise



LONRHO: the book cover which tells its own story.

LONRHO, PORTRAIT OF A MULTINATIONAL by Suzanne Cronje, Margaret Ling and Gillian Cronje. (Julian Friedman and Penguin).

THE COLLAPSE of the Portuguese empire and the slow but certain process of change in Central Africa has brought new hope to millions of people. Samora Machel, as quoted by the authors of this new book, has decreed colonialism, but also the end of the exploiters. The book continues.

Western business would do much to discourage both the implementation of (Machel's) programme, and the emergence of similar situations elsewhere in white-ruled Africa. The *pamies guerrilla warfare* are a major threat to the long-term growth of the continent. (Consequently) the more far-sighted companies have appreciated this need for some compromise.

This search for compromise is, at least in part, central to the story of multinational companies that has its roots in the past decade drawing its profits from the continent of Africa.

Lonrho's investments are spread over the map of Africa. From Mauritius to the East Coast, from the Ivory Coast, from the Zaire through Zaire, the company has its plants, its mines, its finance houses, its copper and gold, its sugar, and wattle. It controls involved in railway construction and in oil pipelines.

This is a project that its directors

would not undertake provided that it could show a profit, or even lead to a profit. At its most daring, the company offered its services to the OAU, in an honorary capacity, to act as adviser on oil. Only vigorous action from some African states stopped the company from achieving its aim of having all Africa in its debt. Its investments in Smith's illegal regime account for three-quarters of its attributable profits — directly from its local subsidiaries, or through holding companies situated in South Africa.

Much of the information on Lonrho's holdings in Zimbabwe is concealed, thanks to the embargo placed on financial dealings by the Smith

regime, but the authors of this book have been able to utilise some of the information smuggled out of the country by the imprisoned Scottish banker, Kenneth McIntosh. His documents helped disclose Lonrho's use of subsidiaries to assemble Datsun-Nissan cars.

These must be added to the known ventures operated by this firm inside the country, which is supposedly under US sanctions. Between 1968 and 1973, Lonrho opened up two copper mines, developed pepper plantations, expanded textile plants, and opened other workshops. Its directors are no doubt hedging their bets over the outcome of the Geneva talks: it is business as usual if the talks should fail, and it is (they hope) the unfreezing of some half-million pounds of company profits a year if monies can be remitted to headquarters in London.

The London boardroom of Lonrho was composed of at least one prominent Tory MP, former Cabinet Minister, Lord Duncan Sandys; businessmen who were prominent in the City; and Mr. Angus Ogilvy, husband of Princess Alexandra. The men gave notice of their investments in Lonrho early on, in the Middle East, and in many of the territories that still had links with

the British Crown in the early sixties.

But the real strength of Lonrho lay in the close connections made by the man around whom the company was built: Mr. "Tiny" Rowland. Friendships established with editors of national papers, with ambassadors in London, with members of, or relations of the leading families in both East and West Africa brought influence and business to Lonrho. Firms, mines, plantations, finance houses were built in Zaire, Kenya, Ivory Coast, and elsewhere as a result of Rowland's connections. And in the Sudan, friendship with Khalil Osman led to close involvement with the government, and to new sugar plantations.

But Rowland's biggest triumph was surely the attraction of capital from the Arab oil states. Kuwaiti interests purchased eight million shares

making them second only to Rowland as shareholders. Lonrho's aim has always been bigger and better profits, and its methods earned the well-known rebuke from Edward Heath. When an inquiry disclosed tax evasions,

hand-outs and high salaries in the midst of a national wage freeze, Heath spoke of the "unpleasant and unacceptable face of capitalism." This had little effect on the company's affairs. Similarly, Kuwaiti interests have turned their eyes away when Israeli connections with Lonrho subsidiaries were disclosed, and African leaders have seen fit to ignore the well-known Lonrho connections with Zimbabwe and South Africa.

One of Rowland's repeated claims has been that his company was helping to develop Africa. This is examined by Suzanne Cronje and her co-authors, and shown to be false. To take only one instance, they examine Lonrho's exploitation of the Ashanti gold mines and they quote Cameron Duodu writing in 1973:

The mine from which over £10 million worth of gold is being dug this year has reduced the people to such abject poverty as to make the stories of Lonrho's (inner) squabbles seem like an obscene irrelevance.

The authors conclude: "Ultimately the question must be asked whether the sort of system represented by the multinationals is necessarily the most just and productive for Africa. The issue is not whether Lonrho is the unacceptable face of capitalism, but whether capitalism is going to have an acceptable face in Africa at all."

B.H.

RECORDS

FREE & EASY, ROUGH & READY

Free (Island) Free were one of those groups that were progress which followed the Beatles revolution in Europe, America, and the rest of the world and across the music into the 1970s were never number one in their field. In an area of music that ordinarily rich in performance in England and in their time, they stood at the head of the parade turning on many people with their representative bluesy music.

But they made it into the pop charts in their careers, and are undoubted others in new interest. But this follows the path of success: it's a great path-finding group, their music sounds like the sounds of the late 1960s, particularly the

group which stands so far ahead of all others in the post-Lennon-McCartney era. The driving guitar of Eric Clapton, the strong vocals of Cream's Jack Bruce, and the simple bass riffs which characterised almost every Free track now sound a bit monotonous and repetitive, though the originality of the basic rhythm and behind songs like *Woman Travellin' in Style* remains unsurpassed.

Other than that, this package has bypassed the changes of the past few years and provides a musical experience which is as fascinating and fresh as it was when it was recorded. A final graphic photo idea is good, its photography and execution adequate. But oh! that typography. Forget the cover, listen to the music.

music world. A record company thinks to itself: we'll put a song from the latest LP of each of our bright young stars on one album promote it, and people will learn about 12 or more artists from one album, and hopefully go out and buy the records from which the samples were taken. So far, so good. But how do the record companies see to it that the answer seems to be: arbitrarily. Here's an LP which remains fun from start to finish, and I wouldn't complain about the content at all — just the choice.

Many of the people who would buy this record (or, say, three or four tracks they wanted, would end up with another 16 songs which they may already have on the many records, or aren't interested in at all. Who is going to buy an album with Tim Lopez's *America* from the early 60s and Bette Midler's *Strangers in the Night* (1972) or *Young for Young* (1972) or *The Doo's Riders on the Storm* (late 60s) with Mickey



Newbury's American Trilogy (1976?)

Having said that, there are a couple of unexpected bonuses: a gutsy version of *Spanish Harlem* from Aretha Franklin, and a sexy song in the 50s swing style called *Let's Love*, from Peggy Lee (even more surprising is that this last one was written by Paul McCartney).

The album brings together some of Warner's best artists from many categories: modern music, rock, soul, soft country. The record company tells us the record is its celebration of the American bicentennial. To give you an idea of the range of music on the LP: Crosby, Stills Nash and Young's *Teach Your Children*, Carly Simon's *You're So Vain*, the Everley Brothers' *Love Hurts*, and the delightful Roberta Flack classic, *Killing Me Softly*.

CAROL WOODS Your face keeps haunting me (20th Century)

The song is competent enough, but I wish the producer would make up his mind whether he was putting out a fast-moving romantic sound or a comedy gimmick record. As it is, the haunted laughing in the background is a bore.

NORMAN CONNORS You are my starship (Pye) One of the most imaginative ballad singers in a long time who has a built-in, high-flying excitement that sustains interest all the way through.

TONY JACKSON Sayonara (Pye) Here's one of those fast treated movers that seemed characterise last year's. You just have to dance to it — or least tap your foot.

20 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (WEA)

The Sampler albums are one of the most undeveloped ideas of the

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Original February Page

A DRUM
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SUPPLEMENT **GRACIOUS
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Plan for an ideal home

In this DRUM special gracious living supplement, T. O. Esienna describes the essentials that form the basis of an ideal home, and shows some examples of the ultimate in luxury homes.

WHAT makes an ideal home? Firstly it must be a place where we can relax and be ourselves, and where we can bring up a healthy and happy family.

A place that is essentially ours where we can have our belongings around us. A cheerful home that is nice to look at and where we can invite our friends and relations with pride

In more practical terms it should be within easy reach of our work, education and shopping facilities and near to our recreational interests.

The most important room in the house is the kitchen, and it is essential to plan this room carefully to make the work as easy and simple as possible.

The room should be spacious enough to accommodate all the necessary equipment such as the cooker, sink

with draining board, cupboards, work surfaces and a refrigerator.

When planning a convenient, easily-run kitchen the main point to consider is the placing of the units so that they are easily accessible.

Dry goods and groceries can be kept in cupboards or on shelves near the work surface

PLEASE TURN OVER

A beautifully planned modern kitchen designed for easy working.



and the perishable goods should be kept in the refrigerator.

The cooking utensils should be near the work surface, cooker and sink and they can be kept in drawers and cupboards, or on special racks attached to the walls or sides of cupboards.

It is important that the sink and work surfaces are at the right height to avoid back-ache and tiredness, and they should be placed in the part of the kitchen where they get best light. It also makes the work more pleasant if, as you work, you can look out of the window into the garden or at passers-by in the street.

The cooker should not be positioned in any draught, against the window or in the corner of the kitchen.

It is vital to have proper provision for the collection and disposal of waste food. There should be a solid dust-bin that is emptied regularly, either into a compost pit or the local authority's dust cart positioned at the corner of the road.

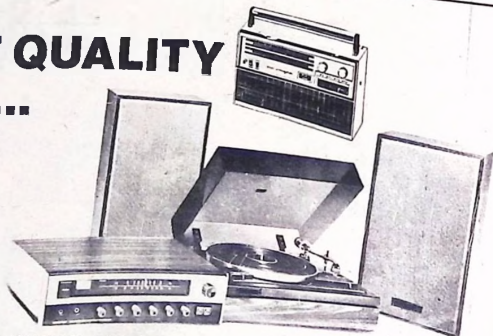
If the kitchen is large enough you may decide to eat there which saves carrying the

CONTINUED



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GRACIOUS LIVING

cooked food into a different room. It also leaves the sitting-room entirely free for relaxation and keeps it fresh from the smell of food.

You could, if the house is large enough, eat your food in a dining room which is usually situated between the kitchen and the sitting-room.

The show-room and the centre of the family life is the sitting-room. How you furnish and decorate this room depends entirely on your taste and what you can afford. It can be with the old to the latest style — from hard to soft furnishings, modern lighting fittings, hard or soft floor coverings, tiles or carpets. The sitting-room is the place for all your electrical equipment, the TV and radio sets and the record player.

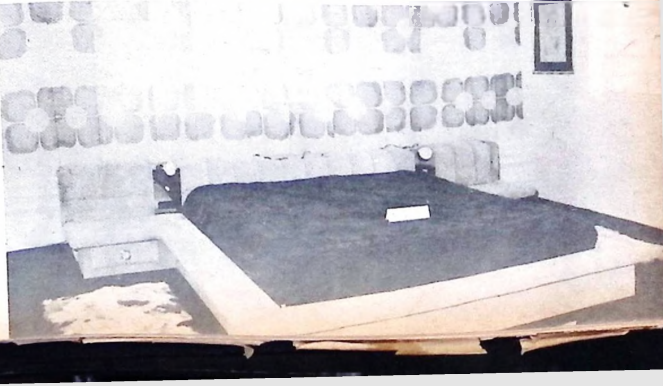
Window blinds, curtains and window nets obviously add beauty to a home, but they are not a luxury — they are an innovation towards gracious living.

Bedrooms are not only rooms to sleep in. They can, and should, be an extension of the rest of your house and be planned and furnished with care so that they are truly a part of the home you can be proud of.

PLEASE TURN OVER



ABOVE RIGHT: The modern approach to a luxury sitting room.
RIGHT: A special dining room can enhance your home and make for easy living.
FAR RIGHT: A modern bedroom furnished in a traditional style.
BELOW RIGHT: A spacious and futuristic bedroom complete with water-bed.
BELOW LEFT: A modern home office for the businessman or student.



Paint your home for beauty and protection

PAIN is still the main material used to "decorate" and "protect" buildings.

Tropical conditions are very hard on such a thin protective coating; one coat of this article is printed on. This coating has to be able to stand up to a number of adverse conditions which are worse than climates in more temperate

WEATHER — The main cause of breakdown is the high intensity of the sun's ultraviolet rays that cause loss of colour, loss of gloss on enamel and erosion of the binder in emulsion paints.

Higher standards must be made if they are to stand a chance to give any durable life-span.

Colour fast pigments are always used. Emulsion paints require a higher binder to pigment ratio. Eggshell paints are seldom used.

Mould growth is another problem in hot humid conditions. West Coast belt of the African continent under continuous conditions above 80° F and humidity above 75 per cent. Mould spores will very rapidly germinate and grow into a black coating on any surface.

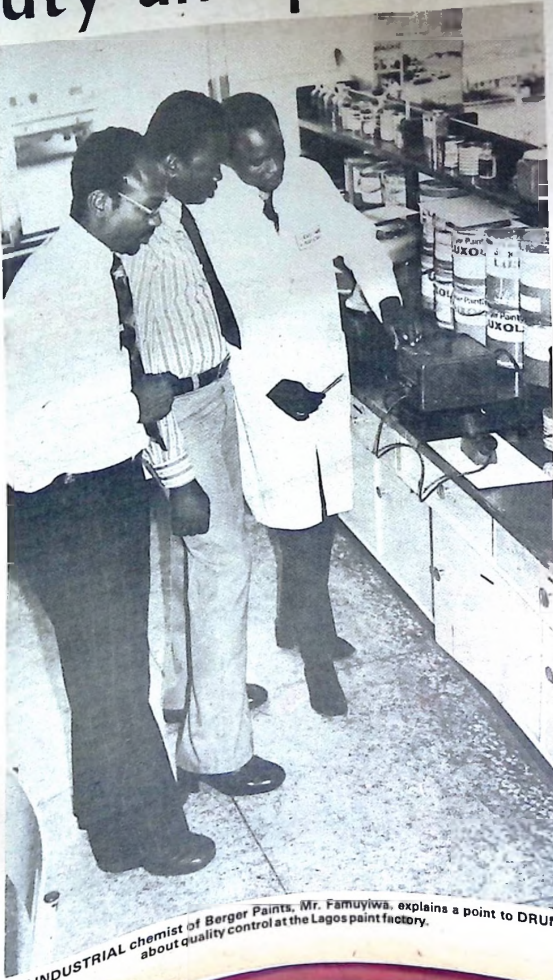
The introduction of air conditioning into buildings has made the incidence of mould growth in buildings worse. Hot humid air rapidly condenses onto the cooler walls and ceilings, keeping them permanently damp. An ideal condition to promote mould growth.

Requirements used in the tropics include fungicides and aldehydes to help reduce the incidence of the mould spores which are high humidity growing.

Any bare metal surfaces to weather rapidly oxidise. An anti-rust part to play in the protection of such corrosion.

Permeable resins are used to produce the best metal protection. The Cheap red oxides are the best protection for

SURFACE CONDITIONS to be painted



THE INDUSTRIAL chemist of Berger Paints, Mr. Famuyiwa, explains a point to DRUM about quality control at the Lagos paint factory.

also affects the life of a paint

In the tropics the majority of buildings are of sand cement blocks or poured concrete. The sand used is not always of the best quality and is seldom "clean-washed river sand".

The salts that can be left with the mixture will result in surface efflorescence which causes flaking, discolouration and premature change of colour in a paint. It can also saponify the oil used in an enamel paint and make it soft and removable by water.

Paints to stand up to these conditions need to be carefully chosen and the correct preparation and primers used to prevent the final paint used from being affected.

The introduction of textured coatings to cover up surface imperfections has improved the final appearance of poorly rendered or shuttered concrete.

Timber used in buildings is seldom dried and seasoned. It may also contain fungus and insects which eventually affect its durability.

Paints to withstand painting over such timber must contain aluminium leaf and should be well brushed into the surface.

Steelwork in the tropics rapidly becomes covered in rust if left unpainted.

Primers to combat rust must be well chosen and applied only to surfaces cleaned and wire brushed to remove the surface rust.

Paint then in the tropics has a harder time than elsewhere. It is still the cheapest way to beautify a building.

Paint itself is a raw material that has to be understood and chosen well for the purpose for which it is used. Tropical paint must be of a high quality if it is to give its user a satisfactory life span.

Paint manufacturers with factories and laboratories in tropical countries know the problems and are always willing to give advice.

The cost of paint on an building is a very low percentage of the total cost. However, the part that is most seen by the client and the public when the building is finished. It is this final decoration that should be both protective and durable.

GRACIOUS LIVING

WHAT GOES into making a company which went into business a few years ago and which, after only nine years, has emerged "beyond expectation," as the Managing Director puts it? What is really behind the rapid growth of Jobi Industries? DRUM went to find out from the man who is behind the success of Jobi, Mr. Olof Oreofe.

Born at Iperu, where he finished his primary education in 1958. He decided to acquire a commercial education and this lured him to the Lagos City College where he studied from 1959-63.

Mr. Oreofe had not thought of establishing his own company at that time, but planned to obtain practical experience before going into the business. So for two years he joined an indigenous company which was in the line of his interest, the Seven-Up Bottling Company at Ijora. Both the company and he gained the real experience he had been seeking.

JOBi INDUSTRIES (Nigeria) Ltd. deal in radio, television, refrigerators, cookers, fans, cassette recorders and other electrical goods. DRUM went to reinterview the Managing Director, Mr. O. O. Oreofe.

Jobi goes to the top

In 1967, he started an imports business on a small scale in Lagos. Two years later, he went on an extensive tour of Europe for new business contacts. He met some principals who agreed to enter into business with his company.

Thereafter, Jobi Industries started to import electrical goods from Europe on a larger scale. This has enhanced the company's business image tremendously. Mr. Oreofe, as Managing Director, is determined to work harder.

Although one can see that there is a boom in electronics in Nigeria, the business has not all been a bed of roses. Mr. Oreofe did not hesitate to tell us that Nigerian importers are going through a rough period. The current problem, he said, is that Nigerian "letters of credit" are not being honoured by some foreign exporters. Even after obtaining a letter of credit, payment is often ellected only after two months or more.

"Early this year I went to Europe and the Far East to

MAN ON THE MOVE: Jobi's Managing Director, O. Oreofe, takes a brief break to talk to DRUM



renew and establish more contacts," he told DRUM. He prides himself in having more than five principals in Europe.

Jobi Industries have showrooms at Idiro and Mushin where one can see numerous goods on display "We are expanding," the Managing Director told DRUM. A modern warehouse is under construction and will be completed within a year. It is at Matori Industrial Estate, a project started six months ago.

"After the completion, we hope to train our staff to full technician grades increasing demand sales service. Our ability to undertake training," said Mr. Oreofe.

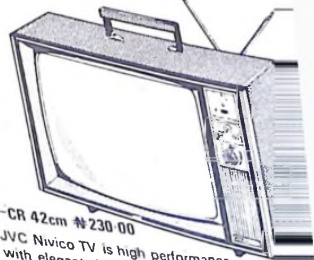
Mr. Oreofe has hopes from the third Nigerian market to introduce his products during his tenure. When asked the impact of the Indigenisation Decree in Nigeria, he said:

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the floor as he dances to 'Agbala' music
regalia during the Igba-ebeni ceremony.

CELEBRATES

Thirteen traditional chiefs of Agbor performed the Igba-ebeni ceremony, which is the paying of homage to the Obi. The chiefs pledged their loyalty and presented gifts to the Obi and his household.

Chiefs who took part in the ceremony included Chiefs Adolor, Otiku, Oweh, Imudia, Agboegbullem, Obizawa, Oviaruoba, and others.

The ceremony was held at the Obi's palace, where a big crowd gathered. The Obi's palace was further decorated with a 21-gun salute. With a 21-gun salute, the Obi, too, joined his big dance which was accompanied by songs and Agbala music.

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MUCH HAS been said and written in recent years about the need for simple, clear and unemotional instructions being given to boys and girls approaching adolescence. The emphasis on this point has been biased towards girls. This is because adolescence in girls comes more strikingly in the way of development of certain anatomical features and the commencement of monthly periods.

It is also felt by many people that if a girl is not given the facts of life she is likely to be lumbered with an unwanted pregnancy. Many pamphlets and books have therefore been written to help growing daughters: in the process, growing sons have been neglected.

It is just as important for a boy to understand the changes that will take place both in his body and in his emotions as he grows up. Although the mother finds very little difficulty in explaining the facts of life to her daughter, when it comes to her son she herself is often puzzled, even

nonplussed. This is understandable because she has never herself experienced the change from boyhood to manhood!

It is for this reason that a boy who is showing signs of approaching adolescence should have an explanation from a trusted and respected source. The father, of course, is man. The father, of course, is the ideal person to explain to the boy all the things that come with life. It is, however, not as easy for a father to communicate with his son as it is for a mother to do so with her daughter. Sometimes an

understanding teacher or priest can better fit into this role.

What I have said is supported by the fact that so many letters that are received by us in the way of questions from boys are related to the basic facts of life.

The transfer of information should not be embarrassing or heavy-going if the subject is approached quietly and unemotionally. It is important to convey to the boy that the rapid growth of his sex organs, the appearance of body and facial hair, the breaking of his voice and his easily-aroused

sexual urge, are all natural developments and are experienced by all normal, healthy boys. He should know that nocturnal emissions — known as wet dreams — are neither bad nor abnormal. It is nature's simple way of excreting excess seminal fluid.

Incidentally, there is so much wrong-thinking about masturbation that the topic should be clarified, though it does NOT lead to physical or mental illness, like all desires it should be controlled.

It is also important for us to explain to a boy something of the changes taking place in boys of his age group so that curiosity does not all the time irritate his psychology.

The explanation of this to a boy does seem a formidable task, but a lot depends upon how much communication has been established between a boy and his father before the time for explanation arrive.

Some boys will listen readily and eagerly and be quick to ask questions. Others are more reticent and have no questions to ask, but this does not mean that they know the answers or that they are not interested.

As I said in the beginning, there are books and pamphlets, written by school authorities as well as religious leaders: once the facts have been verbally given, simply and clearly, a piece of appropriate literature can be handed over to the boy to read for himself. He may then come with various questions and it is just as well for the father to have read the same literature beforehand so that he can answer all the questions with wisdom. It is good for the boy's mother to read the book also because some boys who feel shy of talking to the father will bombard the mother with questions.

Sleepy

I am a boy of 16. My problem is that I always sleep in the class when lessons are on. Are there any medicines to help me?

Nkomba, Dodoma

OUR
questions
answered

There are some medicines to keep people awake. They are in the amphetamine group and you can take one of these derivatives, but they have slight harmful effects on your concentration on the lecturer and the lesson would be a better way out. And go to bed earlier at night!

Heart-burn

I am a 30-year-old man and have suffered from heart-burn for more than six years. It is becoming worse and private doctors have all given me similar medicines, with temporary relief. They also tell me to keep off fats, drinks, etc.

Smoking. Please advise, Doctor.

Olu, Lagos

I think you should have an X-ray of your stomach done, and if there is an ulcer, proper treatment may be given. Even after an operation, you will have to see that you do not smoke and drink sparingly. Better still, not indulge in either at all. But then your reaction on no diet will not have to be so rigorous.

Bleeding

I am a 19-year-old girl, married to a man who is 23. Since my marriage I have excessive bleeding from below, though recently my periods have become more regular. I would like to know if, because of this irregular bleed, my eggs are spoilt. In spite of having been married for over a year, I have not become pregnant.

Cherif, Eldoret

Now that your periods are regular, I think you should conceive. Irregular periods do not do permanent harm to the egg-producing capacity of a fertile woman.

Swollen

I am a 24-year-old married man. My right testicle is swollen and, in spite of visiting various doctors, I have had no improvement. Before my marriage I used to have some discharge from below but this stopped after a few injections.

Furthermore, it is now a year since I married and without my wife becoming pregnant.

Schemas, Murang'a

It sounds like a slight infection which might have caused some inflammation of your right testes and epididymis. If, however, your left side is normal, you should have normal production of sperm. I suggest you have a semen analysis done. This will show whether you have enough healthy sperm.

No child

I am a young woman of 26, married to a man of 45. This husband of mine has two other wives. Since my marriage with him I have not been able to conceive. I have for many years. I had a child before I was 10 years old. I have who is now marrying various hospitals without any help.

Yusuf, Ibadan

It looks to me as if your husband should have a medical check-up before you go any further.

Sexually weak

I am 21. Will masturbation make me sexually weak, Doctor?

Gib, Accra

Masturbation is not known to weaken sex performance. See above.

Breasts

I am a guy of 18. My problem is that my breasts have not swollen like those of my friends. What do you think is wrong with me, Doctor?

Kaluti, Machakos

You are probably know. Development of breasts in boys is very minimal and you are likely to have nothing to worry about. The size of a male breast varies, as it does in females. In the case of boys it would be embarrassing if the breasts were bigger than normal.

Allergic

I am an 18-year-old boy and I suffer from what I think is an unknown disease. Since 1973 I have had a lot of discharge from my eyes, swelling of my lips and face and much sneezing and discharge from my nose which makes my breathing difficult. Can you please guide me, Doctor?

Samuel, Kano

You must be suffering from an allergic condition. The main thing is to find out what you are allergic to and by de-sensitising you with a course of injections, this condition could be abolished. You could go to a physician in any hospital where these facilities are available.

Edward, Surulere

Night-clubber

I am a 20 year-old boy and I do not want to marry. Whenever I desire sex, I go to a nightclub. My friends tell me that if I do not get married and continue my present way of life, I will not be able to have children when I do marry. Is this true?

Edward, Surulere

This is indirectly true in the sense that by getting involved with loose women you might contract a venereal disease which can render you sterile.

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YOUR STARS

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 20

Energetic stars could have you taking on fresh but unnecessary tasks or responsibilities. Don't be too disappointed if you don't accomplish all you set out to do, your enthusiastic mood will have you talking on too much. However, make time to this is certain to produce something worthwhile.



Pisces

Feb. 21 - March 20

Promise of pleasing news from a relative, domestic affairs generally are favoured, with beneficial changes in the air. Signs are optimistic for the property hunter. Youngsters in the family circle will make themselves useful. Avoid impatience in the financial sphere although a calculated risk could pay off businesswise if you are negotiating a contract.



Aries

March 21 - April 20

There is a lively influence on money matters, tied up with domestic issues. The moon makes pleasing aspects to Uranus with lively indications, affecting the area of communication. You'll benefit from contact with others.



Taurus

April 21 - May 20

A period when you can make contact with people who can advance your immediate aims. A new and intriguing idea could turn out to be profitable at a later date, so don't dismiss this lightly. Financial matters are under optimistic stars. Uranus is well aspected and points to a fortunate phase for personal relationships.



Gemini

May 21 - June 20

You will be meeting people who give you an original line to speculate on. You could shortly be in for a very pleasant surprise career wise, although you may feel that ambitions are all present hanging fire. Keep alert, have your ear to the ground and you'll acquire useful information.



Cancer

June 21 - July 20

You'll get a good response from people you are in contact with — your personality will please. One way without much effort, also a hint of an improvement in prospects to occur soon. Retirees will be in the picture in a happy way. Get as much done as possible in the first half of the phase, when your energy will be at a peak when your stars will be aiding your endeavours.



Leo

July 21 - Aug 20

You'll be on the right wave-length with others throughout the



month. The moon places emphasis on your plans affairs — the general planning line-up is cheering. Recent variations are over and people make up for past acts of consideration. Not a bad period, gamble — and travel also show fortunate trends.

Virgo

Aug. 21 - Sept. 20

Jupiter is favoured if combined with other factors, brings a lively influence to cash matters, long and short term, particularly applies in a domestic sense, so if you want to increase family security this is the time. You're the sort of person who likes a chat, and although you are not being particularly helpful at present, they'll be more operative soon.



Libra

Sept. 21 - Oct 20

Communicate and you'll get some nice surprises, for helpful advice. You may bargain won't lead you astray. Get out early if you have specific items in mind. Business-wise you'll tend to be in the right place at the right time. You'll find that people support your ideas. Saturn is an indication that you are in a period of major change.



Scorpio

Oct. 21 - Nov 20

Readjustment will affect most spheres of your life. The timing will depend upon your own particular date of birth. Saturn is linked and could mean extra cash or a social event. house move may be under discussion but unless plans are already underway this is unlikely to occur for a year or more. However, it's a good phase for domestic matters, more so distant relatives are involved.



Sagittarius

Nov 21 - Dec 20

A nicely balanced period for work and for the lighter side of life. You'll get co-operation from the folk around you, but you also give support to them. They'll have the right idea, older friend who has just turned 40 will be good company. have interesting news to impart. Although affairs of the heart favoured, don't neglect practical issues.



Capricorn

Dec. 21 - Jan 20

Stars show a minor but pleasing boost for present ambitions something that could develop unexpected ways in the week ahead. Venus makes favourable aspect. The sign the new will merge in important events in a useful way. instance, a new idea could be backed by past experience. travelling, start early and stick to the move.



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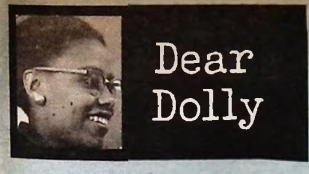


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Dear Dolly

Is out of sight out of mind?

SHE IS 17 and I am 19. We have been in love for about three years and I visit her frequently. Some time ago, I asked her to visit me and she told me to wait for her at the bus-stop, but she failed to turn up. Her mother knows about us. It is now over three weeks and I am beginning to have a feeling that once I leave her and go back to my station, she won't remember me again. She has a girlfriend who has been worrying me to befriend her but I have not conceded. Please, Dolly, what is your advice? I fear I might lose both of them.

Uman Y. Kida, Kigali
I would suggest you visit your girl and find out why she failed to turn up as promised. I am sure she will have an explanation. As for the other girl, I would say you should not give in to her advances since she is supposed to be a friend of your girl.

Her uncle tells her to stay away

I MARRIED my best friend's daughter and we are living in a foreign country. When I went to work one day my wife went to the market with a boyfriend, and after the shopping they came home together. When he was leaving, he gave her 25 cents. I discovered the whole thing and asked my wife, but she flatly denied it. I then told her that I would not buy her dresses as a punishment but after a few months, she became pregnant and I bought some dresses for her. During my leave, we went home together and she was asked to stay behind to have the baby because it was her first. My mother wrote to inform me that she had a still-born child. I went home and made the necessary arrangements concerning her return, but she refused to come back. She said I didn't buy her dresses for some months. I didn't allow her to do any work; and, when her uncle's mother died, I did not play any part. Because of all this, his uncle told her not to come back to me. Her parents promised she would come within a month, but until now she has not shown up. What can I do? We are both 25.

Sesay, Liberia
I think you should travel down and get things straightened out. Her refusal may not have anything to do with the reasons you stated in your letter. If, after all is said and done, she still refuses to come back, you ought to forget her and look for another woman. But before doing that, make sure you try every way possible to reconcile with her. If she becomes pregnant again you should not under any circumstances ask her to go home for delivery.

A neighbour is telling lies

I AM 18 and my boyfriend is 23. We have been in love for three years now without any misunderstanding. To my surprise, a woman who is a friend of my mum and my co-tenant of my boyfriend, went and revealed the secret of my visits to this boy to my mum. She said the boy had made a girl pregnant and she had a miscarriage, and that the boy was a flirt and who was, in view of this, I decided to call it quits with him, but when I wrote and asked him to call it matter he explained everything to me satisfactorily. He also told me that the woman was lying about him, but my mother was so annoyed that she stopped me from visiting him and she says he must not come to our house. Before this incident we had started planning our future together. Please, Dolly, tell me what to do before it is too late. If I follow the talk of the town, I don't know what may happen to this boy.

Josephine, Lagos
If you are sure the boy's explanation in his letter is satisfactory, I would suggest you show the letter to your mum so that she may be satisfied that her friend was only black-maling your boyfriend. You should also ask your boyfriend to come and explain the position to your mum. I hope she will understand, but if she fails to, don't hesitate to show her how much you love the boy. That might do the trick. In the meantime, I wish you good luck.

She goes with all and sundry

I AM a class five certificate holder. I fell in love with a girl in my town in 1972 and both my parents and hers want us to marry. When I left school in 1973 I went to work in Lagos. On two occasions this lady wrote me insulting letters accusing me of going about with beautiful ladies. I wrote back to her and told her not to change her mind about me, and she agreed. I am now at Minna and my people inform me that the girl has been flirting since I left home. I asked her but she denied the allegations. I don't want to leave her because I have promised to marry her, but she is trying to make me change my mind with her present attitude. She visits my parents every Sunday and gives them presents. Please help me, Dolly, because I don't want to leave her.

Segun Ade Sho, Minna
All I can say is that you shouldn't listen to what your people say about her because you might discover too late that there is no truth in it. As for the girl, I would suggest you write to her often, assuring her of your love, since you are very far away from each other. This way, she will be sure that you are worth waiting for.

Am I losing this girl?

I AM a young man of 20 in love with a girl of 12. Whenever I talk to her about love she blushes and runs away. Her looks are knocking the wind out of me and my love grows day by day. One day I tried to steal a kiss from her and since then she has never come near to me or spoken to me again. Dolly, am I losing her? What can I do to be on terms with her again?

Justice, Moramba
If you are not criminal-minded, I don't think you should have chosen a girl of 12 for a partner at your age. You ought to know that she is just an innocent little kid and by trying to force her to love you, you were only trying to spoil her. But think heavens she is sensible enough to rebuff your mischievous advances.

I miss my distant angel

MY BEAUTIFUL angel and I live very far away from each other but we exchange letters regularly. There is no doubt that we miss each other very much, but I miss her more than I can say. Should I forget the saying: when things fall apart, the centre cannot hold?

Anthony A. Adda, Negos
As long as you love each other, there is nothing to worry about even though you are far apart. To my mind, distance means nothing where there is love.

I'm ready to kill myself

I FELL in love with a girl of 15 and I am also 15. Whenever I ask her for sex, she tells me that I am too young. Does this mean that I am not a boy like others? She is illiterate. Please advise me before I kill myself.

Joseph Mijiro, Kisii
She was only trying to tell you that you are too young to engage in such a game because of the responsibilities that might arise from it. I hope you will see reason and stop thinking of killing yourself because a girl was sensible enough to refuse to have sex with you. Or do you want to be a father at 15?

She doesn't turn up

I AM a form three student aged 16. I am in love with a girl of the same age in class four in another school. Any time I ask her for sex she promises to come but does not turn up. Please tell me what to do, Dolly.

T.A. Garika
Leave her alone to face her studies.

How do I tell her?

I AM 18 and my girl is 17. I want to have sex with her but I don't know how to tell her. Your advice is needed please.

Townson, Ogbomoso
If you don't know how to tell her, then don't tell her.

and do not want to marry so early. Now I don't know what to tell her. Please help, Dolly, because I want to marry yet.

Sweet and Bitter, Buna
Write another letter in which you will tell her that you have changed your mind about the time you want to marry. Who knows? She might be feeling the same way, too. This does not mean you should stop loving each other. In fact, your change of mind might save you a lot of trouble in future. Be positive.

She says we should be cautious

I AM 21 and in love with a girl of the same age. We are both workers and we are also ambitious. The only problem is that sometimes when I ask her to go to bed with me she refuses and says we should be cautious because we are still young. Whenever she makes the statement, I feel disappointed. I promised to marry her but still she will not change her mind. She has since kept to me alone and everybody, including all her relations, has known me as her future husband. Do you think she is serious about this? Your urgent advice is needed, please, Dolly.

Worried Man, Nalrohi
This girl really loves you, as can be seen by her actions, and I share her view that you should be cautious. She probably would not want to be pregnant outside marriage. If you know you mean to marry her as you promised, why not ask your parents to meet her for the necessary arrangement about your wedding — which you can fix for a time that will be convenient for both of you? This way she will be assured that you will not disappoint her.

How do I curb my sexual urge?

I AM 24 and married. My wife is now nine months' pregnant, which means I cannot have sex with her. But I cannot spend my life without having sex and I am worried about this. Please tell me how to curb this attitude.

Cornelius, Abakaliki
Whenever you have the urge, try as much as possible to divert your thoughts by reading good books or doing some other useful things. You can try masturbation if you feel you are really pressed — there is no harm in it. Do not engage in any extra-marital affair, because it might put your home in jeopardy.

She came back begging

I AM 24 and deeply in love with a girl of 19. Though our tribes are different, it didn't affect our affair in any way. To my surprise, however, she said "no" when I sent a delegate to her parents about our love. I tried to find out why and she told me that she did not really want to marry me. I was bitterly disappointed but I calmed down and let sleeping dogs lie. Fortunately enough, another girl came my way and we fell in love. She is equally beautiful and she has vowed to marry me. A fortnight ago an elderly man gave me a message from my former girl. She pleaded for forgiveness. She had been disappointed. She had left me for a lad who returned from UK and promised to marry her, but she discovered that he was a playboy who only wanted to have fun with her. I felt pretty sorry for her and I also see that I still have a little interest for her. But at the same time I love my present home. Please, Dolly, what is your advice to avoid being a jack of all trades, master of none?

Mark Damo, Cusau
If I were you, I wouldn't stake certain for uncertainty. You shouldn't disappoint your present girl because of the former one. It would have been a different story if you had not taken on another girl. Tell your former girl that you are sorry you cannot take her back because you already have another girl whom you have promised to marry. It might hurt her, but she will have learnt a very useful lesson.

I cannot face meeting girls

I AM a student aged 17. My problem is that I cannot easily approach a girl. Whenever I want to, I become shy. Does this mean that I am not ready for girls, or what? But time flies. People say I am handsome. Please, Dolly, help me. I am getting disappointed.

Sansyo Manigpal, Ogoja
There is nothing wrong with you. Many boys of your age feel the same way, but as time goes on they get over it and make friends with members of the opposite sex. So relax and stop feeling disappointed.

letters with both her and her parents, but my trouble is that the dowry her father is demanding from me is more than nine months of my salary. I love her and she loves me too. She is 16 and I am 22. What can I do so that I may not lose her? Advise me, Dolly.

I. A. Antoni, Eldoret

It is a pity that some parents are still the Sherlock types when it comes to the dowry on their daughters. However I suggest you explain the position to your girl's parents as you are in correspondence with them. If they are not trying to scare you off with the exorbitant bride-price, they will surely see reason and adjust their demand. Your girl too has a part to play by talking to them so that they will bring the dowry down to a reasonable level that will not put you in any financial difficulties.

She demands a lot from me

I AM 20 and very handsome. I love a pretty girl of 18 very much and she told me that she loves me. Some time ago she asked me for an electric table fan which I bought for her. Shortly after that she demanded something else which was double what I could afford on my salary. I told her that I couldn't afford it and that caused the whole trouble. After a while she wrote and told me either to meet her demand or lose her. Dolly, should I part with her or find a way to meet her expensive demand? Please help.

Young Officer, Agbode, Bendel State

You don't have to squeeze out your blood to meet any girl's demands and, from the look of things, this girl is only out to drain your purse. I am sure she doesn't love you for what you are, and it will be best to forget her and get yourself a more reliable girl.

How do I win her?

I AM a boy of 18 and in primary five. I am madly in love with a girl of the same age and in the same class. I love her so much that there is nothing she can do to annoy me, and I always guard against anyone making her unhappy. She often claims that she loves me more than I love her and I hope to marry her. Though she is not the most beautiful in our class, she is the only one I love. I asked her to give me her address but she refused. Somehow I got it from her reading book. I don't know why she is hiding her address and I have invited her on two occasions to visit me, but she refused. I don't know what to do to make her love me as

I love her. Please, sister Dolly, tell me what I can do for her.

Sunday Okoro, Yaba, Lagos

She is quite sensible in not wanting to give you because your presence in her house might put her in a difficult situation. Both of you need to be very serious about your studies because you have wasted a lot of time at elementary school — due to one reason or another. You should face your studies and allow her to do the same for her education, and if you still love each other, you will have plenty of time to be together.

Can I cure myself?

I AM 19 and I fell in love with a girl of 17. Many men have approached her but she has refused. Her parents have been in vain, and they now leave us alone. I am waiting for her while I am learning to be a doctor. I once had an attack of gonorrhoea and sometimes I have the pain and often when I have sex with her I feel the pain. What can I do to be cured?

Worried Boy, Lusaka

It is unfortunate that you did not get cured before having intercourse. No doubt that she is also affected. Both of you must see a doctor for adequate treatment.

How can I win her?

I AM 20 and in love with a girl of 18. She is in common but any time she tries to make love she tries to stop me. How can I win her love?

T.T., Nigeria

Aren't you lucky! Make love to you do you. I advise you to stick to their natural course.

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