

# West Africa

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## What's Wrong in Ibadan?

**B**RIG. ADEBAYO'S dramatic description of recent events in Western Nigeria as a "rebellion" (see report on page 1165) has once again thrust the affairs of the unfortunate State before the eyes of an irritated Nigerian public, and a bemused world. Whether the sensational break into the prison in Ibadan, and the ensuing days of violence and ambush in which over 50 people are said to have been killed, merit the description "rebellion", which seems to place the events on a par with Biafra's secession (the Biafrans alone have hitherto spoken of the "Yoruba rebellion") may be open to doubt. But nobody disputes the seriousness of events in the West.

Signs that all was not well appeared late last year, with a series of what were called "tax riots" in diverse areas of the State: but they were caused, we have been told by Mr. Justice Ayoola, who headed an inquiry into these first disturbances, by a number of interlocking factors.

Many Western State leaders and others have insisted that the protests are not against the war, and are not a sign of lack of patriotism among the Yoruba. This may be true, but indirectly the war has led to the increase in taxation which has often triggered off demonstrations. The easing of taxation last spring, and the fact that no new taxes were raised in this year's state budget, even at the cost of an unprecedented £5m. deficit, were signs that the government realise that the state's tax tolerance margin had been reached. The Ayoola report found also that at the grassroots the war had been insufficiently explained: "the rural men came to town and saw evidence of prosperity or apparent prosperity abroad. They consequently found it difficult . . . to understand what the appeal for sacrifice was about."

The Ayoola report pin-pointed the background of general economic depression from which the State has suffered in recent years, which began during the period of political instability of 1962-66. Last year's poor cocoa harvest, due to heavy rains, which also worsened the conditions of the roads making it harder and more expensive to bring produce to the towns, has been a contributory factor. While it is too soon to predict this year's

harvest, one must note that the state of the roads remains extremely bad. (There is a comparison here with Ghana, where similar conditions act as a deterrent to the farmers.) Moreover, the government's acceptance of Ayoola's recommendation that the farmers' cocoa price should be raised (it was put up 50 per cent. in June) has, psychologically, a flavour of appeasement, and may therefore have only worsened the discontent. Against such a background, increased taxation, especially when combined with what Ayoola calls the "brutal and barbaric" tax raid system, is, at least, provocative.

Brig. Adebayo has also passed strictures on the propensity of the Yoruba for "sectional combat", while the other ethnic groups have been "consolidating their positions". This divisiveness may have its roots in the old pre-colonial rivalries of the Yoruba kingdoms, but the advanced complex nature of Yoruba society seems to have added to the infighting, in which town vs. country rivalry, older vs. younger generation conflict, and, occasionally, ideology have overlaid other divisions. Among such a large and disparate people as the Yoruba homogeneity would be astonishing.

The political line-up in the present situation is, however, obscure, as political parties and all political activity are banned (a situation which in itself may have led malcontents to turn more willingly to violence as a form of political expression). Observers of politics in the state still talk in terms of the old Action Group and the NNDP but it is hard to estimate the relative strengths of these parties. The situation is complicated by the presence of the military, who are resented by all the civilian politicians, and by the activities of a number of figures who have profited from the ban on politics to diversify their political allegiances. Broadly, the followers of Chief Awolowo are still thought to be in the majority in the western government, but they do not control it and fear that the increasing evidence of unpopularity of the military rulers in the state, (founded on numerous stories of corruption and extravagance in high places) might prejudice support for their party, which in 1966 had been considerable in



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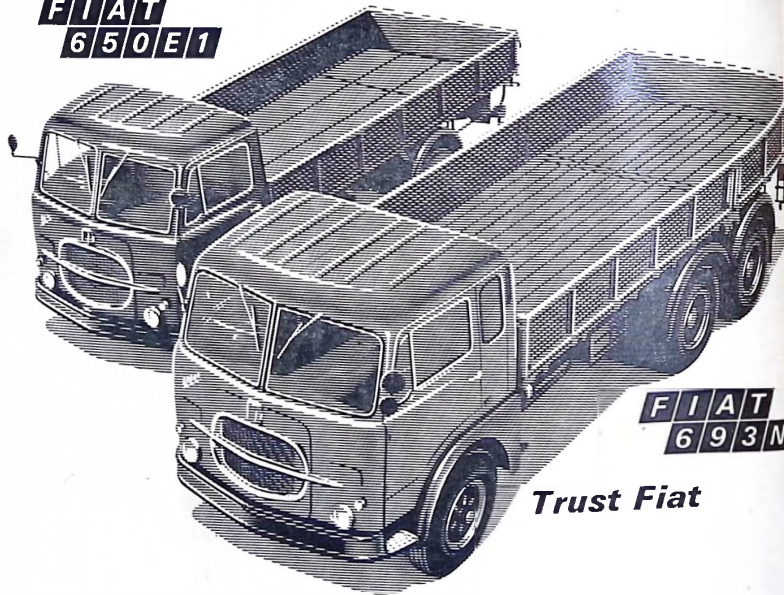
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## Simon Kimbangu and his people

Kinshasa

IT was at the midnight Christmas service last year in Kinshasa, Congo. The pastor, conducting the sermon in Kikongo and Lingala, interrupted the service to welcome the only three European guests; as is the custom of his church, they were first seated in the middle, facing the pulpit, on the only elaborately upholstered chairs. Then, they were asked to stand up, bow to the preacher, and were welcomed by the rhythmical clapping of the assembly. For their benefit, the preacher said a few words in French: "*Nous sommes des Chrétiens! Nous sommes des Chrétiens!*" he called. And the faces of his followers, in the newly inaugurated huge church, glowed with defiant belief. You could almost hear them sing, "We Shall Overcome."

Last month, in its conference in Canterbury, England, the World Council of Churches admitted the Kimbanguist Church (full name: The Church of Jesus Christ on Earth by the Prophet Simon Kimbangu) as a full-fledged member of the Council. They have overcome, at long last. Today, the Kimbanguist Church is as recognised and institutionalised as the Protestant and Catholic Churches of the Congo, at least legally and as far as ceremonial procedures go. On Independence Day it is customary for the President of the Republic, himself a Catholic, to attend mass at the Roman Catholic cathedral of Kinshasa (Catholicism being the semi-official religion of the State). Some senior ministers are sent to the Protestant Church, in the European part of the city, and a minor minister is present at the simple ceremony at the Kimbanguist Church, in the heart of Matete, a relatively poor and remote quarter of the African *city*.

This church, big enough to accommodate two thousand believers, was completed in 1966 and is, so far, the one and only brick-and-cement construction built by the Kimbanguists in Congo-Kinshasa. The rest of the three million believers the church claims in Congo-Kinshasa (there are several thousand followers also in Congo-Brazzaville and neighbouring countries) still gather to pray under the branches of palm trees in their simple constructions, as they used to do for more than four decades.

The international recognition of the sect as an equal-member Protestant Church is not so much a triumph to the Kimbanguists as an indication of changes which have been taking place inside member churches of the WCC, representing the developed rather than the developing countries. In other words, this new tolerance in face of indigenous versions of Christianity is more a result of the struggle of the Blacks in the USA than it is a sign of a

success of the newly emerged independent state of Africa and Asia.

As far as the Kimbanguists go, international recognition has never been their major target. Until 1959 they were fighting a long, bitter, and lonely battle for a much more elementary recognition—as Christians. It was not until 1959, exactly 38 years after the first appearance of Simon Kimbangu as the "Black Disciple" of Jesus Christ on Congo soil, that the Belgians gave legal authorisation to his followers to gather and pray in public, as Christians.

1959 was a crucial year in Congo history: it was at the beginning of that year, in January '59, that a violent anti-colonialist demonstration took place in Léopoldville. A week later the king of the Belgians announced that independence was to be given the following year: the first national elections were allowed only then, and several other restrictions were lifted during that crucial year. One of these was the "legalisation" of the Kimbanguists, which the Belgians would never have allowed had it not become clear to them that their own time in the Congo was up.

### Twelve Disciples

Simon Kimbangu was considered by the Belgians as the most dangerous threat to their almost complete, hermetical, Belgian rule over the Congo, until the days of Kasavubu and Lumumba. In 1921 a 30-year-old giant of a man, employed as a Baptist catechist in his native Lower Congo region, claimed that he had had visions and started performing miracles, curing the sick, blind, and aged. It was Jesus Christ who appeared in his dream and asked him to carry the evangelical message among his black brothers. He chose twelve disciples, walking around with the Bible, and preaching against alcohol and for monogamy.

An order to arrest him was immediately issued by the Belgian authorities, who closely collaborated with the Church. For five months Kimbangu hid himself amongst his brethren, despite intensive searches and threatened heavy punishment to those who protected him. The Belgians could not lay their hands on him.

Then, fearful of the sufferings he might inflict on his followers, and sure of the protection provided him by God, he handed himself to the authorities. On October 5, 1922, he was condemned to death, to be executed the following day. King Albert, however, commuted the penalty to life imprisonment. He was aware of the claims of the administrators that Simon Kimbangu was not only a disgrace to Christianity but also incited the population to civil unrest, disobedience, and refusal to pay taxes. But the King was also aware of the unprecedented feeling that this strange man aroused with the Congolese. Perhaps he was inciting the population while alive; but with his death he could become even more dangerous.

Thus Simon Kimbangu was sent to the central prison of Elisabethville (today Lubumbashi) where he spent 30 years. In his 31st year of imprisonment he died.

To pronounce his name or to be accused of being his follower remained a terrible "crime". Those guilty who were not executed were deported to all parts of the country. Thus the Belgians financed the spreading of Kimbanguists in the Congo, outside the Bakongo tribe.

It is hard to estimate the exact number of members of the Church, as no census of any kind has taken place in the Congo for more than a decade. But it is acknowledged by Catholics and Protestants alike that Kimbanguism is the fastest-growing sect in the country. It has even been suggested by scholars such as Thomas Hodgkin that Kimbanguism, with its strong messianic elements and almost "contaminating" force, replaced in the Congo the nationalist and anti-colonialist political movement which could be observed in other African countries. This is the theory that because of the extent of oppression, greater in the Congo than in most African colonies, a political solution (i.e., a liberation movement) was not enough and a transcendental movement took its place.

Even after independence, the Kimbanguists did not come all out in the open. Four decades of underground existence, when the torch of Simon Kimbangu was carried by his three sons and the twelve disciples he had chosen, made them a cautious and suspicious people. In 1966, when General Mobutu executed four former ministers, for an alleged plot, one of them, Emmanuel Bamba, was from the twelve disciples of Simon Kimbangu, and had shared his goal.

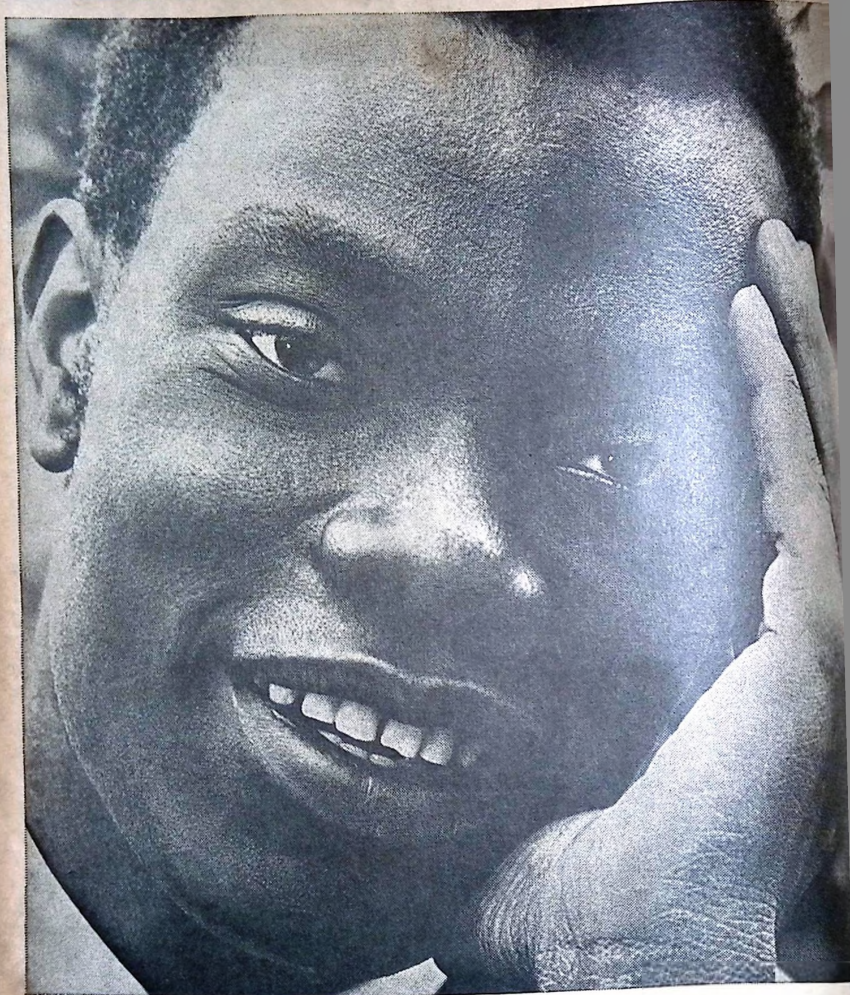
### An Invitation Now

Only in the past two and a half years did the Church, always short of funds and surviving on the small donations from its relatively poor members (education, the key to promotion and power, has always been in the hands of the Church, so no true Kimbanguist had an excess of it), did the Kimbanguist Church become an integral part of Congo life.

Maybe it was part of the Africanisation mood and of the wish to intimidate the all too powerful Catholic Church, maybe as a result of Gen. Mobutu's guilt feelings over the execution of Emmanuel Bamba; but the fact remains that no other Congolese leader "institutionalised" the Kimbanguists as the General has.

As far as the present cult is concerned, no signs of the xenophobic, violent, and barbaric character attributed to it in the past by the Belgians can be observed. On the contrary, it is distinguished for its simplicity and puritan nature. Naturally, there has not been a very fixed and uniform tradition until recently because of the secrecy in which the Kimbanguists gathered. But now one can easily distinguish the attempt to borrow elements from all three big religions.

Tamar K. Golan



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## ROUNDOABOUT

### Who went to Rabat?

How much West African participation has there been at the Islamic summit, which was held at Rabat, capital of Morocco this week? Among the twenty-six delegations (out of thirty-five invited) there are, if you include Mauritania, only six of the twelve West African nations invited. The other five are Senegal, Mali, Guinea, Niger and Chad, while the six who turned down invitations are Nigeria, Cameroon, Sierra Leone, the Gambia, Ivory Coast, and Upper Volta. Definitive figures of the number of Moslems in each of these countries in relation to their total population are hard to come by (all my source-books disagree), but according to a table published in *Le Monde* this week Mauritania has 95 per cent (1.4m. out of 1.5m.); Guinea has not much over 50 per cent (2m. out of 3.7m.); Mali has between 50 and 60 per cent (2.6m. out of 4.75m.); Niger has 75 per cent (2.6m. out of 3.55m.); Senegal has nearly 70 per cent (2.4m. out of 3.58m.). Of the rest Nigeria has 24m. out of a population now calculated at 58m. (just over 40 per cent), which makes Nigeria the African country which contains the most Moslems (just a little more than UAR); Cameroon has less than 20 per cent (1m. out of 5.2m.); Sierra Leone has nearly 30 per cent (700,000 out of 2.44m.); The Gambia has about 75 per cent (260,000 out of 360,000); Ivory Coast has 18 per cent (700,000 out of 3.9m.) while Upper Volta has about 25 per cent (1.2m. out of 5.15m.).

Thus, by and large, those with over half their populations Moslem are attending, while those with less are not. The exceptions are The Gambia, which has pleaded financial difficulty for not attending, and, the other way, Chad—which nevertheless has a considerable Moslem population which, at this stage, it does not want to feel are unrepresented. The Chadians may also have wanted to make sure that nobody was there to make propaganda for Front; although no African government has publicly attempted to side with the Chad rebels, they seem to have been allowed to operate from both Libya and Sudan, and have occasionally surfaced in Algeria, and even Iraq and Syria. The Nigerians said they would not be accepting an invitation, but the government would not have objected to non-governmental Islamic leaders attending the meeting.

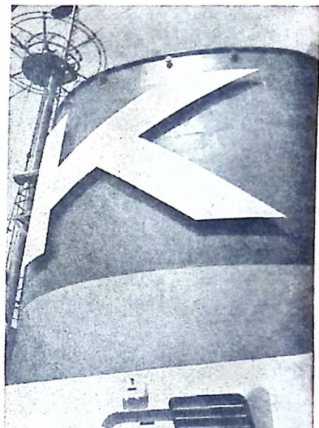
Presumably Cameroon and Ivory Coast were not represented for similar reasons—that they felt themselves secular states. Ivory Coast, too, has particularly cordial relations with Israel, and would therefore be unlikely to sympathise with the condemnations of Israel likely to result, however moderate and conservative the ranks of those in Rabat. A number of those African states attending, however, have diplomatic relations with Israel, such as Chad, Niger, Senegal and Mali, who the Arab league claimed last week was being courted by Israel; a Malian minister, M. Yaya Bagayoko was in Israel for the annual Rehovoth conference earlier this month. Presumably the recent visits of other Moslem ministers to Israel must also have caused displeasure to the Arab League. For example, one of the Moslems in the government of President Tombalbaye of Chad, M. Mohamed Ahmed Sallab, was reported as saying in Israel at the end of August that he was convinced that Israel had not neglected the

holy places in Jerusalem, and that he was happy the main suspect of the Al-Aqsa fire was neither a Jew nor a Moslem. Then again, we had, also at the Rehovoth conference, Chabi Mama, the Dahomey Education Minister, who voiced much the same sentiments, as well as none other than Alhaji Ibrahim Garba-Jahumpa, the Gambian Education Minister, who even more emphatically rejected Israeli or Jewish responsibility for the disaster, adding "the campaign against Israel is based on ignorance and opportunism, and has nothing to do with religious motivation"; which is a great tribute from one of the Gambia's leading Moslems, who at one time led a political party called the Gambia Moslem Congress.

The summit brought an interesting statement from President Senghor, who has sent his Foreign Minister Amadou Karim Gaye to represent him in Rabat. The Senegalese President, after he had spent the ten days in Morocco the week before, said that Senegal would participate because of its large Moslem population. As a Christian, he felt Senegal should go, because it was a country where Christians and Moslems co-existed. "We consider Israel is the aggressor and should be condemned as such." He felt that the conference should study the problem of Jerusalem, which was a religious problem, to bring "a world solution through the internationalisation of the town's charter." He would not be at the summit himself, he said, "although I know the Koran well."

### Burying the Mauritanian Hatchet

The only West African country to be represented by head of state was, surprisingly, Mauritania, whose President, Moktar Ould Daddah, has been one of the most enthusiastic supporters of the summit, but who was in a somewhat delicate position when it was announced that the meeting was to be held in Rabat, because Morocco still does not officially recognise Mauritania diplomatically: not indeed its right to exist at all, having claimed, at the moment of independence in 1960, that all of Mauritania was part of Greater Morocco. These claims have progressively become more and more meaningless, cherished only in the hearts of right-wing fanatics of the Istiqlal party, but it was still a major move for King Hassan to send an invitation to President Ould Daddah. Mauritania has progressively moved closer and closer to the Arab world; recently, for example, they sent a delegation to Kuwait, while the Libyan recognition of Mauritania after the coup in Tripoli removed the last non-recogniser apart from Morocco itself. It is asserted in Rabat that King Hassan was only acting on behalf of the conference secretariat, and that the move in no way meant *de facto* recognition, as was claimed in Nouakchott. But the summit, whatever it produces in the way of Islamic secretariats and resolutions on Jerusalem, proved a marvellously convenient occasion to bury an old hatchet which should have gone long ago. The anti-Mauritanians in Morocco could not have convincingly protested at such a move without being accused of disrupting Islamic unity. It is still an area where the two leaders have to tread delicately, and there is still the bone of contention of the future of Spanish Sahara.



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## NIGERIA

### News from the States

Eighteen months after their establishment are the twelve new states in Nigeria? The administrations of the new states seem to be becoming established though problems of personnel and finance are still problems in many. The Rivers State has its particular crisis (see "Nigeria News", p. 28). In the three Eastern States problems of war and relief are still in the forefront.

IN a series of articles in this Nigerian on life in reconquered parts of the East Central State from the Edo to the Malam Adamu Ciroma says procedures which normally produce food now produce more than ever before, while relief has discouraged some people from working farms and had weakened family units. The authority of elders and heads of families (now, because of this, needed) is given only to those people who can distribute to others, he says. There is no transport apart from bicycles in the area, and this hampers trade and administration. The administrator of Abokali in this report, is not alarmed at reports of increasing crime rate in the town, because it is a sign of a return to normal.

Trains are now working in the area, though it is "remarkable" that reconstruction has started so late. About 50,000 people live in the former capital of the Eastern region. Malnutrition in the areas continues, but is no more than during the war, Malam Adamu says. The administration in the East Central State employs 8,900 people including 800 professional people—among them a man who had helped to build a makeshift refinery at Uzuakoli in Biafran territory. Discipline among troops in this area, says, appears to be very good, and the "swagger" seen further from the front.

Chief John Asika, Ede of Onitsha, father of the Administrator of East Central State, has died, aged about 76.

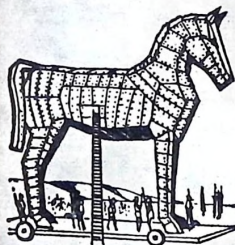
The Governor of the Rivers State told the Nigerian Red Cross that the American landing craft sent to Lagos for relief supplies should not be used to supply to the Rivers State, reports *Nigerian Tribune*.

The *West African Pilot* has reported that Governor Spiff of the Rivers State is saying "that Port Harcourt, capital of Rivers State is not for the Ibos." The Governor had contributed much to the city, he says, and are entitled to return there if it is restored. (The Governor said Port Harcourt did not belong to the Ibos.)

The Rivers State Government has set up an Abandoned Property Authority.

The Governor of the South-Eastern State, Col. Esuene, has appointed a new Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Mr. Dianabasi Jacob Umeh to replace Chief E. O. Eyo. Mr. Umeh was proprietor of a secondary school in the Nigerian crisis.

Chief Eyo and Mr. O. A. Esin, Commissioner for Justice, have challenged the Government in a signed press statement to publish reasons why they were dismissed.



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In an article on the South East State in the *Daily Express*, Lyn Johnston says there is now only one working industry, the cement works at Calabar, and much reconstruction is to be done, as well as construction of the planned new road from Calabar to Ikom. The German Reil Cross feeds over 18,000 school children at Uyo.

Formally opening the South Eastern State Board of Internal Revenue, the Commissioner for Finance and Economic Planning, Mr. Udo-Inyang, recommended that tax inspectors be empowered to search, question and arrest tax defaulters or suspected tax evaders. They should also be given legal protection.

As a tax enforcement provision, the Mid-West State is not awarding contracts unless contractors can show that they have made a profit from one of their two previous contracts. Small contractors unable to produce audited accounts will be required to show tax receipts for the last three years.

A modernisation plan for Benin has been drawn-up by the Mid-West State Government. The first £5m stage involves replanning the city centre with provision for a museum, art gallery, swimming pool and other recreational facilities. Stage two entails extending the city boundaries.

The Mid-West Military Governor has promised a new housing estate at Warri, where workers are affected by high rents.

The Western State Government has decided to proceed with the appointment of a new Alafin of Oyo, which was suspended 14 months ago after the king makers failed to reach an agreement on a candidate. The throne has been vacated since the death of the last king in January 1968. The Western State Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, said new king-makers would be appointed to consider the candidature of Mr. Llamidi Adeyemi, who was described in an edict of June 1968 as the only validly nominated candidate. Legal action has been brought against the state government by some of the existing king-makers (or Oyomesis) over the appointment of the new king-makers.

The Lagos *Daily Express* suggested the Government wanted to impose its own candidate instead of Mr. Adeyemi, who, it said, had been chosen three times by the Oyomesis. A *Nigerian Tribune* report says many Oyo people paid tax arrears out of gratitude for the replacement of some Oyomesis.

Produce inspectors in the Western State have said their lives are unsafe as smugglers are usually armed to the teeth. The Lagos *Daily Times* has said more help should be given to those trying to curb smuggling of cocoa and other goods.

Two more men have been arrested in connection with the killing of the Shoun of Ogbomoso in July.

The Western State Government is to implement the recommendations of the Asaba Report on Teachers' Grades and salaries all over the State.

Full page newspaper advertisements paid for by the Lagos State Government are appealing for public co-operation to stamp out bribery and corruption.

Surveys of the natural resources and industrial potential of Lagos State are to be initiated by the state government.

the Education Commissioner. Alhaji Muhtari said, noting that there were 244 primary schools with 60,000 students. Women's education particularly was lagging and a girls' primary boarding school had been opened. Technical students were expected to increase from 300 to 800 by 1970 and the Government has allocated £1.5m. from its current budget towards teacher training.

A group of indigenous contractors in the Western State has been forwarded a £1.7m contract for the Jos (Benue-Plateau) reservoir.

A new Chief of Jos has been elected and his name sent to the Military Governor. The old Chief, Rwang Pam, died recently shortly after the death of his son, Mr. Bitrus Pam, Commissioner for Information in Benue-Plateau.

The Kano State Government is to embark on an education crash programme planned to produce about 1,600 teachers within the next seven years, at a cost of £1.7m. The Commissioner for Education said the programme was designed to produce 800 grade 2 teachers, 200 higher school certificate holders, and 600 technicians. The Government had recruited 40 graduate teachers from Europe and Egypt. An initial intake of 600 prospective students would start their courses at a new 21-classroom building in Kano City; this new institution was to be known as the Kano Educational Development Centre (KEDC) and would deal exclusively with the manpower crash programme. The Federal Military Government has given Kano State £56,000 out of the £300,000 set aside for development of primary education

in the northern states (it has also set aside £400,000 for development of secondary education in these states).

Welcoming the plan, the *New Nigerian* says other states should consider abolishing English as the language of teaching in primary schools, as North Central State has decided to do, and replace it where possible by Hausa.

The Federal Government has given two mineral prospecting licences for the North Western State, for petrol and uranium and a geological survey for uranium is being carried out, the Governor has said.

Governor Faruk also said a pilot irrigation scheme would soon be started at Talata Mafara, and that smallpox would be eradicated in the state by 1971. Registration of births and deaths had been compulsory in the state since Sept. 1. He said there had been some increase in school attendance though lack of money held back educational development.

The Chairman of the North Eastern State Public Service Commission has accused some qualified Nigerians of sabotaging Federal efforts to Nigerianise many public service posts. Many refused to take up appointments in other states for no just cause, he said, and some Nigerians recruited to take up appointments in his state were not willing to leave their state of origin; the ultimate result was that governments were in most cases compelled to recruit foreigners.

Mini-skirts have been banned in Zaria (North Central State) because "dresses that reveal women's thighs are indecent."

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## MATCHET'S DIARY

FEW reports by journalists have come out of Biafra in the last three months, but Eric Pace of the *New York Times* earlier this month produced just the kind of information one likes to have. He sees the beginning of demoralisation in the tiny Biafran enclave, yet order is well maintained, even if there are many reports of low morale in army units—Colonel Ojukwu has had to appeal to the army not to loot property or molest women. Mr. Pace, the only foreign journalist in Biafra at the time, was pursued by beggars and by soldiers seeking cigarettes. Middle class Biafrans pleaded for luxuries or for dollars. Hunger is not only affecting the pride of the citizens; it has divided the people, since the prosperous could still eat chicken sometimes, while it was "the poor who died." There is still no organised protest against conditions, and Mr. Pace was satisfied that everybody still was ready to pay the price of hunger to escape from Nigeria. Everybody is still haunted by the fear of death at the hands of the Federal troops, in spite of the evidence that there is little danger of that. At least half the people now in Biafra, it is estimated, have been uprooted from their homes, and 90 per cent are Ibos. Reports about the Biafran army, which Mr. Pace was not able to study in action, varied. One says that they engaged in wanton killing of Nigerians when they retook Owerri, while facing enormously heavy casualties in their own ranks. There are many desertions and conscription alone ensures that the army is kept up to strength. The army, according to Mr. Pace, continually tries to commandeer relief trucks and has often looted crops. In spite of the black market and the inequality of sacrifice, the élite also suffer. All hope that in time the outside world will acknowledge that there is still a functioning Biafran state and that their right to be "left alone" will be admitted.

Dan Awodoye, a young Nigerian playwright who has had several plays performed in his own country (including *Death and the Merchant* and *The Smoke*) since graduating at Ibadan in 1966, has recently spent several weeks touring Great Britain, studying drama. He won a prize in a competition organised by the British Council in Nigeria and has his fare to the UK paid by Nigerian Breweries under its student sponsorship scheme, which normally benefits students for training in brewing, engineering and general management. Awodoye, whose home town is Ilorin, wants to encourage local Nigerian initiative, thinking culture is sponsored too much by foreign organisations. He directs a writers' club at Kaduna, and is a keen student of African dancing, which he uses as much as possible in his plays. The play which won his prize is called

*The Homecoming* and is partly about political changes in Nigeria. This is also the theme of one of his poems, *An Afro-politician*, which includes this verse:—

*This too stormy a career—  
Only yesterday raised by the vociferous  
Today shying away from reluctance  
Rearing  
Into violence's  
Bleak image:  
"Entombment"*

I see that Mr. Anthony Deku, wearing another hat from his usual NLC one, as Chairman of the Ghana Sports Council, has urged West African cricketing countries (effectively Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, The Gambia and Liberia) to develop their cricket to world class standard. Speaking at a West African cricket conference in Accra, he also questioned the inability of West African countries to produce wholly African teams. He said that while it was "not bad to have a blend of blacks and whites constituting a team to represent a nation" he expected that when one African nation met another, the two teams should be predominantly African. The fact is that cricket in black Africa has always tended to be an élite game, with none of the proletarian appeal it has in the Caribbean. This is surely the main reason for the lack of those first class African cricket teams Mr. Deku would like. Perhaps the forthcoming MCC tour of Africa (promised before the end of the year) will provide some encouragement.

Since President Sekou Touré sent a message to Dr. Busia after the OAU meeting in Addis thanking Ghana for co-operation in the struggle against Portuguese colonialism, it was reasonable to suppose that, in spite of the presence in Guinea of Dr. Nkrumah as President Sekou Touré's co-President, the Guinea leader had decided to accept the general election results as proof that Ghanaians now had the government they wanted. One wondered how Dr. Nkrumah would take this, but that was President Sekou Touré's worry. Now, however, Guinea radio accuses the new Ghana government of being a dictatorship—an odd charge to come from a rigid "one-party" state. "Election rigging, blackmail and repression will never confer on the Accra regime the legality they are trying to establish by fire and sword." Displaying total ignorance of Ghana affairs the radio commentator referred to the recent disturbances in the Yendi areas of northern Ghana, the result of a very old-fashioned chieftancy dispute, as a "liberation struggle" by the "heroic Ghanaian people". Facts, it seems, are still not to be allowed to govern relationships between Guinea and Ghana. Nor does the mighty Kenneth Kaunda, about elections in whose country there are considerable misgivings, accept the Ghana election results, although he knows nothing about the conduct of the elections.

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# books and publications

## AMERICANS LOOK AT NIGERIA

**The Nigerian-Biafra Conflict** edited by Michael A. Samuels (*The Center for Strategic and International Studies, Georgetown University, Washington D.C. Limited edition, \$1.25.*)

Nigeria can rely on ever-increasing revenues mean that the apparently overwhelming problem of reconstruction and re-integration of the Ibos will be much easier than it now seems? Is a military "solution" really possible? What are the prospects of guerrilla warfare? Could the Russians be brought in to a big-power peace move? What is the real role of France and will de Gaulle's departure change it? (Here some participants appear to have been over-optimistic.)

Above all Mr. Samuels draws out the sense of frustration among many American participants, including those who were quite certain that there should be no direct American intervention. "We were observing a dreadful tragedy which needed to be settled as soon as possible. Was it possible to devise some policy of discreet encouragement, rather than assumption of leadership?" P.N.

**R**PORTING from Washington last May on the one-day seminar on the Nigeria-Biafra conflict, organised by the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Matchet wrote that this was a "brave attempt to illuminate a subject about which there is immense confusion here." But, he said, the conference probably came a year too late. With remarkable speed the Center has produced this summary of the discussion. Mr. Samuels is said only to have edited the summary but he has, in fact, himself most skilfully summed up the various points of view, without attributing them to individuals (since the conference was confidential), and if the conference was a year too late last May, the report makes it seem as up-to-date and relevant now as it was then.

Most of the participants, of whom there were about 100, were Americans. A surprising number of them had considerable experience of Nigeria in many capacities: scholars, businessmen, officials, Foundation members, journalists. Professor Gray Cowan, who took the chair and has written a foreword to this report, has a particularly wide experience. He rightly says that the report does not suggest solutions but "examines some of the complicated factors which must be taken into account before any solution can be reached, in the light of the historic foundations on which the present impasse has been built."

Naturally one main preoccupation of the participants was American policy. Mr. Samuels rightly says that American participants with considerable knowledge of Nigeria felt that a change of American policy in Biafra's favour would really be "neo-colonialist", since it might suggest that so far as Washington was concerned, all that mattered was whether an African government was strong or not and that, while white men are entitled to have civil wars, black men are not.

The range of issues raised during the day and included in this summary was extremely wide. There is at present no single publication that so clearly lists both the present issues and those that are to come. What is to be the position of Port Harcourt? Does the fact that

**Flowerfall** by John Okai (*Writers Forum, London, 2s. 6d.*)

*Flowerfall* is the longest of half a dozen poems in this small collection of the works of the Ghanaian poet John Okai, who studied in the Soviet Union for six years and later became a Fellow of the Letter Society of Arts in England. It is a poem in three parts, of subtle sensuous imaginary gradually increasing in intensity towards the final climax. Its deep impressionistic effect is gained by the sound of it, which can best be appreciated without attempting a close examination of each phrase. Other poems here have the same characteristic. But the *Freedom Symphony* is a simpler, less subtle poem, a hymn to the beauties of nature. More complicated and profound is *Alavanyo Concerto*, an invocation to Galileo. The *Ododiodio Concerto* is a hymn to Africa, subtle and confusing in Okai's fashion, but also stirring: the title comes from a battle cry of the Ga and means "I am by your gate—if you are my equal come out and face me in battle."

J.D.

**African Penal Systems**, edited by Alan Milner (*Routledge and Kegan Paul, £3 10s.*)

This comprehensive survey of the problems of African criminology, containing essays by 16 experts, including

## The Chosen Tongue

Gerald Moore

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## Casualties: Poems 1966-1968

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lawyers, sociologists and psychiatrists, is an invaluable repository of information and ideas on the subject. It is the first time an attempt has been made to synthesise the differing penal systems of the continent, from South Africa to UAR, taking in Portuguese Africa, and French-speaking Africa. Among the contributors are Tolani Asuni, Medical Superintendent of Aro Hospital for Nervous Diseases at Abeokuta, and Abaka Eyison, Chief Delinquency Officer in the Ghana Ministry of Social Welfare, who wrote the section on Ghana with Professor Seidman of the University of Wisconsin. **G.T.**

**Les Mercenaires de la Charité** by Antoine Maloroso (Les Presses Noires, Paris).

It is the factual background to this novel, about the Biafran resistance to Nigeria, rather than the wholly fictional portion, that makes it readable. It is said to be based partly on fact, and the author clearly knows about the war from the Biafran side. The background is depicted in a highly fanciful way, with the Nigerians drawn in the worst light and the chronology of the war somewhat distorted, but this is, after all, a work of fiction. A French doctor, two mercenaries who go disguised as doctors and abuse the facilities of an unsuspecting Red Cross to get to Biafra (I hope this

part is not based on fact), a Biafran girl called Mary, a whisky-drinking Irish priest, and Col. Adekunle all appear in it. So, very thinly disguised, does Col. Steiner, head of a group of mercenaries (I wonder how much of the account of his fortunes is based on fact). The terrible starvation in Biafran territory, and the indiscriminate Federal air raids which went on for so long, enter into the story, in a way that is probably all too true to life.

Compared with all this setting the actual story is a little insignificant. But this novel is perhaps worth reading as a fairly sure sign of how the Nigeria-Biafra conflict will pass, or has already passed, into legend and story. **D.J.**

**The Crystal World** by J. G. Ballard (Panther, 5s.).

A paperback edition of one of Ballard's science fiction works—a highly fantastic, fairly chilling story set in a fictitious part of Cameroon. Describing the descent of a strange new phenomenon on to the tropical forests, producing extraordinary growths and changes, the novel has as its theme the mysteries of time and space (of which this phenomenon is a sort of solvent) and the contrasts which can be drawn between the dark and light side of life: shown, for example, in the difference between two women in the life of the central character, a doctor.

**The Years of the Week** by Patricia Cockburn (MacDonald, 42s.).

A frank and readable account by the wife of Claud Cockburn, famous editor of Great Britain in the 1930s, of the years when he organised (if that is not a misleading term—see the book the news-sheet called *The Week*: a reply to politicians of all sorts, particularly the Tories and the "appeasers", and a mine of information that was not generally supposed to be known. Mrs. Cockburn refers briefly to the fact that she has travelled widely in Africa, but does not discuss these travels here.

**Only One Year**, by Svetlana Alliluyeva (Hutchinson, 35s.).

These are the reflections of Stalin's celebrated daughter after a year out of the Soviet Union—a follow-up to the work she wrote instantly *Twenty Letters to a Friend*. Absorbing reading for anyone interested in understanding the man Stalin, one of the great, terrifying personalities of the 20th century. **M.A.**

**Round Trip From Poptun** by Alison Lisi (John Baker, 36s.): an account of an expedition to ruined cities of ancient Mayas of central America. A painter and all-round man who travelled extensively in the area.

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## letters to the editor

### A GHANA FARM PROJECT

SIR,—Over the past two years you have printed much about the importance of agriculture to the economy of Ghana, and other countries in West Africa. You have, from time to time, commented on the type of agricultural development that my associates and I had planned for Ghana. You have, also, made some critical remarks about the delays in commencing work on the ground. I feel, therefore, it is right that you should be made aware of the main reason for the delay.

Since the signing of the agreement, in December 1967, to establish Agricultural and Industrial Developments we have received, despite repeated requests, only two communications from any official source. One, dated May 2, 1968, was from the Deputy Chairman of the N.I.C. He expressed thanks for confiding in him the source of our finance, from which the funds would be made available for the project, and confirming his belief that the economic reconstruction of the country must be founded on the success of agricultural development.

The second letter, in reply to repeated requests for assistance in importing vital machinery and materials for our project, came from the then Commissioner of Agriculture, some 18 months after the signing of the agreement, advising the company that nothing could be done until a feasibility report had been submitted.

More interest has been shown about the production of what may be called operational expenses than about any important other factor. There have been those opposed to the project who were more concerned about the political implications and the effect on their trading activities than about the welfare of the people. They have failed to give thought to the fact that success would have meant a rise in the standard, and a lowering of the cost, of living.

However, I am sure it will be of interest to you to know that despite the fact that their letters and cablegrams have been completely ignored by official quarters the contractors in the project are still willing to proceed, providing they are guaranteed no further delays.

Surely Dr. Busia, who has dedicated himself to the building of a sound economy and to eradication of corruption, can take immediate action to give us the opportunity of showing that the project planned can make a successful contribution to the future prosperity of Ghana.

E. SHINWELL.

London, W.1.

*We have always been critical of the project with which Mr. Shinwell is associated. We consider it neither realistic in itself nor likely to contribute to a solution of Ghana's real agricultural problems. But since a number of contractors have been brought in by Ghana Agricultural and Industrial Development, of which Lord Ypres was chairman, and since the project was supposed to affect 200,000 acres and to require capital investment of £35m., its fate is of considerable public interest. We*

*think that representatives of the Ghana government should not so readily have appeared to accept the scheme; but since they did the government now should state clearly whether, so far as they are concerned, the scheme is on or off.—EDITOR*

### DR. O'BRIEN AND AFRICA

SIR,—Like most reviewers of *Murderous Angels*, K.W. (*West Africa*, Sept. 13) shies away from the "splendidly articulate" preface, although it explains so acutely Dr. O'Brien's (to some) apparent obsession with African politics since the Lumumba-Hammarskjöld impasse.

The confrontation between Dag Hammarskjöld and Lumumba shows not only the irreligion, in the United Nations' concept, of Peace and Freedom but, perhaps more revealingly, the irreconcilability, at least for the present, of Western Europe—and white American ("Burn, Baby! Burn!")—liberal objectives with the black nationalists. Dr. O'Brien concludes that "white liberal and black revolutionary have ceased to meet."

Perhaps this is the real tragedy; it is also a fact which seems to have eluded African "freedom fighters" this decade.

Does Dr. O'Brien's remark that the "Charter of the United Nations legitimises the shedding of blood in defence of peace" have any relevance to, say, Rhodesia or South Africa? Or, perhaps, the reference to Vietnam: "the mightiest of the white societies pours out its resources in vain against one of the smaller of the Asian peoples"?

If a UN peace-loving force ever lands in Rhodesia or South Africa, we could look forward to Dr. O'Brien for another tragic-

comedy—and a longer preface. Dr. O'Brien's views on certain aspects of African affairs have often been misunderstood and wildly misinterpreted by the jumpy segments of African opinion. This time it would be folly to ignore the "Murderous Angels."

JONAS BOAKYE KWAKWA.

### ENDING THE WAR

SIR,—Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe's advocacy of "One Nigeria" and his return to Lagos is only a diplomatic victory which brings peace no nearer, for Biafra has already denounced him. General Gowon's presence at the OAU meeting with no significant Biafran "peace man" at hand will definitely have shown him that the present situation can only be solved militarily. His softness can only bring more chaos and final disintegration of the Federation which he would abhor. Thus, stern military measures are necessary against the rebels.

The call for the relaxation of Federal import restrictions by Brigadier Adeyinka Adebayo, Western State Governor, is the call of the people already dismayed by the prolongation of the war. The pinch is obvious, only 8 per cent of taxable Egba people have paid taxes. Where will the people get money when business is not normal?

Ojukwu's intransigence could lead to disintegration of the Federation unless the Federal Government's efforts are directed to the war-fronts for a quick finish to the 26 month war. Military victory first and peaceful negotiations later: to reverse this means Ojukwu's strategic victory—disintegration of Nigeria.

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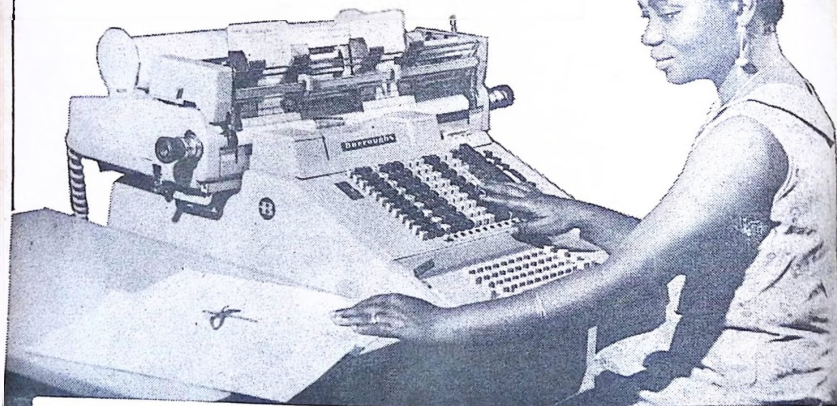
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## Civil Servants and the Economy

**L**AST year the Government, the biggest employer of labour in Ghana, approved many changes in the civil service, proposed by a Commission under Mr. Justice Mills-Odoi.\* They included decentralisation of departments, changes in local government (covered more fully by the later Siriboo Report), and new salary scales. These last were due to come into force on April 1, but met some criticism from civil servants. A committee was therefore appointed to enquire into the Mills-Odoi salary and pension proposals.

Two sub-committees, on which representatives of the Senior and Junior Civil Associations sat, enquired into salaries and into pensions and social security. The Committee proper, however, reached conclusions separate from these sub-committees. Mr. J. H. Mensah, who was appointed chairman of the Committee soon after becoming Commissioner for Finance (he is now Minister of Finance), submitted his report about the time of his budget speech in July, and it was published shortly before the general election with a Government White Paper.

Mills-Odoi proposed gradual salary rises for all civil servants according to the new scales, but the TUC executive, speaking of the rising costs of living, said the report should have set up a minimum wage "which will be a living wage," and accused it of keeping "the major burden of sacrifice... on the shoulders of the lower income group." This statement (May, 1968) is reproduced in the Memorandum, followed by references to 89 memoranda and petitions from civil servants of all ranks. But the Mensah Committee, appointed because of complaints that Mills-Odoi did not go far enough, concludes that the economic consequences of the Mills-Odoi salary rises would be "generally unfavourable", while recommending that they should go ahead.

The Committee suggests that salary scales proposed for all grades by Mills-Odoi should be paid with effect from last April 1. It considers that, in the case of officers whose take-home pay might be reduced by strict application of the new scales, proposals made by Mills-Odoi and accepted by the Government for preventing this are adequate. It supports Mills-Odoi because it agrees that the rises proposed for civil servants—who felt their pay had not kept up with rises in the cost of living since the last rise (in 1960) and with private sector and corporation wages—were substantial for most officers, "particularly given the state of the economy." The "median increase" for civil servants would be about 6 per cent.

The Committee, like Mills-Odoi, believes in regular reviews of salaries, however. It proposes a Personal Compensation Division in the Finance Ministry, to carry these out with the existing Pay Research Unit, Public Services Advisory Board, and Industrial Court.

The Mensah Committee says the proposals of the two Civil Service Associations for pay increases over and above Mills-Odoi should be accepted as a basis for future negotiation, which should aim at a "long-range process of steady salary adjustment" taking the cost of living into account.

\* Summarised in articles in *West Africa*, June 1 and 8, 1968.

† "Report of the Commission on Review of Salaries and Pensions in the Public Services of Ghana", 30 new pence. White Paper, 10 np. Obtainable from Ministry of Information, Accra.

among other factors. But it rejects specific proposals by its salaries sub-committee for rises for certain categories of officers—proposals based on rises granted to some Board and Corporation employees. The Government, say Mr. Mensah and his colleagues, could not "pay additional general increase in salary" without unacceptable retrenchment. They reject the sub-committee's proposal for inducement allowances for certain officers and does not agree to increases in pay to attract Ghanaian graduates home from abroad.

The Committee criticises the Government for holding down wages in the "productive sector" to avoid increases in public service pay. It wants civil servants to be prepared for a cutting down in the size of the service—which, it says, is necessary to compensate for the pay rises (under Mills-Odoi these are expected to cost the Government NC 10.37m.). It suggests future pay talks should be through productivity agreements in which some redundancies will be included. There are several other detailed proposals on salaries; one is that future talks should aim at narrowing the gap between senior and junior civil service pay. On the question of skill in short supply, it suggests selection at student level by "differentials in scholarship rates." The Government "notes" several of these points.

As there are 37 Principal Secretaries (civil service heads of Ministries), which the Mensah Committee thinks excessive, the report says the number should be cut down, and the Government agrees; some will receive new designations. The Government, in the White Paper, has fixed the pay of

the others. The Committee suggests a detailed pay scale for the top ranks, and, at other levels, for the "secretarial and machine class" and pharmacists.

Fringe benefits are also dealt with—the Government is urged to consider providing more canteens and to try to assuage civil servants' feeling "of not being sufficiently appreciated." But the Committee also notes that measures advocated by Mills-Odoi—reduction in staff, increase in food supply to raise the real value of wages, and stimulation of private enterprise to create more jobs—have not been carried out: it is now necessary to find more foreign exchange for imports of materials on which the salary rises will be spent.

Detailed proposals are made for the division of boards and corporations into business enterprises (GNTC, Fishing Corporation, Black Star Line, Graphic Corporation, and the manufacturing industries—which the Mensah Committee lists as corporations and not as divisions of the Ghana Industrial Holding Corporation, which they have become) and others such as the Timber Marketing Board and the Football Pools Authority. The Government agrees to this in principle. Detailed proposals are made on some of these bodies, and on wages in Government business enterprises.

The Committee and the Government agree that the proposed transfer of civil servants to the new non-contributory social security scheme should not take place unless "actuarial benefits" remain as high as under the present scheme. The Government also agrees with the Commission that pensions should be periodically reassessed "in relation to significant rises in the cost-of-living index."

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# commercial news

## GHANA

### Cocoa Farmers' Price Protest

THE Ghana National Farmers' Union has asked the Government to suspend fixing this season's cocoa producer price (8 cedis a 60-lb load) as it was unacceptable to farmers. Earlier the NFU had said the price should be worked out in consultation with the farmers. This was before the announcement that the buying of the 1969-70 main crop would begin on Oct. 3, with the price the same as the one announced last March.

Figures published by Henry Gardner & Co. give Ghana's 1968-69 purchases as 313,296 tons for the main crop and 35,520 for the mid-crop. This is about 10,000 tons more than the 1967-68 mid-crop and about three times as much as the previous year's.

The Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board has announced that only five of last season's 10 cocoa-buying agents will be permitted to operate this season. It listed as satisfactory agents the Ghana Co-operative Marketing Association, Asempaneye Buying Company, Agriculture Products Company, the Produce Buying Company and the

Farmers' Industrial Union. (There were complaints last season that some buying agents overdeclared their purchases.)

Henry Gardner's cocoa market report for last week said the Ghana Cocoa Marketing Co. was reported to have refused bids of up to 415s. per cwt. for April-June, while the Nigerian company was thought to be holding out for that price after selling large amounts at 410s. Ghana new crop sales now amount to 250,000, including USSR trade agreements, reports Rudolf Wolff.

The FAO Cocoa Study Group's Study Statistics Committee is to hold its 25th meeting in Rome at the end of next month.

○ A Cadbury Schweppes cocoa bean processing factory, at Chirk in Denbighshire, has been opened by the UK Minister of Agriculture. Built at a cost of £4,750,000, it will turn 1,000 tons of cocoa beans a week into "chocolate liquor" and cocoa butter, the main ingredients of Cadbury chocolate factories, and produce all the Cadbury/Fry chocolate-based drinks.

## FINANCE AND AID IN BARBADOS

IN Barbados this week Commonwealth Finance Ministers were due to begin their regular annual meeting. Among those expected to attend were the incoming Minister of Finance in Ghana, Mr. J. H. Mensah, and the Sierra Leone Minister, Dr. M. S. Forna. Mr. A. A. Atta, Permanent Secretary to the Federal Ministry of Finance, was to lead Nigeria's delegation.

Earlier, a special meeting of senior economic officials, mainly to discuss the Commonwealth programme for Technical Co-operation was held at Bridgetown, capital of Barbados (Sept. 22-24).

This programme, proposed at the Nairobi planning conference in Nairobi in 1967, has been operating since last year, organised from the Commonwealth Secretariat in London by a four-man permanent staff. Under it an expert from one Commonwealth country can serve in another, while richer Commonwealth nations pay the cost, several transfers have already been arranged (a senior official from Ghana has served in Botswana). Ordinary bilateral technical aid arrangements are also made, with the UK, Canada and New Zealand providing some help. Sierra Leone and The Gambia are among countries which have been helped by this programme (which has extended to transport, general planning, statistics, etc.).

Besides the working, administration, and first-year's activity of this programme, the meeting discussed other forms of co-operation, relating to the UN Housing and Population Census Plan, manpower planning, educational planning, etc.

## Wilson Aid Pledge

● Mr. Harold Wilson has pledged that British aid will not be cut, adding that it had not been cut "even in the most difficult days"; the 1969-70 aid programme would be 6 per cent. above that for 1968-69, he said.

(Mr. Anthony Tasker, director of the Overseas Development Institute, has pointed out in a letter to *The Times* that a reduction of £20m. in British aid, cutting it from £225m. to £205m. per year, was announced in July 1966. He says the "ceiling" figures for aid last year and next year show there will be a decline next year; Mr. Wilson's figures having been based on last year's disbursements and this year's "ceiling".)

At the UN General Assembly Mr. Michael Stewart, Foreign Secretary, said the British contribution to aid through the UN would be raised by £500,000, to nearly £6m., in 1970.

● Eighteen training specialists and consultants in public administration and training have held a preparatory meeting at Addis Ababa, under the direction of the Manpower and Training Section of the ECA's Human Resources Development Division. Among countries and organisations represented are Ghana, Nigeria, the ILO, USAID, UNESCO, and the African Centre for Administrative Training and Research (CAFRAD).

● The sixth African Development Bank Governors meeting will be held in Chad next August.

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Nigeria

## commercial news

### More Food in the World

**W**ORLD food output rose faster than the population in 1968, says a preliminary annual report of the FAO. The average rise was 2 per cent. for Africa, 1.5 per cent. for Asia, 1.5 per cent. for Near East, Western Europe and North America, and 3 per cent. for the world as a whole. The value of these products has risen at the same average level for four years. There was no rise in the overall value of trade. This is reported for 1968. Rich countries have resumed stockpiling of temperate-zone products, notably wheat and dairy products on a "disquieting scale", says the report. Rice production in 1968 rose in most of the Far East, where the general rise in 1968 was 5 per cent. (this area sells more than 50 per cent. of its rice to other West African countries).

- A Foundation established by a Swiss food processing company is to carry out research in the Ivory Coast on protein deficiency.

- State investment in Ivory Coast agriculture for the next two years will be 300 CFA francs, according to a bill submitted to the National Assembly. It will be used on growing of oil palms (to be grown on large new plantations being established with EEC aid), new plantations of rubber, raising of cocoa output to 200,000 tons per year (as against 120-150,000 p.a. today) limiting of coffee production to 300,000 tons, purging of old bushes; targets also have been fixed for production of cotton, pineapples, bananas and rice; and it is hoped to increase all imports of rice—the staple cereal, which large but decreasing amounts have been imported in recent years—between 1968 and 1975.

- Cultivated areas in Niger have increased from 2,490,000 hectares in 1960 to 3,150,000 hectares in 1967/68. Economic Affairs Minister Bakire Alidou wrote in an article in *Le Niger*. Noting that economic growth in this period had been made possible by an increase in agricultural production and rapid, though insufficient, industrial progress, he said that gross national product had increased by eight per cent. Groundnut production increased from 100 index level in 1960 to 179 last year, but the "most important event for the economy" was the creation of uranium extraction and concentration industry.

- The Agricultural Development Bank of Ghana to spend more than NC500,000 on cultivation of sugar cane to feed Ghana. Komenda and Asutsuare sugar factories during this financial year. Mr. E. M. A. managing director of the bank, said 3,000 acres had been acquired for cultivation for that purpose. 1,500 would be developed on the basis of a new "block system" which "the bank will acquire the land to develop it with the assistance of the Extensions Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and allocate it in 50 acres to the farmers on a credit basis". The farmers would only have to plant the seedlings on well-cultivated land. If the system proved successful, it would be extended to tobacco and cotton farming.

## Tin Quotas Up

**N**IGERIA did not fulfil all its tin export quota, laid down by the International Tin Council, in the quarter just ending. The 600 tons unsold by Nigeria are to be added to the quotas of other exporters, the I.T.C. decided at its meeting in London last week. The Council decided to continue export quotas for a further quarter, but it raised the total exportable amount for major exporters to 41,500 tons for that quarter, compared with 39,500 in the current quarter. (This new figure is said to be as much as, or more than, normal unrestricted quarterly exports.) The Buffer stock manager can go on buying and selling in the middle price range (£1400-£1510 a ton). Rises in London tin prices were reported.

● Ghana's State Gold Mining Corporation is to undertake a NC200,000 housing scheme for workers at the Tarkwa and Prestea Goldfields. (Following the Blay Committee report into disturbances at Prestea, the Government directed the management to improve workers' living conditions. This report will be summarised in *West Africa* soon.)

● Ghana Cement Works is to explore the possibility of exploiting the limestone deposits at Nawule near Half-Assini in the Western Region.

## Ghana Bank Success

● The Ghana Commercial Bank made a profit of about NC 2,402,000 during 1968-69. Last year's profit was NC 2,425,000. Mr. K. Gyasi-Twum, managing director, said the bank made a bond issue of 50,000 shares of NC20 each to the government, the sole shareholder, this year. The shares paid to the Government accounted for the increase in the bank's paid-up capital from NC5m to NC6m. The capital funds, including reserves, went up to about NC12,272,000 in June this year, from NC10,481,000 last year. As a result of some modification in the bank's lending policy, loans, advances and overdrafts to customers increased by 12 per cent. over the figure for the previous year.

● M. Marcel Latour, resident representative of the UN Development Programme in Ghana, is to be transferred to the FAO as Director of the Industry Co-operative Programme. Mr. Edward W. Bouchard, deputy resident representative, will take charge of the office as resident representative until the arrival of a successor to M. Latour, who has held the post for three years.

● Steel-helmeted police armed with truncheons have forestalled a strike by nearly 2,000 workers of Ghana's State Farms Corporation at Asraku, in the Western Region. The workers, mostly labourers on the Palm Oil Plantation at Prestea and the Oil Mill at Asraku, had given the management of the Corporation a one-week deadline to redress their grievances or face a strike.

● Japan's Vice-Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr. Tanaka, said in Accra that Japan hoped to increase trade with Ghana and establish joint economic ventures. Mr. Tanaka is on a fact-finding tour of African countries which will take him to Madagascar, Congo-K, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Senegal and East Africa.

## WEST AFRICAN SHIPPING NEWS

**ELDER DEMPSTER LINES**  
**OUTHBOUND—From Liverpool:—BHAMO** due Matadi Sept. 28; **DUMBAIA** due Lagos Sept. 26; **FOURAH BAY** due Tema Sept. 28; **From London:—EGORI** slg. London Oct. 14; **From Middlesbrough:—KABALA** due Apapa Sept. 27.

**From Continent:—FIAN** due Tiko Sept. 28; **FREETOWN** due Tema Sept. 28; **NORTHBOUND—To Liverpool:—DEIDO** due Liverpool Sept. 28; **AUREOL** due Freetown Sept. 27; **DONGA** due Sapele Sept. 30; **KOHIMA** due Avonmouth Oct. 2; **OHUASI** due Freetown Sept. 27.

**To London:—ONITSHA** due Freetown Sept. 27.

**To Glasgow:—DUMARRA** due Takoradi Sept. 27.

**To Hull/Middlesbrough:—OTI** due Hull Sept. 29.

**To Dublin/Belfast:—OWERRI** due Freetown Sept. 30.

**To Avonmouth:—PERANG** due Freetown Sept. 28.

**To Continent:—FORCADOS** due Amsterdam Oct. 1; **ADUNA** due Rotterdam Oct. 5.

**EASTBOUND—From USA/Canada:—DALLA** due Douala Sept. 28; **DIXCOVE** due Douala Sept. 27.

**WESTBOUND—To USA/Canada:—DARU** due Seaport Sept. 25; **FULANI** slg. Halifax Sept. 30.

**From India/Pakistan/Burma:—SHIRABANK** slg. Calcutta Sept. 20; **TEVIOTHANK** due Lagos Oct. 7.

### BARBER LINES

**OUTWARDS—FERNWOOD** now due Abidjan, theme Tema, Warri, Douala, Lagos/Apapa and Takoradi; **TITANIA** due sail New York Sept. 30, Halifax NS Oct. 3 for Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Douala, Lagos/Apapa and Takoradi; **TEMA** due sail New York Oct. 17, Halifax NS Oct. 20 for Freetown, Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Douala, Lagos/Apapa and Takoradi; **HOMEWARDS—CORNVILLE** due lead Lagos/Ghana, bound early Oct. Abidjan/Buchanan/Monrovia Oct. 1st half Oct.; **FERNWOOD** due lead Douala Oct. 3, Lagos S. Bound Oct. 5, Ghana N. Bound and lead Lagos, Abidjan/Buchanan/Monrovia mid/3rd week Oct.

**JAPAN "K" LINE**

**WESTBOUND—From Japan (via Hong Kong)** to Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Abidjan, Freetown etc.—**TEXAS MARU** slg. Japan Sept. 9 due Lagos.

**EASTBOUND—From Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Abidjan, Freetown** etc. to Japan (via Hong Kong)—**TEXAS MARU** slg. Lagos Oct. 22; **Tema** Oct. 24; **Freetown** Oct. 28, due Japan Oct. 4.

### PALM LINE LTD.

**SOUTHBOUND—From Liverpool:—ILORIN** PALM due Dakar Oct. 3; **LAGOS PALM** due Tema Oct. 12.

**From Continent:—IKEJA** PALM slg. Dakar Sept. 28.

**NORTHBOUND—To London:—AKASSA** PALM slg. Pt. Noire Sept. 28; **ENUGU PALM** due Takoradi Sept. 28.

**To Continent:—BADAGRY** PALM slg. Sapele Sept. 28.

### FARRELL LINES

**HOMEWARDS—AFRICAN PLANET** slg. Luanda Oct. 2 for Abidjan, Monrovia and US Ports; **AUSTRALIAN GEM** slg. Takoradi Oct. 3, Tema, Lagos Oct. 15, Abidjan, Monrovia for Montreal and US Ports.

**OUTWARDS—AFRICAN RAINBOW** due Monrovia Oct. 12 for Abidjan, Tema Oct. 18; **MARSHALL** due Monrovia Oct. 26 for Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema Nov. 3 and Apapa.

### HOLLAND WEST-AFRIKA LIN

**SOUTHBOUND—From Continent:—KIELDRECHT** due Lome Sept. 28; **CONGOKUST** due Dakar Sept. 30; **GAASTERKERK** due Dakar Oct. 7.

**NORTHBOUND—To Continent:—GIESSENKERK** due Rotterdam Oct. 9, Amsterdam Oct. 11; **Bremen** Oct. 14, due Hamburg Oct. 16; **AMSTERDAM** due Antwerp Oct. 10, Amsterdam Oct. 13; **Rotterdam** Oct. 15, **Bremen** Oct. 19, **Hamburg** Oct. 21.

### NOPAL WEST AFRICA LINE

**EASTBOUND—NOPAL SUN** slg. New Orleans Sept. 9, Lagos Oct. 2 due Warri Oct. 3, Sapele Oct. 8; **NOPAL TELLUS** slg. New Orleans Oct. 2, Takoradi Oct. 24, Lagos Oct. 26 due Warri Oct. 27.

**WESTBOUND—NOPAL LUNA** slg. Luanda Sept. 2, Takoradi Sept. 17, New Orleans Oct. 7 due Houston Oct. 9; **NOPAL SUN** slg. Luanda Oct. 26, Takoradi Nov. 2, New Orleans Nov. 2 due Houston Dec. 11.

### GOLD STAR LINE

**WESTBOUND—SHAVIT** due Durban Oct. 4-6; **Leopoldo M. Naves** Oct. 8-10; **CapeTown** Oct. 12-13; **Labito** Oct. 16; **Luanda** Oct. 17-18.

**EASTBOUND—TSEDEK** due Singapore Nov. 6; **Japan Phosphates Paris** Nov. 18-22; **Kobe** Nov. 21/22.

### BLACK STAR LINE/USNH/WEST AFRICA

**WESTBOUND—BIA RIVER** Monrovia Sept. 18; **Monrovia** Oct. 19, theme Great Lakes.

### BLACK STAR LINE/UK/CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA

**SOUTHBOUND—KLORTE LAGOON** Bremen Sept. 30, Antwerp Oct. 1, Rotterdam Oct. 3, Dunkirk Oct. 4; **KORLE LAGOON** Liverpool Oct. 7.

### NORTHBOUND—LAKE BOSOMTWE

London Oct. 3.

### ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES

**INWARDS—STRAAT FREMANTLE** from Japan slg. Kobe Aug. 23 due Lagos/Apapa Sept. 26; **Tema** Oct. 4, **Monrovia** Oct. 6; **Freetown** Oct. 7; **Abidjan** Oct. 12; **Takoradi** Oct. 13; **HOLLANDS DIEP** from China and Hong Kong slg. Hong Kong Aug. 17 due Lagos/Apapa Oct. 4; **China** Oct. 5; **Lome** Oct. 6; **Tema** Oct. 17; **Abidjan** Oct. 8, **Monrovia** Oct. 11, **Freetown** Oct. 13; **Dakar** Oct. 16; **Conakry** opt., Takoradi Oct. 22.

**OUTWARDS—STRAAT VAN DIEMEN** from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore, Hong Kong and China first half Oct.; **STRAAT FREMANTLE** from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore, Hong Kong and Japan second half Oct.

### CHARGEURS REUNIS

**KERGULEN** due Lagos/Apapa Oct. 12, Tema Oct. 17; **Freetown** Oct. 23; **CIRCEA** slg. Kobe Oct. 26.

### MAERSK LINE

**INWARDS—From Japan** via Hong Kong to Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan, Takoradi;—**MAREN** MAERSK slg. Antwerp Oct. 1.

**OUTWARDS—From Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan, Takoradi** to Japan via US Pacific ports;—**MAREN** slg. Antwerp Oct. 1; **Abidjan** Sept. 30, **Tema** Oct. 3, **Takoradi** Oct. 6.

### MITSU OSK LINE

**BUENOS AIRES MARU** slg. Kobe Sept. 5 due Lagos Oct. 10; **HARUNUSA MARU** slg. Kobe Sept. 20 due Lagos Oct. 20; **AWAJISAN MARU** slg. Kobe Oct. 4 due Lagos Nov. 9.

### SCANDINAVIAN WEST AFRICA LINE

**SOUTHBOUND—HOEGH BANNIERE** ldg. Scandinavia including Finland/Bordeaux during Aug. for WA end Aug./Sept.; **HJELMAREN** ldg. Scandinavia and Bordeaux during second half Aug. for WA during Sept.

### NORTHBOUND—VIKAREN

l dg. WA first half Aug. for Scandinavia Sept.; **MINNESOTA** WA S. route Aug. for Continent and Scandinavia; Sept.; **TUMBLAREN** l dg. WA Aug. for Scandinavia Sept.

### EDWARD NASSER LINES

**TERESA** slg. Genoa Oct. 5 due Famagusta Oct. 10; **Beirut** Oct. 11; **EMIR BECHIR** slg. Genoa Sept. 18 due Famagusta Sept. 25.

### WESTWIND AFRICA LINE LTD.

**SOPHIE C** due Luanda Oct. 5, Abidjan Oct. 10, Freetown Oct. 12, New Orleans Oct. 25/26; **WESTWIND** due Lagos Oct. 2/5, Freetown Oct. 16, New Orleans Nov. 1/2.

### WOERMANN LINE

**MALOJA** slg. Antwerp Sept. 24 due Freetown Oct. 7, Takoradi Oct. 11, Tema Oct. 13; **MERUS** slg. Antwerp Sept. 26 due Las Palmas Oct. 6, Dakar Oct. 9, Monrovia Oct. 12.

### HUGO STINNES TRANSOCEAN

**SCHIFFAHRIT GMBH**  
**ELLEN HUGO STINNES** slg. Antwerp Sept. 30, Dunkirk Oct. 2, Rouen Oct. 6; **HENRIETTE RETZLAFFE** slg. Bremen Oct. 3, Rouen Oct. 6; **Bordeaux** Oct. 9.

### HOEGH LINES

**HOEGH MELING** slg. Bremen Sept. 29, Rotterdam Oct. 3, Rouen Oct. 7 due Dakar Oct. 14; **HOEGH AURORE** slg. Hamburg Oct. 18, Antwerp Oct. 22, Antwerp Oct. 27, Rouen Oct. 30 due Dakar Oct. 15.

### NIGERIAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE

**SOUTHBOUND—ORANYA** slg. London Oct. 3; **RIVER OGUN** slg. Glasgow Oct. 4; **RIVER BENISE** slg. Rotterdam Oct. 1.

### NORTHBOUND—TRING JAJA

due Dunkirk Sept. 29, Rotterdam Oct. 3; **ODUDUWA** due Le Havre Oct. 10, Rotterdam Oct. 15.

## commercial news

### IMF and SDR's

The IMF has come out against unmanaged floating exchange rates in its report. It intends to go on studying the floating exchange rate idea. Special Drawing Rights—the proposed new international currency, to be created by the IMF for member states to draw upon are to be discussed at the meeting (the "group of ten"—the main wealthy Western countries—have decided to back the idea, and suggested a total fund of \$3,500m.).

IMF member states' quotas are due for their regular five-yearly review at the annual meeting, to be held in Washington this week. There is pressure says a London *Guardian* report, for extra drawing facilities to be granted to developing countries in the revision. The annual report of the Fund's executive directors shows concern that rigidity of the world financial system has stunted the growth of development aid.



Shell-BP trainees at Ughelli in Nigeria's Mid-West State.

### Keeping Ibadan clean

- A WHO representative has put forward new plans for waste and sewage disposal in Ibadan, after leading a delegation to make a feasibility study. He recommends the appointment of an engineer to supervise waste disposal, building of new public lavatories, and other improvements. Each compound in the city should have a "comfort station" with toilets, shower baths and clothes-washing facilities, on a self-help basis. (Ibadan, the biggest city in black Africa, has extensive sanitation problems.)
- About £50,000 will be spent on improvements on the port of Calabar, as part of a Ports Authority plan to re-activate the four major ports in Nigeria and ease congestion in Lagos harbour. Mr. Andrew Wilson, chairman of the authority, said the NPA has advised the Federal Government to take over Calabar and Warri ports. He reminded shippers that Port Harcourt and Calabar were not yet war-free ports.
- Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Communications is considering the possibility of a factory to make telephone spare parts. Alhaji Aminu Kano, Communications Commissioner, said Nigeria would use over a million telephones by 1980.

- A sharp decline in Government revenues in the face of rising recurrent expenditure was one of the main problems facing the new Government, the governor of the Bank of Ghana, Mr. Frimpong Ansa, warned in a speech to the Institute of Bankers. Recurrent expenditure would have to be "seriously reviewed," he said, while unemployment needed to be reduced and the flow of funds into development increased.

- Soya bean and sunflower seed prices have risen as a result of a strong demand for vegetable oils. The Russian sunflower oil output is expected to be less than last year, and the US soya bean crop less than expected. The EEC is reported to have decided to cut its import levy on Russian and East European sunflower oil.

- An EEC proposal to impose an inland tax on vegetable food oils and meal, including coconut oil and copra meal has been criticised by the Asian Coconut Community, which has asked the UN Conference on Trade and Development to include this item on the agenda of the special session of the study group on oilseeds and fats scheduled to meet in London early next year.

### BUA, BOAC and Africa

- British United Airways has announced a bid to take over routes to Africa now flown by BOAC. They have applied to have the BOAC African licences transferred to them over six years starting in 1971; BOAC is to oppose the application. BUA now runs services to Accra, Nairobi, Entebbe, Freetown and other places in Africa, and has for several years worked in association with Sierra Leone Airways, providing aircraft for that airline's internal and external (London-Freetown) flights.
- An Agricultural Officer, Mr. Patrick A. U. Beckley, has said that by adapting methods of growing rice and raising cattle which he has seen in the US Sierra Leone could treble production of its major agricultural crop and essential livestock.
- The crew of the steamer *General Mangin*, run by the Cie. Nationale des Paquebots, has gone on shore at Marseilles over the decision to withdraw two other ships, *Jean Mermoz* and *Azemmour* from the line's West Africa services.
- A cheque for Le7,000 was presented to Fourah Bay College's Geological Department by the Diamond Corporation of West Africa.

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## NOTICES

**EGBE OMO IJEBU-ODE OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND**

At the First Annual General Meeting of the above-named Egbe held at the British Council Hostel, Hans Crescent, London, S.W.1, on Sunday August 17th, 1969, the following Officers were elected for the year 1969/70:

President ..... Mr. Fala Olabunri  
 Vice-President ..... Mr. Dayo Oshifeso  
 Secretary ..... Mr. Gbunyi Adebawale  
 Asst. Sec. .... Mr. Kofu Osinowo  
 Treasurer ..... Mr. T. A. Adebola  
 Fin. Sec. .... Mr. M. A. Jaji  
 Social Sec. .... Mr. Foley Tairo  
 Asst. Soc. Sec. .... Mr. Buidun Koko  
 Pub. Sec. .... Mr. Duro Onabule  
 Auditor ..... Mr. A. A. Odunlami

Welfare Officers  
 Mr. M. A. Ahiru & Mr. Bayo Argundade

Unofficial Executive Members:  
 Messrs. Fatai Onasanya, A. Yussuf, A. S. Gbodimowo and Mrs. Renke Onasanya.

Further communications to the Secretary, 40, Branksome Road, London, S.W.2

**NIGERIAN STUDENTS ACTION COMMITTEE****Celebrates the National Day**

1. **DANCE**—on Saturday, the 4th of October, 1969 at ST. PANCRAS TOWN HALL, EUSTON ROAD, N.W.1 from 7 p.m.—12 midnight.

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2. **CHURCH SERVICE**—Prayer for return of Peace to our beloved country on Sunday, 5th of October, 1969 at 10 a.m. at WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL, 42 Francis Street, S.W.1. The lesson will be read by His Excellency the High Commissioner.

3. **A SYMPOSIUM**—Looking ahead!

Date to be announced later. Be on the look-out.

T. L. J. Koko, Olu, Oyeleye, Joint Publicity Secretaries.

J. K. Ogidin, Social Secretary,

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**MEETINGS****MUSLIM ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA**

(London Branch)  
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**GENERAL MEETING**  
**SUNDAY, 28th SEPT., 1969**  
**AT ISLAMIC CULTURAL CENTRE**  
**146 PARK ROAD, N.W.8.**

TIME 3 to 6 p.m.

Agenda includes the report on the inauguration of the Liverpool Branch.  
 Direct all letters to:  
 The General Secretary,  
 86 Bethune Road, London, N.16.  
 B. Kayode Fashola, Publicity Secretary

**NIGERIAN INSURANCE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN**  
 The next General Meeting of the above named Association will take place on Sunday 5th October 1969, Place: Nigeria Centre & Hostel, 20/22 Inverness Terrace, London, W.2. Time: 5 p.m. prompt. Meeting Underground: Queensway & Lancaster Gate. Buses: 12 and 88 to Queensway. All existing and new members are required to be punctual, please.  
 L.O.B. ETTI—Social & Publicity Secretary  
 AKIN ODENIYI—General Secretary

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**EASTERN URHOBO STUDENT UNION (FORMERLY CENTRAL URHOBO)**

There will be a general meeting of the Union, on Sunday, 28th September, 1969 at 17, Osborn Road, Lee Green, S.E.12, at 2 p.m.

All Eastern Urhobo students are requested to attend.

All enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary:

Johnson Anuyah, 47 Albacore Crescent, S.E.13. Tel: 01-699 3835.

**OSHUN DIVISIONAL UNION**

(Great Britain & Ireland)

It is hereby notified that there will be a general meeting of the above named Union on 4th October, 1969, at Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, Bethnal Green, London, E.2, at 3 p.m.

Nearest underground tube stations: Bethnal Green, Liverpool Street.

Buses: 8, 8A, 106, 106A, 149, 253.  
 Adetoye Adegbite, Ag. Gen. Secretary.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

# VACANCY FOR AN Accountant— SIERRA LEONE

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Sierra Leoneans for appointment as Accountants in an expanding commercial/industrial organisation. Applicants should be members of either the Institute of Chartered Accountants or the Association of Corporate and Certified Accountants or the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants. The job demands good knowledge of and interest in Budget Control and Standard Costing and could ultimately lead the successful candidate to a position of higher responsibility within the organisation.

Salary and conditions of employment are good and interviews can be arranged in Freetown or London.

Write to Box No. XI283, West Africa, Cromwell House, Fulwood Place, London, W.C.I.

## ESCORT

AN ESCORT wanted for an eight month Nigerian child to Lagos. Apply Mrs. C.T. Falomo, 4 Lorenzo Street, London, W.C.1, or telephone 01-537 8580 after 7 p.m.

AN ESCORT for one year old twin girls to Lagos. Arrival at Ikeja Airport will be fully arranged. Apply to Mrs. Anjorin, 32 Garfield Road, S.W.11 or ring 01-228. 6311.

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Further particulars available on request.

## 4. Method of application:

Applications should be completed in quadruplicate on Form WSPSC. 1 obtainable from the Recruitment Officer, Nigeria High Commission Office, 9 Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2. Completed application forms should be submitted to reach the Recruitment Officer not later than 3rd October, 1969.

E. ADE. EMULEOMO, Secretary, Public Service Commission.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

Also on page 1160.

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## Sierra Leone Ports Authority

### SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

There is a vacancy in the Sierra Leone Ports Authority for a senior Accountant and applications are invited from qualified accountants of Sierra Leone origin from any of the professional bodies—Institute of Chartered Accountants, Association of Certified and Corporate Accountants, Institute of Cost and Works Accountants, Chartered Institute of Secretaries, and Corporate and Certified Secretaries. These qualifications may be relaxed for applicants with considerable accounting experience.

Applicants should not be more than 45 years of age, with at least three years post-qualification experience in general accounting. A thorough knowledge of Costing and Budgetary Control would be an advantage. Salary for the post is Le 4,500 per annum.

## Duties:

The duties will cover financial studies, Budgetary Control, production of monthly and annual accounts, control of sales, purchases and nominal ledgers, production of statistical statements, sources and application of funds statements, etc.

The successful candidate will be responsible to the Chief Accountant and the appointment is subject to confirmation after a probationary period of one year.

Applications should be addressed to the General Manager, Sierra Leone Ports Authority, Queen Elizabeth II Quay, Cline Town, Freetown, Sierra Leone, not later than 6th October, 1969.

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# dateline Africa

## GHANA

### Afrifa on his Future

**B** RIG. AFRIFA, Chairman of the Presidential Commission, has said he is not going back to the Army after serving his term of office on the Commission; he might go back to school, but he did not say whether he would read law. Answering questions during "a chat with the press," Brig. Afrifa said it would be wrong for him to go back to the army because "people will think I am putting ideas into people's heads," and he could find himself in the Officers' Mess taking part in critical discussions about the government.

On the term of office of the Presidential Commission, Brig. Afrifa said he considered his duty to the State on the Commission as only temporary. He added: "Whether it's going to last a day or more, I must justify it." His proper title on the Commission should be that of Chairman, not President, as he had been erroneously styled. He said no member of the Presidential Commission would live in Peduase Lodge at Aburi and that he would continue to live in his present residence, while the Prime Minister, Dr. K. A. Busia, had also told him that he would not live in the Castle, but he would continue to live in his own house at Odorkor. The offices of the Presidential Commission, and those of the Prime Minister, would be at the Castle.

(Earlier a *Daily Graphic* report had said Peduase Lodge, formerly the country residence of President Nkrumah, would be the palace and office for the President of Ghana.)

Dr. Busia, said the NLC Chairman, had given directives that dispatch riders should no longer accompany his car, and that he should be subject to all traffic rules which all drivers obeyed.

Brig. Afrifa said it would be wrong to make political capital out of the unhappy situation at Yendi. He added that it was up to the Prime Minister to decide whether another commission of enquiry should be set up. It was not true, he said, that a Police Inspector with a pistol in his hand went to the Ya-Na's palace with armed soldiers and started shooting at anybody they saw without any provocation as had been alleged; in fact the inspector was attacked with a dagger whilst others started from the Palace; in the heat of that the soldiers started firing back.

● This week Dr. Busia revoked restriction orders placed on four Yendi chiefs after the riots over the new Ya-Na.

The four chiefs, described as ringleaders in the disturbances, have been banned from entering or residing within 25 miles of the town; they were the Karaga-Na, Ya-Na, the Tampion-Lana and Pishigi-Lana.

● The programme for next week's ceremonies for the inauguration of the Second Republic has been published. On Sept. 30 chocolate will be distributed to children in all primary and middle schools; and, in the evening, the Executive Council will hold a farewell reception at the Castle. The inauguration of the Second Republic

will take place in Black Star Square at 8.30 a.m. on Sept. 30, in the evening of that day there will be a State Banquet and Ball at State House ("Job 600"). The State Opening of Parliament will be performed at Parliament House on Oct. 2. Next day judges of the Superior Court of Judicature will take the judicial oath, and prayers for the Second Republic will be offered by Muslim communities. Traditional drumming and dancing, brass band music and a performance by masquerade troupes will take place at Accra Sports Stadium.

● Dr. I. L. Ohene Djan, a Sunyani barrister, who was defeated in the recent general elections as an NAL candidate at Berekum, has announced his resignation from the National Alliance of Liberals, saying he was strongly against some recent public utterances of the party's leader, Mr. K. A. Gbedemah. He called on the NAL to accept the people's verdict, saying it was defeated because there were a large number of former CPP leaders in its hierarchy, and their past records were fresh in the minds of voters.



As preparations continued for the state opening of Parliament on Oct. 2, no developments have so far been reported on the actions—a writ to deprive him of Anlo seat, and an allegation of an offence against the election laws—against Mr. I. Gbedemah (above), leader of the Opposition. In this picture, taken at the swearing-in ceremony, are—left to right—Mrs. Akanbodji-Po Kugbleni, NAL M.P. for Sandema; I. Mahama; and Messrs. I. Mahama and E. R. T. Madijei, NAL M.P.s. for Tamale and Monya.

## SENEGAL

The cabinet has adopted a draft law amending the constitution, to provide for a Prime Minister with limited powers, appointed by the President and accountable to the National Assembly who may pass motions of censure on him. The amendment also provides for a "deconcentration" of power. The President said (at a news conference at Rabat) that the Senegalese, who had been, till now "cushion-lovers" (*ronds de cuiristes*) should be faced with their responsibilities, which implied a certain transfer of responsibilities from President to Prime Minister, without saying that this would be a return to the dual

● The Government has ordered two business men to leave the country—Mr. R. Gottin, General Manager of the United Traders Company, and Mr. Omar Coulibaly, Managing Director of the Captain Group of Companies. Mr. Coulibaly has said he is a naturalised citizen and cannot be deported. No reason has been given for the deportation.

● Cost of the elections to the national assembly is estimated at 100 million CFA francs (NC2m). Mr. Justice Crabbe announced this.

● The report of the Amisshah Commission, which inquired into possible involvement of Air Marshal Otu in subversion, is already ready and will be submitted to the outgoing National Liberation Council before it hands over power within the next few weeks, says a *Daily Graphic* report. "sources close to the secretariat of the Commission".

● Mr. C. A. Lokko, 46, Editor of the "Liberation Debates" (the Ghana "Times" sard), has been appointed Clerk of the National Assembly by the President's Commission, on the advice of the Public Services Commission. Dr. S. K. B. A. 36, of the Legal Department of the Bank, had been appointed Solicitor-General. Mr. L. J. Chinery-Hesse, Assistant Solicitor-General, reverts to his substantive post of Chief Parliamentary Draughtsman.

● Dr. Busia has visited Ivory Coast on his first journey outside Ghana, becoming prime minister. He arrived in Abidjan shortly before President Houphouët-Boigny landed there en route from Europe.

system (Senegal had a President and a Prime Minister until the abortive *coup* of President Mamadou Dia in 1962). The draft has to be discussed by the National Assembly, before being approved by party congress of the UPS in December and by a popular referendum in February next year.

● There are continued reports of rain and flooding all over Senegal. *Le Matin* has published pictures of the wreckage of the main Dakar-Kaolack road, of the construction of a temporary bridge at Kolda in Casamance after floods had washed away the bridge away.

## SIERRA LEONE

## Stevens meets Wilson

After a short visit to London following the OAU conference in Addis Ababa Mr. Saka Stevens has returned to Freetown. In London he had meetings with Mr. Harold Wilson and some reports suggested that the British Government thought Mr. Stevens might help to mediate in the Nigerian conference. In view, however, of the very sharp reaction in Lagos to what was described as the "hostile" speech of Sierra Leone's Foreign Minister, Mr. Cyril Foray, about the conflict at the OAU conference, most observers discount such reports heavily. They also point out that at this time the British Government is unlikely to look to an African leader who is following a policy on Nigeria opposed to that of Britain. On the other hand, all reports agree that Nigeria was among the subjects discussed by Mr. Stevens and Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Stevens has now said the next session of Parliament will have to decide whether or not Sierra Leone should recognise Biafra.

On his return from a tour of Nigeria Mr. S. H. O. Gborie said that he had not represented himself as General Secretary of Sierra Leone's ruling party, the APC. He had said only that he was secretary of the Kono section of the party. Mr. Gborie also said that he had gone to find the truth about the Nigerian situation and would shortly be telling the public what he thought about issues such as the future of the Ibo and the consequences of Dr. Akiwile's adherence to the Federal cause.

While Mr. Gborie was in Nigeria as a guest of the government there, the Prime Minister was reported in London to be considering recognising Biafra if OAU peace initiatives came to nothing.

● The Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. Cyril Foray, leads Sierra Leone's delegation to the 24th session of the UN General Assembly. The delegation includes Dr. Davidson Nicol, Permanent Representative at the UN; Mr. John Akar, Ambassador in Washington; the Consul-General in New York; Paramount Chief James Quee the third; Mr. B. N. Coombey, MP; Mrs. Nancy Steele; Mrs. Nancy Kanu; the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; and nine other officials.

● Lower profits are forecast for 1969 by Mr. S. A. Field, Chairman of William Baird, parent company of Sierra Leone Development Company (Delco). The mining division of the company, of which Delco is the chief component and which last year contributed almost half of the total profits, is not now expected to produce this year the results once envisaged.

Mr. Field said that the first part of the "substantial capital programme" in Sierra Leone is to enable ships of up to 100,000 tons to be handled at the company's port of Pepel. Despite delays in the delivery of major items of equipment, which as recorded in May this year involved costly improvisation, the enlarged facilities were made available on schedule. During July and August several ships in the 65,000-75,000-ton range were handled and on 14 September the M.V. Skaufast sailed with a cargo of 96,000 tons.

The second part of the capital programme, continues Mr. Field, involves major plant modification at Marampá mine to deal with the increasing hardness of the ore body and to raise productive capa-

city to an annual rate of 3.1m. tons. "Completion of the greater part of these works was originally scheduled for August this year. Here again there have been equipment delays extending the period during which capital works are in progress alongside current production and aggravating the already considerable technical problems. Until recently it was hoped that a measure of additional production could be obtained this year, but it is now apparent that the increased capacity will not be available on a significant scale before the second quarter of 1970."

Production in 1969 is, therefore, "unlikely to exceed the 1968 figure, which will involve downward adjustments in the shipping programme. In the meantime, additional costs are being incurred and profit in the second half will continue to run below the level of 1968."

● A bench warrant was issued here today for Salia Jusu Sheriff, leader of the Opposition SLPP, and 10 others for non-appearance in court (on charges of riotous assembly and assault), after the 11 men had failed to appear in court. Their case had been transferred to Freetown from Bonthe, where the offences were allegedly committed last November during a by-election campaign. The case comes up again on Oct. 6.

● Paramount Chief Madam Ella Gulama, the case against whom was suspended owing to her illness, has appeared in court to answer charges of treason, with Mr. Robert Kombe, an SLPP member of parliament. Madam Ella was originally charged with fourteen others, the case against whom will continue next month.

● Government may soon introduce a double shift system in two secondary schools in Freetown in order to provide places for successful selective entrance candidates who have not obtained admission in their first choice schools, the Ministry of Education announced.

● Mr. O. M. Golley has been appointed Registrar of the Sierra Leone Court of Appeal following the departure of the previous registrar, Mr. A. Nithianandan, to take up a post as First Class Magistrate in the Gambia. Mrs. Virginia Wright is acting registrar of the Supreme Court.

● August purchases at the Diamond Office totalled Le3,594,825, bringing total purchases for the first eight months of the year to Le23,990,022 compared to Le15,121,414 in the same period last year.

● Several people died in a wave of violence in Penguia Chiefdom in the Kailiash District, according to a report in the *Daily Mail*, which said that troops had been sent to maintain law and order.

● The Ministry of Trade and Industry has appealed to the public to report non-citizens opening new shops or businesses, or expanding or transferring their existing businesses. This follows the coming into operation of the Non-Citizens (Trade and Business) Act.

● Works Minister Mr. Mohammed Bash-Taqi, on a visit to the United States, has had talks with the acting assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Mr. Robert Moore.

● Provisional trade figures show that July imports totalled Le7,634,261 and exports Le12,614,292 (the figures for July 1967 were Le5,589,764 and Le5,822,898).

## GABON

## BONGO AND THE KINGUELE DAM

The first stone of the new dam at Kinguele, has been laid by President Bongo, in a ceremony attended by the French Minister of Industrial and Scientific Development, M. François Ortoli. The Kinguele dam, which will lie on the Mbeï river, about 70 miles from Libreville, is, with the proposed Owendo-Belanga railway and the deep-water port of Owendo, one of several major projects currently being undertaken by the Gabonese government. Total cost is estimated at 5,000m. CFA francs (about £7.5m.), of which 1,800m. CFA (£1.3m.) is from the French *Fonds d'Aide et Coopération* (FAC), 2,000m. CFA (£1.5m.) is a loan from the Gabonese *Caisse Centrale de Coopération*, and the rest is from suppliers credits. The dam is expected to be completed in 1972, and will have an initial capacity of 19,000 kW, to be doubled in five years.

M. Ortoli, while in Gabon, also visited the installations of the oil company ELF-SPAFE (a 70 per cent owned subsidiary of the French state-owned oil firm ERAP; the Gabon government has the other 30 per cent), celebrates its 20th anniversary this year. SPAFE extracted 4,640,000 tons of crude oil in 1968, 1,200,000 tons more than in 1967. Production is expected to pass 5m. tons this year.

● Speaking to the first seminar of the new ruling party, the PDG, President Bongo denounced the impotence of the OAU, although he admitted that the last conference had perhaps been beneficial. Gabon had recognised Biafra for purely humanitarian reasons; had nothing to expect from Biafra from the economic point of view. He criticised certain federations which did not correspond to local realities, but praised the successful federation of Cameroon, where President Ahidjo had had the courage to consult the people.

● Thierry Essone-Ndong, Secretary of the National Confederation of Gabonese Workers (CNTG) has been released. Arrested in September 1967 for a "political plot" he spent 15 months in detention awaiting trial and in December 1968 was sentenced to four years imprisonment.

● The Leon Mba Foundation for training specialists in African diseases will be formally opened in Paris on October 15.

## TOGO

## Eyadema Returns

President Eyadema, returning from a two-week visit to France, during which he had met President Pompidou and Premier Chaban-Delmas, said that France had promised to aid a number of development projects, including a massive agricultural improvement scheme, an abattoir, a hospital, a school and the highway between Sokode and Upper Volta. Financial details of the aid, which he said made Franco-Togolese co-operation a "living reality", were not disclosed. He also discussed with French businessmen the possibility of building a cement factory in Togo.

Immediately after his return, President Eyadema called a meeting of all Togolese chiefs and traditional leaders at Aneho.

## CHAD The French in Action

The second batch of French legionnaires to be flown to Chad this month under the Franco-Chadian Defence Agreement have arrived in Fort Lamy. A Defence Ministry spokesman in Paris said the legionnaires were to take over combat duties from French conscripts there. There are now estimated to be over 2,500 French troops in Chad. Latest reports from Fort Lamy say that French troops have returned to their bases after a two-week combined operation in the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti area of Northern Chad with the Chad Army, in which two rebel chiefs named as Taher Mahamat Ali and Kossi Dorkalai were said to have been killed. Total rebel losses were 71 killed, wounded or captured. The French troops suffered one man killed and six wounded, and six Chadian troops were also wounded. It was reported that five nomad rebels who had previously served in the Chad army, and a local official, came over to the government side, bringing with them the rebel records for the Borkou district. Large quantities of war material had also been captured. The French troops, a company from the Foreign Legion based at Mongo and a company of paratroopers from the Fort Lamy base, were sent north early this month. Military authorities claimed that the rebel strongholds in the north had now been crushed.

● The Ghanaian Times in Accra has deplored the use of French troops by the

Chad government. African leaders who had lost contact with their people should "retire honourably instead of using troops to support their wavering regimes." Defence agreements with foreign powers should be abrogated and requests for troops to put down internal disturbances should be channelled through the OAU. Somali radio has also deplored the use of French troops in Chad, saying it would be wiser for Chad to resolve its difficulties by itself.

● Chad has recognised the new regime in Libya.

● The government has granted an exclusive permit to the Continental Oil Company (an American firm) to prospect for oil and natural gas in Chad. The permit covers an area of over 2,000 square miles in the Lake Chad and River Chari basins. It is valid for five years, renewable twice for five years each time at the request of the company.

## MALI MORE POWERS FOR LT. TRAORE

In a major reshuffle, Lt. Moussa Traore, Chairman of the CMLN and head of state, took over the Prime Ministership, moving the number two of the regime. Captain Yoro Diakite, to the post of Minister of State in charge of Transport, Telecommunications and Tourism. Lt. Youssef Traore, formerly Commissar for Conflicts, has become Minister of Information, replacing Major Balla Kone, and M. Robert Ndaw, who had entered the government in a previous reshuffle the week before, has moved from being Secretary of State for Industrial Development to the Ministry of Industry and Public Works, replacing M. Mamadou Aw. M. Henri Corenthin, formerly Minister of Transport, is no longer in the government.

● A new textile mill is to be built near Bamako with French aid. It will use local cotton production, which amounts to 40,000 tons annually. Total output of this mill, with that of the Chinese-built textile complex at Segou, will be around 7,000 tons per annum.

## CONGO-K

President Mobutu has told the governor of Kivu to halt expulsion of Indian families in Bukavu pending further examination. India has expressed concern at the way the government's new measure requiring all foreigners to show certain assets had been implemented. The figure of Indians in Bukavu has been variously put at between 500 and 12 families.

● More than 200 foreign teachers have been fired after the government discovered they had no teaching qualifications. Replacements have been recruited in Europe and Canada.

● The Union of Congolese Librarians has called on the Minister of Culture to begin negotiations with the Belgians for the return of Congolese archives removed by the Belgians on the eve of independence.

● President Mobutu sent a message of friendship to King Baudouin of Belgium on his 39th birthday. President Mobutu is paying an official visit to Belgium, the first of any Congolese head of state, in November.

## OCAM Common Meat Market Plan

A draft agreement on a common market for meat among the members of the nation OCAM (*Organisation Communautaire Africaine et Malgache*) has been adopted at a meeting in Yaoundé of the OCAM ad hoc committee on meat. Twelve countries attended the meeting—Cameroon, Congo, DRC, Gabon, Guinea, Ivory Coast, V.A.R. Congo-B, Dahomey, Gambia, Upper Volta, Togo, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Madagascar. Congo-K, Mauritania and Rwanda were absent. Mali and Mauritania sent observers.

Madagascar expressed reservations about the agreement, saying it would have preferred to see two separate agreements for meat-producers the other for meat consumers. Of the countries concerned, seven (Chad, Niger, Upper Volta, Dahomey and Madagascar, as well as Mali and Mauritania) export meat. The others import meat to meet local demand. Nigeria, which is not as yet involved in the project, is the largest exporter of meat in West Africa, with 118,000 tons annually, although it also imports over 54,000 tons.

The aim of the OCAM market is to increase production. OCAM has produced statistics to show that Africans eat on average ten times less meat than Africans, five times less than Europeans and three times less than Latin Americans. Twice as much is eaten in East Africa in West Africa Mr. A. Foaleme, Director of Economic Affairs for OCAM, told a conference that while the OCAM countries only had a meat deficit of 7,000 tons in 1966, by 1975 this would be 175,000 tons and at least 200,000 tons in 1980. The deficit would be a world meat deficit but for 1975 and 1985, and the total African deficit for 1975 was estimated at 553,000 tons. Increasing stock was therefore urgent.

Under the agreement, which envisages the setting up of an Afro-Malagasy Council, members would accept to import meat on foot or in carcass from non-member country, unless meat producer countries could not provide of the necessary quantity or quality.

The draft will be submitted to the OCAM summit meeting in Yaoundé in January.

● M. Ali Badara Tall, Director of the Cabinet of the OCAM Secretary-General, has been in Chad to finalise arrangements for two meetings in December, one on meat problems, the other on the rest of African culture.

## UNITED NATIONS

Miss Angie Brooks, of Liberia, new member of the UN General Assembly, made her first speech before the assembly while the UN's effectiveness was under the need for it was increasing. She told the Assembly of forcing through unworkable resolutions: "We have lacked a lack, in this respect, reality". She rejected, however, any suggestion of weighted votes. "As long as we have no supra-national organisation, there is no alternative principle that each nation must have an independent vote."

● US Secretary of State, William R. Gates, dined in New York for his first delegation from Africa to the UN General Assembly, including many foreign ministers.

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## NIGERIA

### "REBELLION" IN THE WEST

**BRIG.** Robert Adebayo, Military Governor of Western Nigeria, has said in a statement on recent troubles in the State released by his office in Ibadan that his government would leave no stone unturned to ensure that the lives and property of law-abiding citizens were secure from violence. "My government," he said, "will fight this rebellion to a finish." The government was committed to a policy of keeping the Western State safe for all and not just for a group of persons, and it would "carry out this important function with unflinching relentlessness." He regretted that when the federal government was engaged in a struggle to crush secession, some people in the Western State should think this was an opportune moment to engage in acts of violence and lawlessness. He had been disheartened by the fact that while other ethnic groups were consolidating their position, the Yoruba were engaged in sectional combat



Adebayo—"unflinching relentlessness."

which tended to lead to disintegration. The statement was said to have been made at a cocktail party for new recruits at Abeokuta garrison.

Latest reports on the disturbances which have flared up since the break by demonstrators into the Agodi jail at Ibadan on Tuesday of last week (September 16) indicate that well over fifty people have been killed, including an Assistant Superintendent of Police. Incidents have taken place mainly in villages near Ibadan, whence the people who escaped from the jail mainly fled. About half the 400 escapees have been recaptured. Twenty demonstrators were shot dead near Akanran, 30 miles from Ibadan, on Sept. 18, when a police patrol was ambushed, and three people were killed in an ambush at Egbeda, ten miles from Ibadan, two days later. In a number of other acts of lawlessness a police station and barracks near Abeokuta were burned down, and on Sept. 23 a policeman was killed and four injured after an ambush at Akufe, 12 miles from Ibadan.

Mr. Fagbola, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, has been in Ibadan for consultations with Western State Police Commis-

sioner, Mr. Olofinwa. On Tuesday Governor Adebayo travelled to Lagos for consultations with General Gowon. A meeting of the Supreme Military Council is expected soon.

Nigerian police have named Tafa Aboye as the man suspected of "masterminding" the riots. He was said to be the leader of the Agbekoya Parapo, banned with three other societies in July, which allegedly went from village to village organising riots. The police said there was evidence this society was deeply implicated in the disturbances. More than 50 have already appeared in court in connection with the disturbances.

Initial press reaction in Nigeria has been strong against the rioters. The Lagos *Daily Times* said that the new riots showed that the West government had not yet been able to identify the "mischief-makers" nor their grievances, and called for the "severest penalties." It also called for further investigations into how the jailbreak was allowed to take place, how efficient was the West government's security, and whether there was any truth in allegations that some accused of rioting had died in prison. The *Nigerian Observer* in Benin said there was more to the trouble than a mere tax agitation, and that people with "sinister motives" were trying to sabotage orderly government in the West. The Ibadan *Daily Sketch* said the government might have to consider setting up "special tribunals" to try the rioters, and the *Nigerian Tribune* published in Ibadan said the government should take a long hard look at its publicity machine and its law-enforcement agencies. It also questioned the adequacy of intelligence services.

(Oba Akran and Prince Ademiluyi, two former leaders of the banned NNPP, who, as was reported last week, were not released, apparently asked to be left inside the jail, having explained to the rioters that their position was "different".)

### The War and the World

The Biafran Government has announced that it will accept part of the Addis Ababa OAU Summit's resolution on Nigeria—the part calling for an immediate cease-fire. Radio Biafra, quoting a senior official, said Biafra also agreed with what it said was a call for Great Britain and the USSR to stop interfering. But the idea that the cease-fire should be accepted within the context of "one Nigeria" was unrealistic and unacceptable, it said.

Dr. Arkippe later said Nigeria stands on all the OAU resolution which begins by appealing "to the two parties to preserve, in the over-riding interest of Africa, the unity of Nigeria".

Dr. Michael Okpara has said Biafra will accept anything that emerges from "negotiating without preconditions". Gen. Gowon, he said, had agreed to such talks, but "we don't know who commands in Nigeria. Gowon says one thing and Chief Anthony Enahoro says another." He also said Nigeria would collapse "if Biafra left", and Biafra would not surrender but would fight for 20 years if necessary.

Earlier a spokesman in Owerri said Biafra was ready for talks at any time; Dr. Eke, in Paris, accused big powers of preventing the OAU from finding a solution.

● Gen. Gowon is reported to have told *Le Figaro* that everything short of Nigerian unity is negotiable, even the delimitation of the new states.

● Chief Enahoro has gone to England for a three-week visit, including a week's business and a fortnight's rest.

On his way to London Chief Enahoro met Pope Paul. He said afterwards, "I came with no specific plans and I left with neither optimism nor pessimism."

The Information Commissioner said in Rome that France seemed to be sustaining Biafra, and had made, just before the OAU summit, a declaration appearing to back the rebellion. He also said if the Biafrans asked for talks on guarantees of security, "that would be a basis for talks."

● Speaking at a dance in London of the Biafra Nurses' Association, Tanzania Minister of State for External Affairs, Mr. Stephen Mhando, said that the Tanzanians had had their first confrontation with General Gowon, and after meeting him they had reason to suppose that they had made headway, but "surprisingly enough" he had turned 180 degrees and said he saw no prospect of a ceasefire. "We had put it to him that the military situation had failed, and after a 50-minute lecture on how it was all Nigeria against Ojukwu," he promised President Nyerere to come to conference if he could give a guarantee of Gen. Ojukwu's sincerity and honesty. "We only guaranteed Ojukwu's arrival if they would stop bombing the airport from which he would fly." The Minister claimed that members of the OAU Consultative Committee were biased in favour of Nigeria, and ended by saying Tanzania would never let Biafra down.

● President Bongo of Gabon has claimed that Gen. Gowon asked him to approach Gen. Ojukwu for a meeting. President Bongo said that he believed Gabon would take its responsibilities by telling "our friend Ojukwu it is time for you to sit at table with General Gowon in order to find a solution which can bring trust between Nigeria and Biafra." The President described Gen. Gowon's decision as "courageous." President Bongo's claim, says Lagos radio, has been described as "fraudulent" by official sources.

### Bissala Moves to Front

Col. I. D. Bissala, former Military Secretary at Supreme Military HQ in Lagos, has left for Enugu to assume command of the Federal 1st Division in succession to Col. Mohammedu Shuwa, who replaces him at his HQ post.

● One of the British members of the international observer team, Major Ian Wallsworth-Bell of the Seaforth Highlanders, has been dismissed for allegedly helping the Nigerians. He said he had been "carpeted" by a Deputy High Commissioner for the UK, who said there was evidence that he had exceeded his duties and involved himself in military matters. He said in Lagos that he had talked tactics with Nigerian soldiers, adding that his job had become a "great bore". "There has been no evidence of brutality and all we do is go over old ground again and again." A senior official in London ordered the dismissal, reports the London *Daily Express*.

● Nigerian newspapers reported that a "whole company" of Biafran troops has surrendered to the 3rd Division around Ohoba and Umuakpu. Over 1,000 Biafran troops are said in Nigeria to have surrendered as a result of Dr. Azikiwe's appeal.

## NIGERIA—continued

● The Nigerian Air Force has started a big new operation against Uli airstrip, and plans to destroy a second airstrip at Uga. It has said a Federal announcement. It has been officially claimed that an aircraft was destroyed on take-off from Uli. Biafra radio denies this and alleges another Federal air raid on a hospital, killing 21 patients, and a raid which damaged a reservoir and caused a threat of water shortage at Nnewi.

After last week's Mid-West raid by four aircraft, which is thought to have been aimed at a Benin electricity transformer, Biafra radio warned that Nigerian industrial targets might be bombed.

● Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe has suggested that after the war a Provisional Government of 12 civilian Ministers and 12 army officers should be formed to rule the country for a short time to achieve stability, but that final power should rest with an elected Parliament. Speaking on television at Ibadan at the end of his tour of the states he said army officers should be allowed to play a role until the country was stable.

At Ibadan Dr. Azikiwe said what happened between January and October, 1966, should not have happened at all. "There was no need for the bloodbath which deprived the nation of its leading political and military leaders, the repercussions of which led to the civil war."

After the ex-President's statement that he might visit countries which recognised Biafra, a statement in Zambia said he would not be allowed to go to that country, while in Tanzania it was said that no request for a visit by him had come. The *West African Pilot* urged him not to go.

● The International Red Cross has invited Dr. Sylvanus Cooke, Biafra's relief co-ordinator, to Geneva for talks. Chief Enahoro, who called in Geneva this week, accused Biafra of not wanting relief flights. The Biafran Overseas Press Division quoted Dr. Cooke as saying the ICRC must negotiate an agreement with Lagos or encourage others now bringing relief to Biafra. The Dutch Government has expressed willingness to supply personnel to check relief materials bound for Biafra.

Biafra radio has quoted a "high Government spokesman" as saying the secessionist government had been ready even to compromise with security to allow relief flights in and accusing the ICRC of "helping Nigeria to blackmail Biafra".

Sixty more Biafran children have gone to Ivory Coast; about 900 are there.

Africa Concern, an Irish-led relief body which operates an airlift from Gabon, is planning to fly in food and clothes for Biafran POWs in Biafra, who are said to number about 6,000 and to be in a very poor condition, living on palm kernels. (Africa Concern also looks after refugee Biafran children in São Tomé and Ivory Coast, and does relief in Federal areas.)

● Two Irish-born missionary nuns have been killed in Biafran territory by a Federal air attack. Sister Cecilia and Mother Elizabeth were in a car when the aircraft attacked on the outskirts of Owerri. Sister Elizabeth, who did not die at once, said there had been no soldiers nearby.

● A threatened split in the United Labour Congress, one of Nigeria's main central labour organisations, was resolved at their Congress in Zaria last week, with the unopposed election of a new President.

Malam Yanusa Kaltungo, from North State. He replaced Alhaji Adebola, who was suspended by ULC executive weeks before the Congress. Amidst a flood of rumours and allegations (Alhaji Adebola claimed that the CIA had provided £100,000 to his enemies to unseat him), Alhaji Adebola has been elected life patron of Congress, as has Mr. M. O. Cole. Emmanuel Odeyemi continues as ULC Secretary-General, and Mr. L. L. continues as Secretary-General (on leave of absence while he is Commissioner for Agriculture in the Mid-West). J. O. James has been elected Vice-President in succession to Mr. Cole. Alhaji Adebola was reported as saying he was satisfied with the outcome. Mr. Kaltungo, previous ULC Secretary-General for the Northwest, said the election was fair.

At the opening session, a message from the Federal Labour Commissioner, Enahoro, was read, in which he expressed concern over the unhealthy rivalry between the central labour organisations, and stated that his ministry was working on plans for the creation of one body.

## CHURCHES

At Abidjan 233 delegates and observers from Christian Churches attended, from Sept. 1 to 12. The Second ALL-African Conference of Churches—an ecumenical conference of which several Protestant and Orthodox churches are members. The first was of the AACCC since the inaugural conference at Kampala in 1963, it had as its theme, "With Christ at work in Africa today." During the conference a new ecumenical church service was held at the Houphouët-Boigny Stadium. There were four Catholic observers including the bishop Amisab of Cape Coast and the Amichia, of Ivory Coast. Mgr. Amichia made a long speech in defence of ecclesiastical activity, proposing joint studies by Catholics and AACCC members of aspects of Church thought and action.

The conference decided to send a mission of reconciliation to "Nigeria and the former Eastern Region," to convey greetings and concern of the Churches, and ask how the AACCC could help.

Section reports said the Churches co-operate in development plans to achieve "social justice," study and join in a "agricultural revolution," and promote peace and avoid being wrongly identified with one side in conflict. The Churches Assembly called for more dialogue with Muslims and African humanists and socialists, and for theologians to be allowed to expound theology in African languages. The Rev. Adeolu Adegbola, Principal, Emmanuel Theological College at Ibadan, accused some African church circles of conservatism, and the churches of not helping others but only themselves.

Sixty churches from 27 countries sent delegations. Nine churches were admitted to the Conference; two from Cameroon, two from Liberia, two from Malawi, two each from Nigeria, Congo-Kinshasa and Madagascar. Of the three new conference chairmen re-elected at the end of the Anglican Archbishop of West Africa, Bishop Scott of Freetown. A general committee of 20 was elected. The general secretary is Prof. Samuel Amisab of Ghana.

In our *Photograph* of the new Miss Nigeria (Britain) in last week's issue, a girl was crowning the new queen. The picture next to her, on the left of the picture, is 22-year-old Miss Caroline Kpenoren of Koko.



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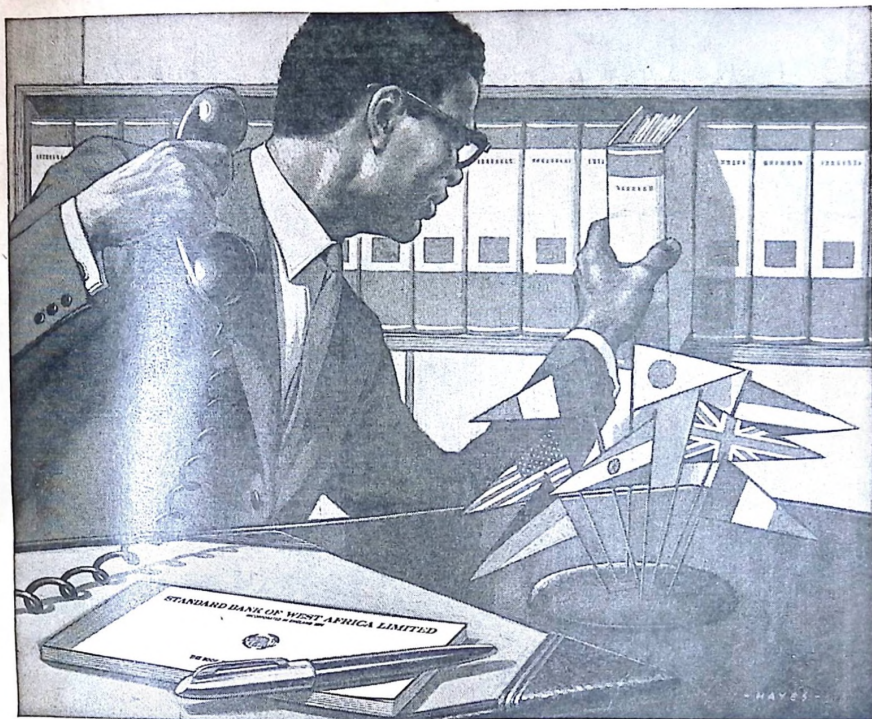
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