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DRUM LETTERS

If you open the door and go in, you must close the door before the car can move. Thus completes the process of moving a car.

There are some other examples but look around and see if two does not dominate the other natural numbers.

Akoma Godfrey, Umuahia

*Is it the number two, or the idea of positive and negative that is important?* — Editor.

**Abortion is uncivilised**

I DISAGREE with the majority opinion in your December 1975 debate on abortion. I object to the idea, for, apart from being a sin in the presence of God, it is wholly uncivilised. Some women, as a result of having abortions, lose their children.

Instead of preventing unwanted pregnancy by going to the doctor or using dangerous drugs, why can't they voluntarily keep off sex?

Edison Akwawke, Zaria

*The subject will always lead to fierce argument.* — Editor.

**Listen to a challenge**

I WISH to congratulate the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation for introducing a new programme. The programme, "Wake up", touches on many difficulties and problems of the nation.

I am sure it is aimed at correcting the ills which plague the country, as well as encouraging individuals in their different spheres in life.

I am optimistic that if the average Nigerian listens to this programme and heeds its moving words, our problems will soon be solved.

But the problem is, how many Nigerians are really interested in listening to the programme? How many Nigerians are really ready to accept the challenge posed by the new NBC programme? How many have discarded their dishonesty?

Oladimeji E. C. Jim-Odel, Port Harcourt

*Those who have ears let them hear.* — Editor.

**Let everyone read this**

THE article in DRUM, 1 (February 1976) — entitled "Why must Nigeria kill her great leaders?" — is one of the best DRUM opinions I have come across. I am taking opportunity to express my feelings and appealing to you to translate it in the major languages of Nigeria. Let it enter into everybody's mind. I know it will be tedious work for you, but it is for the benefit of Nigeria as a whole.

Chubby O Chura, Umuahia

**Life of Muhammed**

FROM time immemorial, national heroes and fine statesmen the world over have attracted the attention of historians and writers. America's Lincoln, Germany's Bismarck, and not far from home, Ghana's, Nkruma are just a few. They were patriots who lived and died for national causes. None of them has been forgotten by history.

Did Murtala Muhammed live without friends, close associates and colleagues who knew him very well? Nigeria knows with professional abundance a world standard, like Wole Soyinka, Chinua Achebe and Cyprian Ekwensi. At least one of them must have been in close association with the late Murtala Muhammed during his lifetime.

Murtala Muhammed, during his short life, dedicated himself to the cause of Nigeria. The Nigerian civil war provided a good example. While he was Head of State, his name spelt discipline in the minds of many Nigerians, and writers of our professional class gave them virtual adherence to the "Ramadan" principle.

Though a leader, he shunned the ostentation, pomp and the trappings of power. His yardstick was honesty, discipline and fairplay, which was in the interest of all.

I would have loved to write a book about this African hero who made Nigeria proud, but I am not a skilled writer and I have no insight into his private life.

I have written to remind talented and professional writers of their obligation to write the memory of General Muhammed Sunny J. Ikot, Cross River State.

*Sunny has made a thoughtful, probing appeal to Nigerian writers which, it is hoped, will be enthusiastically considered.* — Editor.



KWAME NKRUAMA of Ghana — one of Africa's patriots.

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# MRS GOMWALK'S SECRET AMBITION THAT GOT HER A LIFE, JAIL

STORY BY: DAYO DUYILE

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Helen, in her good days looking forward in the day she will become a millionairess.

Mrs Helen Gomwalk was the wife of a former Nigerian diplomat whose ambition to become a millionairess by 1977 led her to get involved in a bloody abortive coup that later fetched her life imprisonment.

**H**ELEN Gomwalk, the only woman who is now serving life imprisonment in connection with the February 1976 abortive coup in which Nigeria's leader, General Murtala Muhammed was killed, had a plan to become Nigeria's first woman millionairess by 1977.

"Her ambition was not political", said a close friend of hers who lives in Jos.

"Helen is an ambitious woman. She is very tough and always determined to succeed even when her chances are slim. She has a dual personality, she is a woman but has a man's personality. She is too domineering and anything she wanted done was done for her without delay.

As a wife of a former Nigeria diplomat, Mr Clement Gomwalk, also a former permanent secretary, Helen appeared to have greater influence on Mr. Joseph

Gomwalk, the executed former governor of the then Benue-Plateau State.

She later became an executive of Votensky Company, which Mr Justice Alag Belgore, described as "a conduit pipe" through which government money was siphoned into the pockets of Gomwalk's family.

As a result of the findings of Belgore's Commission of inquiry the assets of Votensky were confiscated on the government and Helen and some others became jobless including her executive business partner, Lt. George Okon. Helen became the message bearer of the coup plotters. She stood between Joseph Gomwalk, in Jos, and the other plotters in other parts of the country carrying mails to and from Jos. It was during one of her trips that she met Bukuru Dimka.

Dimka said in his professional statement to the

## WARNING NOTE

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Nigerian Standards Organisation Federal Min of Industries, Lagos

March 1976 Mrs came to me. She is my house some- think she came to see me and Mrs came to me for going to Benin. And was a message from that he wan- know whether I had what he told me the other group. I did not pass any mes- from her. I did not any link with her any



Dadi Gomwalk, former Police Commissioner and State governor told me he said his interrogators in the coup plans through his wife, Helen Gomwalk.

way. But I found out that she knew more than I should hide, so I told her she should tell Timdam that we are working. She came back and asked if I had any message for the governor. So she left.

After a week she came back that she wanted me to listen to Dr Okon, and she wanted me to hear what he got to say. We both left the house. Unfortunately he was not in. We met his wife who wanted us to wait for him, but I was not in position to wait. But before Helen left, that was about six days, I told her to inform governor Gomwalk and Timdam that for the meantime they should be expecting it.

Helen's neighbours say many of her friends have become rich through Helen's unofficial connections, and that she too make some fantastic gains as director of some companies apart from Votensky.

But Helen has one characteristic which baffles her neighbours. She hardly enters into conversation with people on public issues.

Helen is feared throughout the Plateau State. The basis for the people's fear is that she was very powerful and very influential to the extent that her words must

be obeyed even by top government officials in the former Benue-Plateau State which her brother-in-law, Joseph, was Military Governor.

Yet, Helen was not a government official, nor a government consultant, but her power and influence was greater than that of her husband, a Permanent Secretary.

How did Helen acquire such a powerful influence that led to her destruction? No one seems to know much about her childhood days and her other interests. Even her friends do not seem to know her intimately.

One friend of her's remarked, "I know her only as Helen, I don't know her other names. She hardly discusses anything concerning herself with anybody. I doubt even if she has time for any other discussion which could not lead to financial gains. Her best friends were men. Helen feels more comfortable in the company of men than her female friends. Her best friend was one 'D.' O. This man is not a medical doctor. I am too sure that he is the only man who knows much of her secrets. The doctor was always seen with her and they had much in common."

Helen's affairs with Bukar Dimka, the abortive coup

coordinator, was a brief one. According to Dimka's confidential statement, he met Helen during one of her trips while carrying messages about the coup plot from Jos to some people in other parts of the country. It will be recalled that Dimka said he felt reluctant to discuss the coup plans with a woman, but he changed his mind after he realised that Helen knew quite a lot about the plot.

DRUM discovered during this investigation that Helen is camera shy. She hardly takes photographs and that she keeps no album. But in 1975 she readily posed for a cameraman who photographed her with one Dr. George Okon who was a top executive of Votensky company which has now become state property. Further investigations reveal that Helen has one eye. She lost her left eye in an accident some years ago.

Ambitious Helen is now paying dearly for her reckless ambition. She is now serving a life sentence in jail.

Her case should serve as a lesson in everybody, and goes to confirm the advice of elders that one greed does not pay, and two, one should learn to be contented, because that is one of the ingredients for peace of mind.



This is the picture of ambitious Helen Gomwalk. DRUM travelled over two thousand kilometres to bring you Helen's picture exclusively. She is photographed with her confidant and business partner Dr. Okon.

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# CYPRIAN EKWENSI

## Wave goodbye to bitterness

**W**HY were states created? To bring the government nearer to the people. To foster the spirit of co-operation, not competition, among kith and kin. To bridge the gap between the rich and the poor, the haves and the have-nots.

To spread development throughout the country. To see that each little acre of Nigeria gets a fair share of the federal revenue. To tackle once and for all the minorities problem. To ensure that no ethnic group feels oppressed.

There must be many more good reasons why states were created. Some of the ones I have already mentioned are not hard to understand. A government located at Ibadan does not mean too much to the villager at Ekidholoh.

But when that government is situated within cycling distance (at Benin), the villager begins to identify. As soon as a new state comes into being, it begins to budget for development, within its own area. Development in its area becomes a priority for that government.

Another government further away might regard that particular area's needs without any sense of urgency. And as a matter of duty, the father of all state governments, the federal, must give the new state a slice of federal revenue.

In old days, no single word could whip up more sentiments or record more votes than the word **MINORITIES**. This meant hardship, discrimination, lack of privilege, ostracism and other evil things.

You have now a "minority" if you are only the crumbs, not the loaf. You stood outside the conference room, not within. You did not belong.

So much rancour grew up over this word that it is the use in the Nigeria of the 70s that the use of the term is all but obsolete.

Granted, there will always be minorities within minorities, even in so small a unit as the family, but the minorities issue is in the very last stages of life.

By now you must be asking why it is necessary to remind ourselves WHY states were created? The answer is simple. Because, in the excitement of the birth of the new states, many people, high and low, are already forgetting the real reasons.

Luckily for us in Nigeria the states have been created at a time when political action is at

an ebb. The disciples of doom can work only underground with vile propaganda. The heads of the state governments are the military, who regard themselves as one and therefore co-operate as a matter of course.

Had this not been the case, the wrong notion of some selfish Nigerians could have succeeded in misleading other Nigerians into strife instead of co-operation.

In some of the new states, single ethnic groups have been divided into two, sometimes three new states. Does this really mean that their identity is lost, or that each new state should regard the other as "foreign"?

How far can we go in our selfish desires to acquire more position, more power? Should it not be a thing of joy for one ethnic group to receive two or three cheques from the same federal government that gave it one?

It may be that the states are yet too new for the excitement to die down, but this is the time to lay the foundations for lasting unity. Any rancour and bitterness which is allowed to grow now will develop into hostility when the political days return.

And then the creation of states will be counter-productive. Instead of bringing us together — as was intended — it will divide us, which is the opposite from what we want.

Why do we not take our cue from the former Northern Region of Nigeria, which continues to operate with love and friendship AND co-operation?

There will always be diverse and subversive people in this large country. But if the majority can be educated in their methods of operating, their divisiveness will fall far from its face.

It is therefore most necessary that the majority be reminded often that states were created to bring the government nearer to the people, to spread development throughout the country, to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor, the privileged and under-privileged.

And not to enthrone greed, grabbing and vicious competition.

If I were in a position of power, I would draft a decree making it illegal for anyone to contravene, in words or in action, the spirit of unity and belonging which underlies the creation of our state.

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*Espionage expert Sam Ogun with Sir Alec Douglas Home, then British Foreign Secretary, in 1973. They are accompanied by two British High Commission secretaries in Lagos*

# went to Ghana as a spy for the CIA

**In our last issue, Nigerian freelance journalist Samuel Olusegun Ogun told DRUM readers of his work as a spy on the CIA payroll. Under the cloak of being a journalist, he travelled throughout West Africa. In Guinea, he spied on the late Dr. Kwame Nkrumah. Here he continues his remarkable story.**

LAGOS, the CIA gave me plenty of latitude to move around as much as possible, as long as I kept them informed of what I was doing, and as long as they thought I could run across information that was likely to be of use to them.

For example, some agents of the Ghana Government, under Kofi Busia, contacted me and begged me to travel to Guinea to find out who were behind the secret moves to bring the late Dr. Kwame Nkrumah back to Ghana.

One of these men was a friend, Tom, a top officer in

the ICFTU office in Lagos. He was a citizen of Ghana. He begged me to accept the assignment because of our personal friendship. I promised to give them my reply at a later date.

First I informed Andrew, my CIA contact man, about the proposal assignment. He was interested in the assignment from an espionage point of view. He asked me to accept the assignment, and I did. He also asked me to get in touch with one Paul, an American who worked for the Douglas Aircraft Company in

the Ivory Coast, on my way to Conakry.

Paul was in the CIA network in Abidjan. My friend, Tom, later took me to meet the then High Commissioner for Ghana in Nigeria, Major-General Aferi, and some other Ghanaian diplomats at the mission.

The assignment was explained to me in detail by the Head of Chancery, a man called Jab. I was given 40,400 to cover my expenses. Four days later I travelled out of Lagos by road to Accra, where I was lodged at the Ambassador Hotel at the

expense of the Ghana Government. I applied for a visa at the Ivory Coast Embassy, but I was told I had to wait for three months.

So I decided to travel to Ivory Coast without a visa. And I succeeded in getting through to Abidjan by using money and tricks.

I spent a few days in Abidjan nosing around and I was briefed by Paul, so whom I carried a note from Andrew in Lagos. I later travelled to Conakry and spent about nine days working on my assignment. I carried out the assignment successfully to the

satisfaction of the Ghana High Commission. But the assignment was full of hazards.

Before I had left Lagos, my trip had been properly worked out at Macarthy and Athaji Bashorun Streets in Lagos, and South West Ikoyi respectively. After feeling the pulse in Accra, I moved to Half Assini, Dr. Nkrumah's home town, where I met a former MP, Mr. Amenemah. I had two alternatives: To go by road through Kumasi into Ivory Coast or by ferry. Both are the geographical

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## My flat had a powerful transmitter

CONTINUED

boundaries of the two countries. I spent three full days in Half Astri with a family introduced to me from Accra. They believed I was going to see my sick grandmother in Abidjan.

At that time the Ghana Government had driven away many aliens engaged in petty trading. These included many Nigerians whose shops had been closed.

Life was dull in the evening, except for a local bar that was open until midnight. In the rural areas of Ghana, *agbete* (ogogoro) is served first thing in the morning before breakfast. I visited the roads — one a footpath and the other modern — leading to the ferry. I also met a few Nigerians in the Ghana Police Force who are senior officers.

## He feared I'd been followed

I took a few things along from Accra — a camera, some Nigerian records, to give away as gifts — and two shirts. I arrived at Grand Bassam by the ferry, which passed through dangerous creeks. There were iselles and small crocodiles in the river.

We drove in a lorry before ferrying to Grand Bassam. I made straight for the Hotel Chalet Club in Treichville. In Accra, I stayed at Bosumtu Rest House and the Ambassador Hotel respectively. About 9 pm, I booked a call through to Andrew in Lagos. The way we spoke on the telephone was entirely different to the normal way most chums would speak to each other, or to their wives at home.

However, Andrew asked me to call on one Paul of Douglas Aircrafts Company.

After having a chat with Paul the day after my arrival, I made for the West German Embassy. They were not the only occupants of the building. The British Embassy was also there. This building overlooked the beautiful sea surrounding Abidjan. When I told the German Head of Information that I had entered Ivory Coast without a visa, he collapsed in his seat and asked how I made it. He feared that I might have been followed. I told him not to worry. He would not believe it, so I showed him my passport. He brought out a telex message which said some German MPs were visiting Ivory Coast a few days later. My services were needed, but he was too scared to give me the details. I hadn't enough time to spend with him so I left for the US Embassy.

On the way, I stopped to have a look at the former Nigerian Embassy in Abidjan. The Embassy is on the left by the House of Parliament. Opposite it is the Nigerian National Stadium. Fine trees line the Boulevard but my finger and looked at myself standing in front of one-time Nigeria House. I felt very ashamed of myself.

At the US office, I met two American businessmen who were officials of the US Embassy. The black man, Bill, is a member and official of the invisible government. On several occasions, he warned him about his friends. He was getting involved with all sorts. His wife was adopted child of a famous Nigerian. When she and Bill came to Nigeria under "Operation Crossroads Africa," she met this Nigerian Knight who with his wife adopted the American girl.

Bill, a dashing and charming diplomat, put the last straw on the camel's back and was given only two days to pack up and get out of Nigeria and return to Washington. He got involved with some leftist organisation at Lagos University. He had luggage and paintings sent to him after his departure.

I got my briefing from the two of them in Abidjan about Dr. Nkrumah and Emeke Ojukwu. Who runs the economy of Ivory Coast and on and so forth? For five days nosed around the principal towns of Ivory Coast — Bouaké, Yamoussoukro, where Emeke stayed and the home town of President Félix Houphouët Bouigny.

Armed with my kit, I drove from Abidjan to a place pronounced Ma, but written Man in Ivory Coast. The small town is the last one between Ivory Coast and Guinea, except the geographical situation that runs between the two countries.

## I predicted a second coup

I was with a guide who set off with me to the police post. He told me I was from Grand Bassam going to see my grandmother at the next village university student on holiday. My kit proved it! I had nothing on me except my camera, some records to give away as gifts, couple of shirts and a toothbrush. I had about 25,000 francs. The police said I should return and get my Comakry through the airport, pleaded and pleaded with 2,000 francs and a promise I would bring them gifts on my return. I was allowed in with my guide 3,000 francs.

In Conakry, I made for the Nigerian Embassy to inform a diplomat friend of mine who was on posting there. He had just arrived. I wanted to see him as a journalist working for a foreign news agency, but more.

Meanwhile, Guinea and

...governments  
...the brink of breaking  
...diplomatic relations.  
...did not allow me to  
...to the hotel. He drove me  
...house. I asked Akwete  
...Nnamah lived, how  
...a Conary, and other  
...that would interest  
...of us. We went back to  
...  
...called on the then  
...of Economic Affairs,  
...certainties I was in-  
...as a journalist from  
...This Minister knew  
...and they were  
...I was on the right track  
...  
...I had a whole  
...ment to myself —  
...ing a powerful radio  
...lamps and receiver. I  
...to my head of  
...— David — that  
...would be a second coup  
...Nigeria, judging from  
...and matching me. He did  
...killed me. I went to  
...in a hired car. On my  
...I passed the night in a  
...in a hotel when Radio-  
...Ivorienn  
...the second coup in  
...  
...This week later I returned  
...Lagos. One afternoon a  
...driver brought a letter  
...the USIS in Lagos from  
...I heard I saw Ben on a  
...Friday and I was asked to  
...work at my pleasure. I  
...introduced to Don, whom  
...to work with.  
...I brought me a friend of  
...very pretty women. Sharon  
...very fond of me, though  
...had got married about a  
...to before we met. She was in  
...the Library of Congress.

Then there was Jeannette, who was a spinster. Jean was a secretary with an electronics company in Dakar. She was living in a two-room apartment while Sharon stayed at Hotel Croix du Sud.

I was made utilization chief in the USIS. I would write dossiers on men and women in public and private life, trade unionists, particularly those supported by the East, organisations such as NAAISO, which had the blessings of the Federal Military Government, university student leaders and lecturers engaged in anti-imperialist activities, and attend some of the general meetings and press conferences. A handful of my Nigerian colleagues used to brand me as CIA, M15, or KGB agent. Within me I knew they were right, but I publicly disowned it and even threatened to report them to the police. I underwent a series of tests put to me by Andrew, Smith and Tom. For two full days, I was tested by a lie detector in a house at Victoria Island, Lagos. Someone was blown in from Washington DC to test me. I proved them wrong. They did not believe in my loyalty and what I had been reporting. I was taught how to use a camera and a pocket-size tape-recorder specially designed for espionage.

I took part in determining the real owners of a long list of vehicles. Some carried fake plate numbers and were being used for illicit purposes. Others were bought by Communists and agents of the third

OGUN the journalist meets the Chinese ambassador to Nigeria, his wife and aides at the first Chinese exhibition held in the country. Journalism was a convenient cover.



world for the use of their Nigerian contacts.

A close friend is one luxury that a spy cannot afford. I did talk intimately with friends on art and music, films and the theatre. But I tried not to give my mission away to any friend or colleague — not even to my wife.

I ate well, drank what I wanted, went to bed with some of the women dearest to my heart. Some have kids for me, and some told me why they let me have sexual affairs with them.

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# CHILDREN OF SATAN CONFESS



Pastor Nwoko, he has saved many of the cultists

in Afikpo, Nigera State, have communication with other spirits, and they have told horrifying tales of the chaos they caused while under the devil's influence. And one member says he was accused near MacGregor College, Afikpo. Another says he died from the sinking of a pontoon ferrying lorries loaded with food for Obubra, in South-Eastern State.

Another claims that she lost a leg and four children when attempts were made to free her from the cult.

Yet another, Miss Christiana Egwu, a 16-year-old seamstress from Amadi quarters in Afikpo, says that after her initiation into the secret society to Satan, she was introduced to Satan himself. And she said, gave her a make-up which made it possible for any man to make love to her.

## Attractions of Satan

But she married a spirit and she had two spirit sons. Miss Egwu told this story of her membership of the Ogbanje Secret Society. "I joined a secret evil society known as 'Ogbanje' (sylyph) in Afikpo in 1967. Somebody called Ojim took me there. She hinted to me that we were going on a long journey into life. When we arrived at the place, I saw a world outside this one in which we live, with many beautiful things and all the attractions of life found therein.

"I was introduced to a man known as Satan, the leader of the group. The place of the spiritual group is a kind of environment unlike water or earth. After my being introduced to the leader, Ojim informed me that she herself was an agent of Satan.

"Satan then showed me all the attractions, wealth and pleasures available in that devil's world which was to be placed at my disposal after my initiation. He assured me that I would be a very beautiful woman who would create attraction for men. My beauty notwithstanding, no man on earth would succeed in seeing me, said the devil.

"He assigned a soothsayer to me called Oka who used to apply a thing like charcoal to my forehead as an extra power with which I could always resist sex advances from men in this universe. In fact, under this power in me, it was practically impossible for any human being to have carnal knowledge of me.

"But inside the Ogbanje spirit world I got married to a man and had two children by him. My spirit sons and their father used to converse with

at all times, even when I was talking with ordinary human beings. I used to fly off while I was staying with people but the people would not realise."

Young Christiana continued: "When I arrived in the spirit world I entered into an agreement with Satan, promising to die and return to the Ogbanje world. It is against the custom of the society to reveal the terms of any agreement, and whoever did so would die.

"So then once I dared to reveal the terms of my agreement, I found my left hand paralysed — but I was healed after repentance in the church of God. I was healed through prayers.

"Then, when I tried to reveal the secret again, I found that my nose, eyes, parts of my lips and half of my entire face all ceased to be my body and were decaying into ashes. But again, I was healed by the church through prayer.

"Following a note from one of my Ogoja-based brothers telling me about Jesus Christ, I decided to become a Christian. My parents had earlier spent large sums of money to get me out of the secret group, but I refused to budge. I went to the Assembly of God's church and after my prayers for deliverance, my fear of the evil spirit ended and I revealed where my articles or symbols of membership were hidden. These articles include trinkets and clothing.

"One night after this Satan came to inform me that, as a result of my revelation, the book of my covenant had been destroyed and my name erased from their register. This so shocked me that I shouted and screamed, but after a while in prayer I became finally free of the shackles of the demon."

Another ex-member of the secret society, Mrs. Christiana Ibiom, described the devil as black and very ugly. She said she had eight children, three of whom were taken by her sylph group. The amputated 35-year-old bread-seller bears the following items as her articles of covenant or symbol:

**Marble**, which represented an instrument for answering at roll calls in the sylph world; a **needle** which was used to pin her name on their book of covenant; **crocodile**, which was for the registration of her name with the society; a white **ornament** meant for playing in the spirit world; a big **crocodile image** which indicated an oath of allegiance to the Mermaid. This bears three identification marks of their covenant.

Mrs. Ibiom said: "In Anoha Afikpo it is the custom that a new-born baby must be initiated into water. This is to enable the child to become a member of a spiritual group known as 'Anumayi' or 'Mermaid.' You go to the river on your physical appearance, and return in the same mood, but turn into a real spirit as soon as you arrive at the river-side. I am a member of this



Ex-members of the Ogbanje cult show articles of their covenant. These often consist of symbolic shells, stones secret talismans. Members are punished for telling secrets.

group of spirits. We used to go to meetings about three times a year, generally during the afternoons, and return to our homes as human beings at about six o'clock.

"A **Mghuma Umuoghohu** (young women's stone) is visited every Nkwo in the native week at noon. The stone is inside the river. We go there for our meetings. We go there

through a big mangrove tree which is at the river bank. When we arrive at the tree, we normally climb up and dive into the river in turns. But before this, exercise the first person to dive will be allowed time to consult with the god of the stone or mermaid before others start to dive. Then after audience with the spirit he or she stands on the stone to

signal to those on the mango tree to keep diving into the river up to the stone.

"The signalling is done by raising the head while standing on the stone. And those other people coming forward do so in single file. The stone is simply a very huge crocodile body underneath which is our spiritual head, like mermaid. The mermaid represents the queen (Adarwal) water while the crocodile represents the king of the water and is in other words popularly

and two children  
a male spirit'  
caused a fatal road  
rash near a college'  
ank a pontoon  
arrying food lorries'

special report by Innocent Ezech



Mrs. Ibiam: she lost a leg and four children



deliverance."

Another co-member, a 25-year-old housewife, Mrs. Alice Oko, confessed: "My articles of covenant on becoming a member of the sylvan are a ring, ikiribe (cowrie), talisman, paper and marble stone. The paper is meant for my nourishment; the talisman is for the attraction of men; the ring is for my sexual pleasure and more desire; and the marble was the love and admiration of men for me. The cowries represent where my children were. I had stay in the spirit world and gave out two five children and gave out to the sylvan by throwing them into the river. This I did after burning them. I carried the children to the river spiritually and in body the children died."

"My enrolment into the sylvan society was nobody's decision but mine. I stumbled on some members of the society and decided to join them and eat their food. It was my promise to my group that I would die after my first child had started crawling."

A 14-year-old girl, Oloruru Elu, claims she belonged to a very beautiful world known as "Alakima," meaning "better land." She added that she had three lights in her face which could not be seen by any human being.

According to the girl, these lights let her see things far away and foretell future events. She used to see clearly in the darkness. The teenager has this to say about her association with the evil spirit.

"The head of our society is Lucifer, and it has got seven horns. If you count up till seven, the devil flies away. It has black wings and leathers also but is abnormally black in colour. When I enrolled, the devil promised me a permanent and special place in the sylvan organisation. But before being taken to Lucifer, I was introduced to the mermaid by my pilot, Ojim. I am therefore a member of two spiritual groups: the water and land groups. I later became leader of the society. I was empowered to report any act of revelation of the society's secret on the part of any member. Consequently, one Felicia who attempted to commit such an act was reported to the Lucifer by me and was instantly hanged to death by the demon."

"I was vested with the power to harm and destroy people. The devil taught me how to disrespect holy places such as the church, with the result that when I tried to go to church it warned me to keep away and avoid God because God was fiercer water than myself. At one time, it chained me down for a couple of days to prevent my deliverance."

"After my deliverance, I became blind for a week as my light was quenched." My articles are a stone for my registration and a yam for the sustenance of the spirit world. I am happy for my freedom from the sylvan which I now enjoy. I have surrendered myself to God."

ABIMBA, PHOTOS. Mr. Aga to Thunder group of the sylvan called Onu ndi Uwa." He said: "I am a student there. We hold our meetings twice a year go by the air. I destroyed many things and caused many accidents on the road."

The pastor in charge of the Assembly of God Mission, Mr. J. U. Nwoko, said: "The work of salvation is that of God. It is with God's power that they redeem people from possession by the evil spirit. They fast and pray hard, calling on God to deliver them from the hands of the spirit. This is done in the church, and the victims get up to confess his or her own evil groups. We pray and send evil people free through the power of Jesus Christ. Their revelation comes through the holy spirit."

"We do not use candles,

## Evil practices continue

water or any other material things except through the name of Jesus Christ. When I preach the word of God, I possessed hear and make their confessions."

Adults and infants in Afikpo today are being made to realise the futility of entering into the sylvan societies. But the practice of joining evil spiritual unions and incarnations had existed in Afikpo for a long time. Parents condoned it a custom which no child should violate. From time immemorial, evil spirits were said to be the birthright of a child in without being a member of one spiritual group or the other.

When a child was born, it made to float like a canoe for a short time as a mark of initiation. The group to which a child belonged was decided by means of soothsaying. After regarded to have entered into a river. From this point, the child began to attend spiritual Nigeria, such as the Imo.

The child grew into adulthood with the sylvan group to which it belonged. Its supreme objective was to live for a given period of time on earth and then return to its underworld.

The groups of devil-orientated people at Afikpo leave much in stock for the members. They have differing fundamental aims.

The land group believe in acquiring wealth through the havoc they cause, to be enjoyed by them when they depart from this world. Every group has its symbol, to be kept by every member. For instance, the crocodile is the symbol of some water group members, and the tiger or leopard represents the land group.

abandoned, a one-legged woman.

"All our articles of membership were stored beside the crocodile stone inside the river. I, for fear, refused to go there to withdraw my own after my redemption, so a virgin child went into the river and brought out the articles. Behold, the child is a non-member of the sylvan gang. On the other hand, these our articles depreciate upon the loss of an offspring or relatives by any member. Our house of covenant is

located at the middle of the river. So far I had spent well over ₦200 in efforts to free myself from this evil society. I have attended almost every spiritual church I have heard of and spent over ₦800, a live goat and white cloth in the Cherubim and Seraphim Church—but all to no avail.

"I was once, in trying to struggle for freedom, a victim of a sexy orgy for the naive of a sexy orgy for the naive of a doctor. I thank the entire Church of the Assembly of God's Mission and God for my

known as 'Animiya'.  
"Under the water is very  
scenery where we live  
pay. As a member of the  
you are forbidden from  
banana and crocodile  
Generally in the spirit  
world you have to marry any  
of your playmates. When  
parents made an attempt to  
me from the sylvan  
the mermaid took away  
one of my legs and four  
children, two of whom were in  
the third and fourth year in  
secondary schools. I am now

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**B**EFORE YOU read this sensational, thought-provoking story, please permit me to inform you that my favourite bush are grass-cutter, antelope and monkey, in that order. The aforementioned three are a few of the animals that abound in Ghana's woodland areas. And hunting any of them for their tasty, succulent meat is as timeless an occupation to those who live in Ghana's bush areas, as fishing in the sea is to those who live along that country's coast.

Of course, shooting an antelope or a monkey for meat is perhaps not news, but when a hunter kills what he believes is an antelope but which later mysteriously turns out to be a human being — his friend, to be precise — then such a tragic occurrence can hardly be dismissed as mere hunting balderdash.

According to the late Kwadwo Anane and Kwad Num were friends. Both hunters from Fiapre, a town in the Brong-Ahafo region of Ghana. Last April, Anane and Num set out together to hunt in what was to be Num's last hunting expedition.

On the edge of the hot sun-drenched bush, Kwadwo Anane and Kwad Num washed their other good hunting; they parted, each going his way with his gun fully loaded.

As Kwadwo Anane penetrated the bush, eventually reached an overgrown with juicy lob grass; there were also thickets. Anane was expecting to see animals though. He doubted it would be lucky so soon from one of the thickets thought he heard a slight rustle.

He turned round and



One of Ghana's most sensational court cases continues. In Brong-Ahafo a young hunter in the bush accidentally shot his friend, mistaking him for an antelope. An ordinary case, until the dead man's mother walked into court and told the magistrate that she had turned her son into an antelope because he had not looked after her.

## THE MOTHER WHO TURNED HER SON INTO AN ANTELOPE

DRUM'S JOE MENSAH REPORTS

at direction, to make sure  
his ears were not deceiving  
Luck seemed to be with  
for he saw what looked  
a young and juicy  
elope, with a beautiful  
ing coat, making its way  
ed on the grass.  
Kwadwo Anane expertly  
cover to stalk his prey.  
e was no doubt about it —

it was an antelope. Anane  
inwardly thanked his stars. He  
took very careful aim and  
fired just one shot.

He saw the antelope drop to  
the ground. One important  
rule for hunters says "When  
you shoot an animal, ensure  
that it is cold before you move  
to pick it up." Kwadwo Anane,  
in obedience to the rule,

remained still long enough to  
convince himself that the  
animal he had shot was dead.

Then he moved forward  
stealthily, cautiously, as  
though he was stalking another  
quarry. He edged his way,  
inch by inch, towards the spot  
where the antelope lay. He was  
just a few metres from the dead  
animal when he had the shock

of his life: the antelope he had  
shot dead a few minutes ago  
was a man — his own bosom  
friend, Kwadwo Num, from  
whom he had parted earlier.

Dumbfounded and grief-  
stricken, Kwadwo Anane  
returned to Fiapre and  
informed the police of the  
unfortunate accident. He told  
them that he had set out on a

hunting expedition with his  
friend Kwadwo Num. In the  
bush he saw an antelope,  
which he shot, but when he  
went to collect it, the dead  
animal mysteriously turned  
out to be his friend.

Was Kwadwo Anane  
weaving a yarn when he said  
that he thought he had shot an  
antelope? Or had he been so  
deeply lost in thought about  
hunting antelopes that he mis-  
took his friend for one and  
shot him, only to realise later,  
after recollecting himself, that  
he had shot a human being?

How do you convince the  
police that a dead antelope can  
turn into a man?

The police did the only thing  
they could do: they charged

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The  
mother  
who turned  
her son  
into an  
antelope

CONTINUED

Kwadwo Anane with using a firearm without authority and causing harm to Num, and arraigned him before a Sunyani Circuit Court magistrate.

Again, how does one convince a magistrate that a dead antelope can turn into a dead human being? At the hearing the prosecution told the court that, during a hunting expedition, Kwadwo Anane had shot at what he thought was an antelope, but which turned out to be Kwadwo Num. Kwadwo Anane pleaded not guilty to the charge, and the hearing was postponed.

Meanwhile, if the tragic death of Num shocked the people of Fiapre and the court, perhaps it was not as shocking as what was to follow. In the interim, a 72 year-old woman, simple-looking and with the characteristic impassiveness of a villager, travelled from Fiapre to Sunyani and informed the police that she had killed her son, Kwadwo Num.

At first the police thought the old lady was on a different wavelength altogether; they tried to persuade her to go back home, but she turned out to be a no-push-me-baby; she would not leave unless the police treated her seriously.

The police then asked how she had killed her son. Without mincing words, she told them that when her son went hunting with his friend (Kwadwo Anane) she had turned him (Kwadwo Num) into an antelope to be shot dead by Anane.

She did not explain what powers had allowed her to achieve such an incredible feat.



KWADWO Num's mother who told all to the court. Her son's ghost was haunting her. He had not looked after her properly, she said.

but when police asked her why she should do such a thing, she replied that her son hardly ever gave her any of the game he killed on successful hunting expeditions.

When the magistrate was told of this latest development, he asked the old lady to think deeply. He asked her to go back and confirm with the police that what she had said was correct and true. The old lady did not appear to have any qualms about her bizarre tale.

However, while there are some people who see her as a self-confessed witch, there are others who would dismiss her as being mentally unbalanced. But she appears to be a woman of resolution; she is firmly convinced that she was responsible for the death of her son.

Why had she made a claim of things? "Because my son's ghost has been haunting me," she said.

# Mid-year Maiden

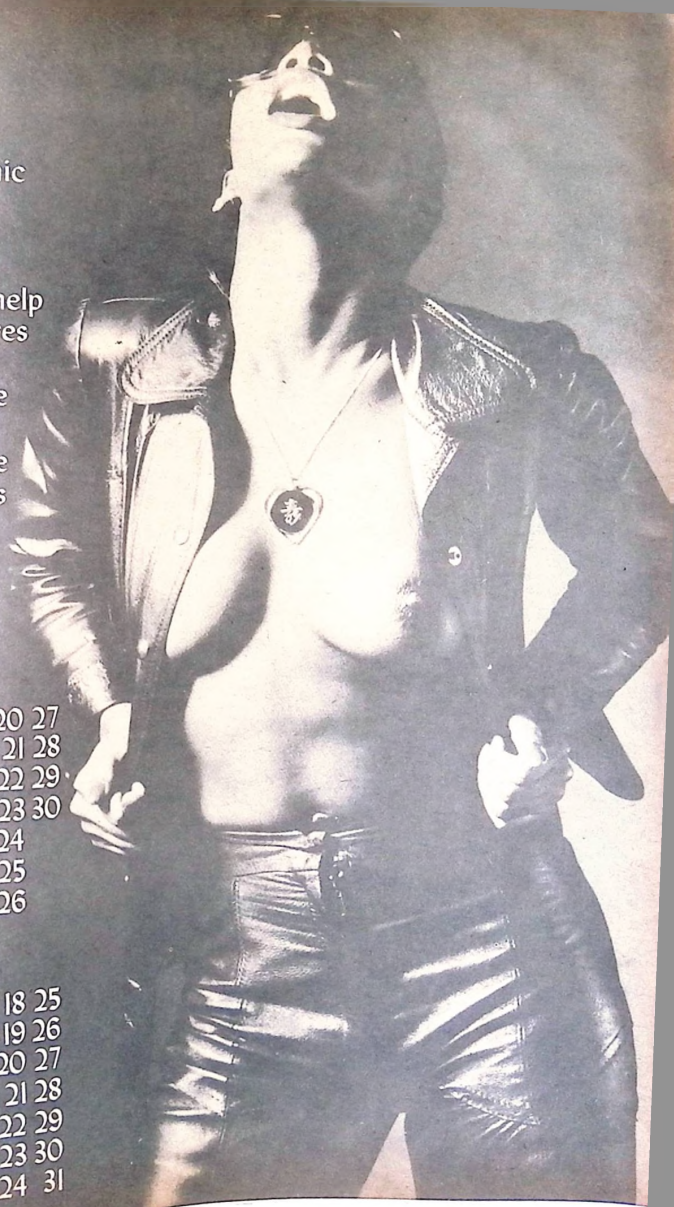
It's just the tonic  
you need, halfway  
through the year.  
MUM's Maiden of  
the Mid-year will help  
you forget the cares  
of the past and  
remember only the  
good - and, of  
course, cherish the  
sweetness that lies  
ahead.

June

SUN	6	13	20	27
MON	7	14	21	28
TUES	1	8	15	22 29
WED	2	9	16	23 30
THURS	3	10	17	24
FRI	4	11	18	25
SAT	5	12	19	26

July

SUN	4	11	18	25
MON	5	12	19	26
TUES	6	13	20	27
WED	7	14	21	28
THURS	1	8	15	22 29
FRI	2	9	16	23 30
SAT	3	10	17	24 31





## ON THE DAY

Lieutenant-Colonel Buka Suka Dimka was executed by firing squad in Lagos for his part in the abortive coup d'etat in February. Until the day he led soldiers to assassinate General Murtala Muhammed, Nigeria's late Head of State, he was director of the Nigerian Army Physical Education Corps. Dimka was shot with other conspirators in private at Kiri Kiri prison, with pressmen present.

*Lieut.-Col Dimka, the smiling soldier (left), walks to prison in handcuffs after his arrest.*

*Flanked by soldiers, surrounded by microphones, Dimka (below left) talks to the press after his arrest.*

*Still smiling (bottom left), he jokes with soldiers about to tie him up for the firing squad.*

*Dimka says his last words (below) to the press at the private execution at Kiri Kiri.*



# NIGERIAN SOOTHSAYER INITIATED INTO AN ORIENT CULT



**T**O train and become a soothsayer and be able to gaze at other people's future through a crystal ball is no joke. It involves a lot of physical strains, rituals, contacts with different kinds of spirits and other frightening processes.

Dr. Adejare Pearse of Lagos, the Soothsayer who predicted openly the coup that toppled Gowon six months before it happened and who has been using his amazing crystal ball to tell people of their chances in romance, business and other things, has at various times passed through such terrible experience.

DRUM takes you right inside an Indian temple of advanced cult where Dr. Pearse recently performed the rites of physical initiation.



# DID MRS WYA COMMIT SUICIDE?

Jacqueline Wya, the British wife of a Police Officer who was publicly hanged on March 11, 1976 died in a motor accident last month. Her death now raised a big puzzle for investigators.

REPORT BY DAYO DUYILE

Only a few days after her husband was publicly hanged along with other officers in Kaduna, the wife of a Police Officer, Mrs. Wya, was found dead in a motor accident. The police investigation was the issue of a note said to have been recovered from Mrs. Wya's car at the scene of the accident. The suicide note was stated to have contained a statement that reads "My love, I am coming behind."

What baffled people in Kaduna was the news that Jacqueline had committed suicide. "It is unbelievable," said one woman who claims to know the Wya family intimately. "I saw her the previous night and she looked unworried. Why must she decide to take her own life? I am baffled."

Mrs. Wya's body had been buried at Kashim Ibrahim Road cemetery in Kaduna. But the puzzle surrounding her death remains unsolved.

With the facts being assembled by Kano Police in their efforts to reconstruct the circumstances under which Jacqueline died, it is hoped that an answer would be supplied soon to the big question — Did She Kill Herself?

## OBITUARY

We announce with deep regret the sudden and tragic death of



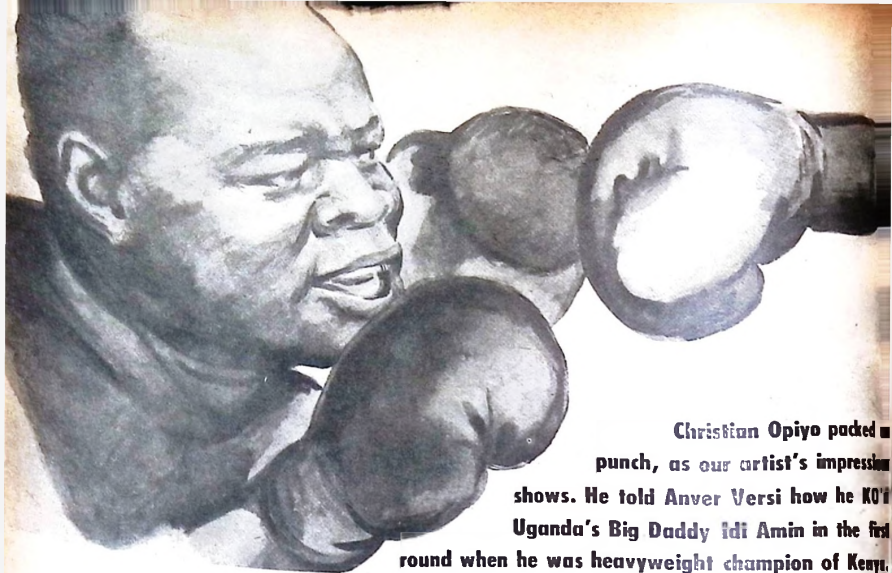
the late MRS. M. B. JACQUELINE WYA  
(Aged 33)

which event took place in a fatal motor accident along Zaria Kano Road (Near Kwanan Dangora) on Thursday 17/6/76

Burial took place at Kashim Ibrahim Road Cemetery, Kaduna after Funeral Service at St John Church, Tafawa Balewa Way Kaduna, commencing from 4 p.m. sharp on Saturday, 26th June 1976.

Colonel A.D.S. Wya being helped into the "Black Mina" which conveyed him to the execution ground.





**Christian Opiyo packed  
punch, as our artist's impression  
shows. He told Anver Versi how he KO'd  
Uganda's Big Daddy Idi Amin in the first  
round when he was heavyweight champion of Kenya.  
Now a shipping executive, he tells DRUM his own story.**

I fought Amin when he was a sergeant-major in the then East African army. Both Kenya and Uganda were British colonies at that time and the armies were a single thing.

I fought him twice and I cannot forget either time. The first time he beat me. But let me start at the beginning.

I started boxing as an amateur in Mombasa, and after representing my province for some time I was selected to box for Kenya against the army. The match was to be held in Kampala. This was the first time I was to box for my country and I was very eager to do well.

I remember that we left for Kampala by road from Nairobi. There were many experienced boxers in the Kenya side, and on the journey I heard a lot of tales about Amin.

Ali Juma, who was one of the best boxers in the country at that time — he left for a professional career in the U.K., I believe — asked me if I knew how Amin had beaten the former Kenya heavyweight champion, Owiso, so badly that Owiso had to crawl on his knees in the ring!

I had sparred with Owiso many times and I thought he was a very good boxer, so I thought Amin must have been a better boxer to beat a man like that.

I was told that I did not have

a chance against Amin. I was told that I would be licked in no time at all. This was said to me by my own teammates who had seen Amin fighting.

I had never met him before. I had not even seen him before and all this talk made me very nervous.

In Kampala, Senior Superintendent Peech came to meet us when we arrived. I was told that he had come to have a look at the heavyweight from Kenya. Peech was a boxer himself and I was told that he was Amin's closest rival for the heavyweight berth.

At first Peech did not recognise me. He thought that I was a light-heavy. No, actually he thought I was a middleweight.

Peech ridiculed me and said I would be wiped out! "You have no chance against Amin," he said.

The next day we went to Lugogo Stadium. The stadium was to be opened by the British Queen Mother, so it was well decorated.

Here I saw Amin at practice. The Ugandan team was working out and Amin was hitting the heavy bag. I think he knew the Kenya team was watching because he added a lot of power to his punches.

At the weigh-in he clocked in at 204 lb. I was only 178 lbs.

But the weight did not worry me because I knew that his extra weight would make him

slower in the ring.

At the fight itself, I went into the ring first. Amin made me wait for three minutes before he came. I had gone in very confidently and my spirit was high. But the waiting made me nervous and I lost a lot of my spirit.

When we started to fight, I did all I could. Through my inexperience I put everything into the first round.

Amin came at me slowly. He had never boxed with me before and he wanted to see my style. I went for him and I tell you that I damaged him a lot in the first round.

He was bleeding profusely from the nose. But that man could take a punch! He was very strong. Indeed he was strong.

I tried my level best to knock him out but I failed to do this. I put all my strength against him but he took the punishment very well.

At the end of the round, my corner told me I had done my best and that I was way up on points. I told my corner that my legs felt like rubber and I could not stand up any more. I was too tired.

In his corner Amin was given smelling salts to revive him properly. I peeped at him and I saw he was peeping at me also. I knew then that I was in trouble.

When the second round began he came out punching

furiously. One of his punches got me heavily on the chest. I went down with the force of that punch.

I got up again and Amin attacked me. I got another big punch on my shoulder as I tried to cover up my chin.

I went down very heavily onto the canvas. I was feeling so tired that I decided the best place for me was right there on the canvas. I was counted out.

I had lost my first international and was so disappointed that I wanted to cry. However, I knew I was a better boxer than Amin. I had more tactics. But lack of stamina had defeated me and for this I blamed myself.

There was a reception at the Speke Hotel after the fight and all the boxers and officials got together for drinks. Amin told me: "I did not really hit you hard if I had, you would have been in Mulago Hospital being nursed and not here drinking."

I told him we would meet again.

When I fought Amin again it was the middle of 1960. I was a student at what is now the Kenya Institute of Industrial Administration, training in industrial relations.

Mr. Marcel Brunner, of Brunner's Hotel, Nairobi, who was chairman of the Kenya ABA at that time, telephoned me and asked me to box for Kenya against Uganda.

I did not want to box at that

time as I had plenty of studies to do and I told Mr. Brunner I was in college to study and to box.

He said: "You swore that when Idi Amin came to Kenya you would fight him. Here your chance to beat yourself."

So I agreed and started to prepare seriously for the fight. I knew that I lacked stamina and so to build up stamina I started running every day from the KIA to Bruner's Hotel in Nairobi, a distance of about nine miles.

I took a bus back to school or I got a lift from Bruner's. I was becoming ready. I time I was determined to beat Idi Amin.

So the Uganda team and the boxing match we take place at City Hall, Nairobi.

At the weigh-in ceremony Amin boasted a lot. He said he would beat me so badly that my mother would forget me. I told him that might turn out the other and I might beat him so bad that his wives would forget!

I think he had two wives at that time. We both laughed the joke but I knew I meant business.

To avoid feeling nervous before the fight, I went to film. As a matter of fact I was in reaching City Hall the film and some of my friends thought, "Opiyo has got a and has run off."

# How I beat Ikhaji, Field Marshal, Doctor Idi Amin Dada

... DSO, MBE, MC, Vice-Chancellor and visiting Professor of Politics

... straight to the dress-  
... from which the Kampala  
... were sung and there I  
... Ikhaji. The better boxer will win.  
... the time I made Amin wait  
... You remember how he  
... made me nervous when he  
... made me wait in the ring in  
... Also I wanted to see  
... each support I would get  
... own place.  
... I went in and I could  
... the crowds cheering him  
... was a popular boxer. In  
... days any boxer who  
... draw blood from his  
... opponents and produce knock-  
... outs was popular. People  
... tried to see a lot of damage.  
... beat in and I was cheered  
... the crowd. The points in the  
... fight were even and my fight  
... with Amin would decide  
... whether Kenya or Uganda  
... won.  
... into the ring now. The  
... referee came and told us the  
... fight was over and we went back to our  
... seats for the first bell.  
... The bell I turned and I saw  
... Ikhaji charging furiously at  
... me. He threw a terrific straight  
... punch at my chin. You know, a  
... right right is an unusual  
... punch to use straight away.  
... The punch was so powerful  
... although it missed my  
... chin by just a bit, the laces  
... of my gloves cut through  
... Ikhaji's shoulder like a knife. I was  
... As the punch missed me or  
... I thought would have been over-  
... I was in trouble. Amin was

punching very strongly. I held  
him tightly and looked at my  
second in my corner. My  
second signalled to throw lefts.  
As soon as the referee said  
"break" I let him have a  
straight left to the chin, fol-  
lowed by another on the same  
place. His right hand guard  
went down. I hammered in a  
right cross which hit his chin  
and he went down to the floor.  
He got up from the canvas as  
the referee was counting. I  
looked at him and saw that his  
eyes were glassy. I knew that I  
was going to win. Tonight I am  
beating Amin, I thought.  
I hooked him in the  
stomach. He bent forward and  
I came up with a short, sweet  
right uppercut to his chin. He  
went down slowly and fell  
heavily. This time he stayed  
down until the referee had  
counted ten.  
I was the happiest man in the  
world at that moment. The  
crowd was wild. I had knocked  
out Idi Amin in the first minute  
of the first round. This was the  
shortest and sweetest victory of  
my boxing career.  
Also by my winning Kenya  
had won the tournament and  
so everybody was happy.  
Except the Ugandans, of  
course.  
We went happily to  
Brunner's Hotel, where there  
was a reception. I saw Idi and  
said to him: "Your wives will  
not recognise you now." He  
congratulated me and said I

was the better boxer that night.  
He also said the time had come  
for him to retire.  
Since that night Amin has  
never boxed internationally  
again. To my knowledge he  
had never been knocked out by  
anyone before. I feel you that  
man was strong, everybody  
knew it and he could take a  
punch.  
He did not have much of a  
style but he was very aggressive  
and always took a chance with  
a punch. He looked for opportu-  
nities to hit you and if he  
found the smallest one, he  
would really give it to you. He  
was not afraid at all and  
though he was cautious at  
times, when he attacked he  
really charged in.  
Unfortunately, I did not  
have much opportunity to  
socialise with him and so I  
could not learn much im-  
pression of what he was like.  
However, he was popular.  
I know it sounds strange, but  
I found Amin not talkative at  
all. He usually made direct  
replies to questions, usually  
either "yes" or "no." He used to  
smile a lot. He was smiling all  
the time I can remember.  
I found him a very good  
sportsman who knew how to  
take victory and defeat, and I  
liked some of his jokes, but  
Those were good days, but  
now I do not box any more.  
Look at all this fat.



THE punch that  
floored Big Daddy:  
Opiyo demonstrates  
for DRUM readers

# The day I met a corpse in Fleet Street

**A world of my own**  
by Olu Adetulu



**YOU CAN'T** predict what a journalist will do, particularly when many he has had a drop too anything, a fool or a sage, an excellent nuisance or an easily become gentleman. He can and pontificate about separate philosophical anything, including how to how a dictator can rule forever. He may be totally incapable of ruling his own capable of grabbing one. Or he may be tude and offensive just like the dull-witted bore, ruffian and Printer's Pie in Fleet Street.

For almost two hours before his boss — a polished and well-groomed gentleman — the crown (let's call him Mr. W. F. Nobody) acted as though he was William Shakespeare or Bernard Shaw, or D. H. Lawrence, or Ernest Hemingway. He tried to show that he had all the sterling talents of these giants rolled into his own head, which resembled the rear of a badly-carved battleship.

On any problem, he had the answer long before the problem cropped up. He had the solutions to the crises which led to World War I, to Hitler's war, to Watergate, to South Africa, to Angola, to the Nigerian civil war, to the English winter, to Ghana's

economy, to marriage break-ups, to juvenile delinquency.

Even to the war in Ireland, which Queen Victoria, Sir Winston Churchill and the uncommittable Harold Wilson, a past-master of ambiguities, admitted was beyond them. Mr. Nobody even volunteered a way to bring the IRA from grass to grace, and the German mark from grace to grace.

He was a sub-editor on a South African publication for six weeks, during which he "thoroughly mastered" the

man with the wooden brain, who loves to say "I have written 13 books, all of which are failures."

Even this did not impress the pretty flower he was trying desperately to take to bed, and who seized the first opportunity to telephone a simple, soft-spoken, modest, but decent guy whom she loved, but hate but just can't.

Even when Mr. Nobody bought a bottle of port and one of whisky on top of a round of drinks he had previously tried to use to get the girl to fall at his gout-rich feet, he failed woefully.

He is doomed to a life without women. What a life! Thank God I'm not. If I rather be in hell than in paradise if I had fool-proof evidence that all the nice things — good books, good musicians, good friends, good wines, and sweet women — would be there.

If I had not met and tested out many Fleet Street chaps, if I hadn't read some of the great newspapers, the street turns out, if I hadn't dined, wined, and danced with some of the Fleet Street boys and girls, I would have been misled into arriving at the wrong conclusions about Fleet Street.

Some of the bitches like journalists everywhere, including my great, gorgeous Nigeria, are decent souls, as far, my great and immitable friend, would describe a gentleman who is the son of a

This was precisely what Mr. Nobody is not, surely. He is one of the very few guys I would never like to meet again. He is sick. And his type of sickness kills outright. It's the kind of sickness which makes its

man at Erijiyan that he is a gentleman, the grandson of his gentleman, with blue blood in his veins.

Nothing that I said or did in my attempt to shake off this vermin that is Mr. Nobody was absorbed, until I told him I regret meeting you tonight. That is the truth. That did it. He stood up, wanted to say something, but couldn't find way. He just walked on leaving behind the drinks I had bought to warm him into a beautiful lady's heart.

**Thank God I can laugh without effort. Bless my old man at Erijiyan that he is a gentleman, with blue blood in his veins**

It was sorry to meet Mr. Nobody. So were some other people that that summer evening in London, including his editor who apologised to me as he thought me a fine cigar just make me forget the lovely fool.

It was a day to remember — even for the charming barmaid at the Printer's Pie, as for the Englishman who was insulted when Mr. Nobody walked across to his side of the bar to ask him in try to define a new word, he had just crossed, in a new "book" he started reading the previous night.

It was the day of the walking corpse.

victim a walking corpse. When its victim attempts to laugh, you are immediately reminded of the book: The Dead Man Laughs.

Thank God I can laugh without effort. Bless my old

**He had the solutions to World War I, Hitler's war, Watergate, South Africa, Angola, to the English winter, even to Northern Ireland**



problems of Black South Africans." He can therefore make Vorster, known as Hitler's boy, see new handwriting on the wall of change, even to kiss the ass of Miriam Makeba. That sums up Mr. Nobody.

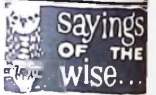


Mr. Motico: "Is it possible for me to confide a secret with you?"  
Mr. Moshweneng: "Certainly, I will be as silent as a broken car."  
Mr. Motico: "Well then, I have a pressing need for two naira."  
Mr. Moshweneng: "Do not worry, it is as if I had heard nothing."

"You know what they call a man who doesn't believe in birth control?"  
"Daddy."  
"And I suppose this is modern art I'm looking at?"  
"No, that's a mirror."

## PEN PALS

 Shamsi Muhammad, 12 Jerome Street, Oshodi Lagos. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, writing letters. Age 20.	 Tom Philip Okonko, 103 Koforodua, Lagos. Wants pen pals from East and West Africa. Interests: music, collecting stamps. Age 17.	 Marcel K. C. Okoro, NPEA, Lagos. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: tennis, dancing, sex. Age 25.	 George J. Pinn, Bay Community, 101 Karama, Zambiya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: tennis, reading, writing letters. Age 22.	 Shaban Ramadhani, P. O. Box 196, Kampala, Uganda. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: general. Age 20.	 John W. W. Box, 2653, Kross Zambiya. Wants pen pals from West Africa, Australia, etc. Interests: football, photography. Age 23.
 Dike Jerome, 12 Jerome Street, Oshodi Lagos. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, writing letters. Age 20.	 Johnson S. Mwanza, 103 Koforodua, Lagos. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, writing letters. Age 20.	 Rash Jordan, Rakoo Doug C. 7 Lagos. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: reading, writing letters. Age 22.	 Manzi J. S. Mwanza, 103 Koforodua, Lagos. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: reading, writing letters. Age 22.	 Ayo John Brown, P. O. Box 196, Kampala, Uganda. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: general. Age 21.	 Webster F. Isewale, P. O. Box 196, Kampala, Uganda. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: general. Age 21.



To him that possess knowledge, the instruction of fools is foolishness.  
Caxton W. Murgel Men  
Never tell a neighbour about your girlfriend or he will over throw you.  
Nysmal Mungu Mutso

These days the moon is just like another airport.  
Dick Okolele Emani  
For the child to insult the elder is a curse; for the elder to insult the child is a blessing.  
Omond-Olele Nabit

# SIGNS OF NEW BOOM AS EXPORT EARNINGS RISE

NERIA'S balance of payments improved at the end of last year to a surplus of N50.8 million in December, as with a deficit of N1.1 million in the previous year. The surplus fell down in January 1977, when it was N1.2 million higher.

Increased during the first 1188 per cent — for services, and declined N1 million for consumer

rise of 67.6 per cent on last year and the banks' liquid assets improved by 50.3 per cent. Demand deposits and currency outside banks led to a rise in the money supply in December of N56.7 million over November.

Cheques totalling 418,400 were cleared at the end of the

month, 9,100 or 2.2 per cent higher than the preceding month and 86,500 or 26.1 per cent above the level at the end of December, 1974.

The value of the cheques cleared was N1,315.5 million, representing increases of N87.5 million (7.1 per cent) and N25.6 million (90.7 per cent)

compared with a month and a year earlier. On the average 20,900 cheques, worth N65.8 million, were cleared daily during the month, compared with an average of 20,500 worth N61.4 million and 18,400 worth N48.3 million cleared daily a month and a year earlier, respectively.

## Insurance companies closed

THE Nigerian Federal Commissioner for Trade and Major-General Muhammad Shuwa, has cancelled the certificates of registration of two expatriate insurance companies. The Government's policy is to close expatriate companies which are not suitable for Government participation.

The companies are the British India General Insurance Company (Nigeria) Limited and the New Nigeria Insurance Company Limited. In a statement issued in Lagos, the Federal Ministry of Trade said that under the Insurance Companies Act,

1961, it would be an offence for the two companies to carry on insurance business in Nigeria after March 31, 1977.

The 12 months' grace period was to enable the companies to wind up any insurance business they might have in hand, with effect from the date the registration was cancelled — March 31, 1976.

The Ministry said that in the case of the New Nigeria Insurance Company Limited, which has some life policies on its books, arrangements would be made for the continued servicing of life policies, to protect the interests of the policy holders. The two

companies were registered in 1970.

The Government has also acquired 49 per cent of the shares in the American International Insurance Co.

The Registrar of Insurance, Federal Ministry of Trade in Lagos, said that with the participation in the American International Insurance Company (Nig) Limited, the Federal Government had now participated in all viable foreign-owned insurance companies operating in the country.

More business news on next page.

## Scots come to sell

NIGERIA'S holding list under the five-year development plan which includes improved roads, railways, airports and new port facilities, together with the steel industry, has been attracting investors all over the world. More than ten trade missions have visited the country this year, including the Scottish Council of

### BRIEF CASE

Development, which also sent two delegations in 1972 and 1974. The Council aims to offer highly specialised technical products, mostly in the engineering field, in Nigeria.

## Share swop

PATERSON and ZOCHON (PZ) and Associated Industries Ltd. (AIL) have decided to merge under an agreement to be put to the Federal Revenue Court. PZ's capital will be reorganised by the issue of shares to AIL. Shareholders will receive one new ordinary share in AIL for every cancelled ordinary share in PZ.

## Baby food

A NEW baby food known as Formula 3-3 has been launched in Lagos by an indigenous Nigerian company, Frimanson International Ltd. The new baby food, manufactured in America by Beech-nut Industries Ltd., is designed for babies from the age of three months to three years. The launch was handled by Glegg Communications (Nigeria), a public relations firm in Lagos.

## Bonanza profit

LENNARDS (Lagos) Limited has recorded a net profit of N1,280,493 for 1975, representing an increase of about 182 per cent on the previous year. At this year's general meeting the managing director, Mr. G. R. Mount, said that the company had become one of the leading shoe companies in Nigeria through an increase in Nigerian spending power and the firm's close contact with the major shoe centres of the world.

## FOR THE WELL-DRESSED OFFICE

SPEED is the essence in any office and the copying machine needs it most of all. The QVC II is easy to operate and, in a demonstration, copied 20 documents in ten minutes. It produces sharp dry copies ranging in size from 5 ins. to 14 ins. It has an automatic

versatility-by-pass, which lets you make individual computer print-outs or copies of pre-printed letterheads without having to change the standard copy roll. This new copier is made by the American 3M company.



WANT to save money on printing? The Gesteiner Offset machine prints greeting cards and complimentary cards of all sizes in 10-15 seconds. It has all the routine tasks, and resets itself for the next job automatically. The 209 is

compact and its unique printing mechanism and modular construction give fast and easy service. Duplicating is made more economical than before, and more colourful. It is simple for staff to use in offices or industry.



PTTTY, and knotty, arithmetical calculations need not tax your brain any longer in the days of electronic calculators. This one, by Triumph, is equipped with an easy-to-operate independent memory register. It permits subsequent entries, automatic storage, or direct storage. A control light gives "memory occupied" indication and an electronic interlock prevents capacity overflow of memory. It can store the value entered before the capacity overflow too. You get a print-out of digits for checking with decimal point under decimal point.

THIS tiny electric siren makes a louder noise than a 254 mm bell. It is quick and simple to install and requires no maintenance, even in humid tropical conditions and corrosive atmospheres. The Minimate siren is made by Sarnes of Burnley, England, and is available in different models for operation on 6V, 12V and 24V DC power supplies, and on 12V, 24V, 110V and 240V AC supplies. It is suitable for use as an intruder or fire alarm, for time signalling in factories, as a limit alarm for plant and machinery, or an anti-theft device for cars, boats, lorries and other vehicles. All Minimate sirens have a distinctive tone which cannot be confused with other warning signals.

# From the magic past - the art of the Hausas

In a land remote from the present, Marilyn Awooner Rennor discovers a pure art form



HAUSA walled village, rebuilt in England, provides a backdrop for the retinue of the Emir (BELOW) dressed in traditional robes and accompanied by his followers.



**H**AUSALAND, remote in the semi-desert of Northern Nigeria, has been removed from all the pressures of Westernisation. Away from the changes that affect the fabric of people's life-style, the Hausa culture has remained intact.

Only in the early nineteenth century, with the arrival of the immigrant Fulam from the West, did changes start, mainly with the introduction of the Islam religion and its influences. Later, European ideas came with the British, but even Christianity has been slow to gain ground. Colonisation has made the English language mandatory, but the Muslim faith is prevalent and so is the culture of Islam.

The unique quality of Hausa art owes much to the insularity of the walled towns. These physical barriers act as cultural barriers, retaining the pure art within and excluding change from the outside world.

The culture of the Hausa is as noticeable in their language, dress, life-style and features as it is in their highly decorative art. Even the most mundane artefacts are intricately decorated - clothes, cooking utensils, tools used in farming and so on. They are usually well-made, highly decorated and elaborate.

The long dry season, which allows little farming to be done, provides a wonderful opportunity for the men to use their leisure. They produce the detailed designs and complex patterns in a competitive atmosphere which brings out their best.

Where there is outside influence on the Hausa's art, it is usually Islamic. The nature and degree of influence varies with the product. Some items, such as armour, might be influenced by Islam, but this exists side by side with local Hausa products whose decoration is only partly

inspired by foreign examples.

Pure Hausa art is to be seen in home-grown, home-spun and home-woven cotton cloth which is then elaborately embroidered, usually into male garments. Women's clothes are much simpler and less elaborate. The embroidery patterns are traditionally intricate and the colours of the threads vary from vivid and multi-coloured to white or gold on pale blue or unbleached cotton.

In Hausa basketry, the coil method is used for making containers, and circular covers for food bowls, and a weaving technique for small kitchen fans and circular trays.

Traditionally, there is only a small range of colours but, recently, basketry has become less conventional and more colourful.

Calabash decoration among the Hausa men artists covers a wide range of different-sized articles, depending on the shape and size of the gourd. The objects vary from small ink containers, dishes and ladles (from gourds which have been split in two halves), larger milk or grain containers, or water containers and jugs. Calabashes are also used as musical instruments of the reed or percussion type.

Hausa leatherwork is also varied and includes bags, wallets, boxes, satchels for carrying the Quran, sheaths, scabbards, cushions, headpads, calabash stands and several kinds of footwear. Hausa leatherworkers also produce a great variety of horse trappings.

While leatherworkers use cow-hide, and the skins of sheep, lizards, snakes, and even some fish, the traditional leatherwork is done in goatskin. This is supple and easy to decorate and can be stiffened. The traditional colours are red, black, yellow and bright green.

PLEASE TURN OVER



**Sunday A. Alenabo**  
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 Rd, Oshana, Enns,  
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# HAUSA ARTISTS FROM THE MAGIC PAST

Ricksmiths still make their own tools and their craftsmen of the metalwork is the older Hausa art which includes such tools as ablation boards, metal baskets, containers, metal bowls and metal bowls and necklaces as well as jewellery like bracelets, bangles and necklaces. It was made after 1970 from industrial metals such as steel, as well as silver.

A great deal of Hausa pottery is still made for use as pappes, and its decoration is more often elaborate. Potters use a wheel and are generally incised with tools or impressed, or on plated fibres, and colour contrast is achieved with clay slip or glaze, painted on with a brush, or a piece of cloth tied to a stick, or mica-schist and beads. The comparative temperatures at which Hausa pottery is fired produce a glaze.

One of the most popular uses for cooking pots, water jugs, ablation jugs, clay and children's toys. A considerable range of designs exists, including plates, and adze handles, food bowls, stools, and mortars, musical instruments, yokes and

saddles, tethering posts, canoes, and Quranic writing boards. Stools and food bowls are most frequently decorated.

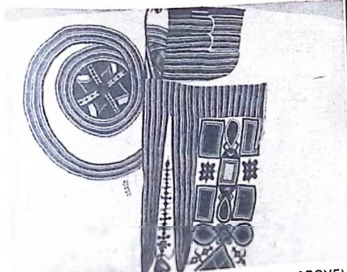
One Hausa artist, Yusu Yola, specialises in wall paintings. He keeps this art form going after its peak period in the 1940s and 60s. Modern painting has recently given over to the traditional Hausa wall decoration.

British people have had the opportunity of seeing a wide variety of Hausa art in an exhibition in London celebrating the World of Islam Festival. The most recent traditional artefacts of the Hausas (much of it produced

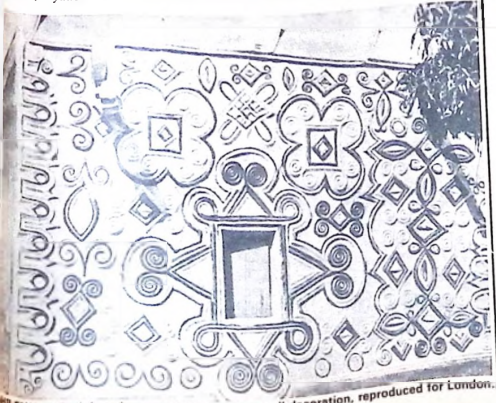


WRITING boards (ABOVE) from Zaria City and a pottery water cooler, which is from Hunkuyi village.

in the 1970s) have been on show, including a wonderful simulated walled town.



COLOURFULLY embroidered gown from Kano (ABOVE).



EMIR of Zaria's palace, with its intricate wall decoration, reproduced for London.

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tralia. Interests:  
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Kenya. Wants pen  
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Age 21

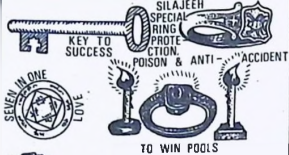


**John S. Kamah** c/o  
Mrs. M. Yon, Post  
Box Hospital, Box  
90502, Mombasa,  
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many, Sweden, In-  
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## DRUM short story by Beauty Magula

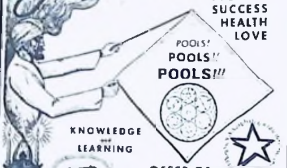
**O**ABONA was a boy of eight years, lived in Francetown, Number 17, White St. He was an orphan because his parents died when he was six. Mrs. Moya who was their only relative, reluctantly adopted Chibuku. Chibuku did not attend school although he had a great desire to do so.

His foster mother had it clear in him that a lot of money was spent on his education and therefore there was too young to bother with his future, he seemed contented with his way of life.

He was always seen with only true friend, Chibuku, a dog which had been given him by Mrs. Dinawa who at Number 25, Oabona was playing with his dog, especially in the morning when most of the children had gone to school. He would be ramping excitedly up down the footpath. Chibuku barked with excitement.

They both enjoyed their game. Among other things Oabona never forgot to come to the house in the City because there were mothers who often gave something to eat. Chibuku got crumbs too. During visits he never missed

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# Picking up the crumbs



will always be the last to handle the rich and the poor."

She held Oabona in her arms and it was her turn to cry openly while the boy watched, puzzled.

For the first time she raked her conscience and realised that she had hated children ever since she was told by a doctor that she was unable to bear her own. And when her husband died in a road accident she began to grieve all humanity. She avoided friends, preferring solitude.

When Oabona was brought to her house, it never dawned on her that she was being blessed with a child she had long wanted.

Suddenly, now, she felt light hearted and her future together with Oabona looked brighter. She looked at him meditatively and her smile held a good deal of sweetness.

"Come, let us go home. I will get you another dog and I will see to its safety when you go to school next year." She was more or less making a vow.

"Oh! mother, I'll be so pleased," he said, clutching her dress excitedly.

It was late in the afternoon when they returned home. They walked hand in hand, their hearts filled with warmth and new love for each other.

answer she continued: "You'll bring us trouble one day because you move from house to house."

Turning to the dog and pointing a finger, she added: "Keep it on a rope or else it will soon come into contact with the disease." It was in fact her desire that the dog should die. The team did come and they vaccinated all the dogs. The owners were warned to keep their dogs on ropes.

Although Oabona had very lonely mornings without his pet, his consolation was that it was safe after the vaccination, and he kept it tied up.

One morning he ran out to tell Mrs. Dinawa that Chibuku had been vaccinated and was therefore safe from containing rabies. He had just scolded with a mug of coffee which Mrs. Dinawa had offered him when he heard a noise. "Bang!" it went.

He became scared when he heard the whimper of a dog "Sit down and finish your coffee, my child. Chibuku must be safe if he is tied." Mrs.

Dinawa reassured, but Oabona was already heading for the door. He found Chibuku dead near a rubbish bin. He raised the dog's head and in despair he started to cry bitterly.

"Stop crying for a dead dog." He could not mistake his foster mother's voice. She had been watching him from her doorstep. The poor boy continued to cry and then getting fed up, she came and dragged him inside the house. Mercilessly she pushed him into a corner of the kitchen.

"If you want to weep for something worthwhile, you can weep for your dead relatives," she said sourly.

After the incident Oabona was seldom seen. His face was always swollen from unshed tears. One afternoon he decided to go and see where they had thrown his dog.

In a pit near a heap of rotting rubbish he recognised the once black hair of his now decaying dog. He stared, and began to weep. Suddenly his foster mother shook him from behind. "What on earth has

brought you here?" she asked angrily.

"Why don't you leave me alone?" Oabona spoke between sobs. Mrs. Mogoma's anger vanished when she saw the boy crying hysterically. She was stunned when he said: "I would rather stay here and watch my dog being eaten away by the worms than go back to your house."

She had never expected that from such a small child and it struck her like a blow. She stopped shaking the boy and stared.

"Oh! Oabona, do you want to sit and watch this horrible sight?" She began to cry, remembering that she had deliberately killed the dog, out of hatred.

"These worms are the luckiest creatures because they are the last to own my beloved dog." Oabona was deeply hurt when he said those words. His foster mother was dumb-founded. Her hard heart was touched as she agreed with him. "It's true my child. The worms are lucky because they

house, where he got entertainment. Stop howling like an angry voice! One morning Oabona one morning that silly dog outside. How how it messes the Mrs. Mogoma shouted

they knew that she was of her funny mood, and she spoke about his always annoyed him, he would not dare feelings.

is an outbreak of he told his foster who was sitting grim in a small bench watching the post. "Perhaps shoot all the dogs in this 'rip." The words left her fore she could control

Veterinary Department sending some officers inside all the dogs confidently," he explained that what you learnt you morning round" ed, and before he could

# Yes, it's a long, long story

## DRUM fashion

**M**EN, you'll be lucky if you see so much as an ankle if these new fashions by Esther Ede take hold. Their big attraction is the long, long look... relying on variations in materials and designs to ring the changes.

Esther used to be a model in Europe. But the time came when she got tired of modelling other people's creations, and decided to learn how to design her own.

So she went to the United Kingdom and trained at a famous fashion house in London.

Back in Lagos, Esther set up her own fashion house on Ojuelegba Street, Surulere, on Lagos mainland. Her creations won her many customers in a city where ladies will gladly pay a lot for a really lovely dress. In addition she won the hearts of many young women, who put pressure on her to set up a training centre where she could share her knowledge and experience with others.

Now, whenever a set of trainees "graduate" from the training centre, Esther Ede seizes the opportunity to show the fashion world a selection of her newest creations. DRUM photographer Mathew Fajji was there to see her latest fashion show...



*Fashion Flare: flower-power shows in this super kung-fu maxi from Esther Ede.*



*Not a glimpse of an ankle with this pale maxi dress with flowers*

**HERE'S** the way to cover up those legs. **ON LEFT**, dark green velvetine wide-bottomed maxi with silver and white embroidery. **BELOW**, this transparent polka-dot cape in chiffon is just the thing to wear with a long dress on a cool evening. **RIGHT**, Another kung-fu number in flowery material, with long sleeves. **FAR RIGHT**: multi-coloured three-tier chiffon number, ideal for evening wear



## How to stay healthy



## INSIDE

- HOW vitamins can change your life Page 43
- LOVE: It can be a disease Page 47
- SEX: The method and the meaning Page 45
- PREGNANCY: What it's all about Page 48
- ACCIDENTS: Death can be avoided on the roads Page 45
- TRAGEDY: The truth about polio Page 48

...wants to be healthy, hap-  
pen longer. In the past, we  
had to accept what happened  
to us ... there wasn't much  
we could do about illness. But all this  
has changed, especially in the last

ten years, as medicine — and our  
country — have advanced so rapidly.  
Now DRUM presents — exclusively —  
a look at the diseases and problems  
we face ... and how we can prevent  
them, and how to try to cure them.

# TENSION: KILLER THAT WAITS FOR ALL OF US

**A**NGER and aggressiveness do more harm than most people realise. For every time you express anger, a small but not insignificant amount of damage is being done to your health. Modern science has proved that every time you are angry, there is a super — or hyper — production of adrenalin.

When poured into the blood stream the adrenalin raises the blood pressure, leads to the release of fatty products from the blood stream and gets deposited on the walls of the blood vessels, leading to atherosclerosis and hypertension, the two giant killers.

Anger and aggressiveness are not the major causes of hypertension. Most hypertension is "essential hypertension" for which no cause can be found. The main incidence of essential hypertension falls between the ages of 40 and 60. This terrible disease accounts for about one fifth of all deaths over the age of 50 ... a staggering 20 per cent.

*OHMAN, myaching back and head. Another victim of hypertension feels the pain.*

Hereditary factors play a part. The disease has been traced to several generations of some families. Obesity is associated with an increased tendency to hypertension.

Two factors determine blood pressure: the output of the heart and viscosity of the blood. Chronic diseases of the kidney are often associated with hypertension.

Most hypertensives learn of their illness only when having a medical test for employment or insurance, because for many years there are no symptoms.

The features are variable. They include nervousness, irritability, loss of energy, easy fatigue, headache, dizziness and impairment of concentration.

Early in the disease, hypertension is intermittent. The blood pressure is high when there is stimulus exerting its influence and the pressure normal when at rest. Later the



resting blood pressure becomes permanently raised.

There are three major causes of death in hypertension: cardiac failure, cerebrovascular accident, and renal failure.

Hypertensive heart failure is the complication of greatest importance. At first the heart overcomes the effects of raised blood pressure and maintains a normal flow of blood to the tissues.

After a while the burden proves too great for the heart and it can no longer maintain its output. Then the heart starts to fail. This is the decompensated phase.

During the compensated phase there is breathlessness on exertion because of reduced heart reserve. The heart is enlarged in the decompensated phase. There is breathlessness at rest and difficulty in breathing.

Cerebral manifestations of hypertension include headache

and dizziness.

Hypertensive encephalopathy is caused by acute focal cerebral ischaemia in which spasm, oedema, minor haemorrhages or thrombosis play a part. Attacks are heralded by headaches, nausea and vomiting.

Transient disturbance of vision, speech, disorientation and fits or loss of consciousness may occur.

Medical science and modern therapeutics have come a long way in treating hypertension. There are many drugs in the market to reduce blood pressure. But there is no specific treatment, because the cause of essential hypertension is unknown.

Rest, diet control, restriction of activities, sedatives, hypertensive drugs are all that can be used to Wage War against this giant killer.

# MEET AWO, THE DWARF



Some people may  
the unusual stature  
Mr. Adebowale Awo  
hinde as a disadvan-  
tage. But to the dwar-  
it has turned out to  
advantage. When  
offered his services  
the OJO LADIPO THE-  
ATRE, founded and dir-  
ected by Mr. Ojo Ladipo  
alias ('BABA MERU'),  
the theatre glori-  
ously signed him on as  
actor and showman.

When the theatre  
up a play: EFUNSETI  
ANIWURA in Lagos  
Awo, as the dwarf  
popularly called by  
many fans, first enticed  
spectators to the  
floor show. His part-  
ner was Mary Ladipo,  
one of the wives of  
founder and director  
of the theatre.

DRUM photograp-  
HER MATHEW FAJI was  
there to bring you pic-  
tures of the sensati-



# MEDICINE

and YOU

# Vitamins can change your life

Recommended amounts of vitamins are the amount of the vitamin required necessary for maintenance of a healthy adult people. It is expected to cover the needs from such as infections, poor or metabolic

These amounts are suitable for calories and vitamins are met.

Recommended daily 1000 calories is 0.4 milligram of riboflavin and 6.6 nicotinic acid for nicotinic acid. Results in changes.

Follicles of the skin and glands of the eye blocked with plugs of their secretions

comes a condition known as scurvy. When the condition is severe, the condition is known as scurvy.

can be got in milk, liver, cheese, like cabbage.

## THE ABC

Vitamins are organic substances that the body needs in small amounts for its metabolism, yet cannot manufacture for itself.

must therefore be obtained from the diet.

A group of 10 vitamins is known to affect man.

These are vitamin A, which are fat-soluble vitamins, and seven water-soluble vitamins — ascorbic acid, thiamine, nicotinic acid, pyridoxine, and folic acid.

Water-soluble vitamins, except ascorbic acid, are excreted in the vitamin B group because they are excreted in the same manner, such as yeast and

vitamins are found in plants because they are parts of specific systems on which metabolism depends.

carrots and lettuce — are the chief sources of vitamin A.

Vitamin D is necessary for the formation of normal bone. It promotes the absorption of calcium and phosphate from the gut, thus ensuring a sufficient supply of these minerals at the sites of bone development.

Rickets in infants is a disease of calcium and phosphorus metabolism caused by insufficient vitamin D.

The intake of calcium is usually low because of a shortage of milk in the diet. Rickets is still a worrying clinical issue in the developing countries of the third world.

Many other factors apart from diet account for vitamin D insufficiency. Some mothers wrap their children up in clothes, denying them the ultraviolet rays of the sun, so that their children might not get dark skins.

Rickets has always been the disease of the poor who can't afford milk, cream, cheese and eggs — foods that provide a good source of vitamin D.

Infants with rickets might be receiving enough calories but be restless and pale. Excessive sweating on the head is a common feature.

The abdomen is distended. The teeth often erupt late in a rickets child and there is failure to sit up, stand, crawl or walk at the normal ages.

Vitamin K is in fresh dark green vegetables, such as spinach. All foods of animal origin, including fish-liver oils, are bad sources unless they have undergone bacterial putrefaction.

Vitamin K deficiency is indicated by bleeding diseases of the new-born.

Vitamin C is found mainly in fruits: tomatoes, oranges and grapes. Lack of it leads to a disease called scurvy.

The clinical signs are swollen gums, which bleed on the slightest touch. Cutaneous bleeding may be found first on lower thighs, just above the knees. The patient is often anaemic.

In infants, the main features are lassitude, anaemia and painful limbs.

## DO YOU PREFER NATURAL TEETH TO ARTIFICIAL TEETH?

THEN READ THE FOLLOWING:

NATURAL TEETH ARE THE BEST FORM OF TEETH IN EXISTENCE. FOR THEY LOOK BUT THEY WORK BEST. AND THEY RECEIVE THE BEST CARE. TO HAVE A TOOTH DO YOU WANT YOUR TEETH TO REMAIN CLEAN & SPARKLING AND LAST FOR LIFE SPAN?

NATURE GIVES YOU 52 BRUSHES FOR USE AS A CHILD AND 52 FOR USE AS AN ADULT.

THEN FOLLOW THESE RULES:— BRUSH DAILY AFTER MEALS. BRUSH YOUR MOUTH

GOOD

A GOOD TOOTH BRUSH — WITH BRistles ALL IN NORMAL POSITION.

BAD

A BAD TOOTH BRUSH — WITH BRistles ALL ACATTERED LIKE BRANCHES OF A PALM TREE. ANY TOOTH PASTE IS GOOD THE CHOICE OF WHICH LARGELY DEPENDS ON PERSONAL TASTE.

THE TOOTH BRUSHING TECHNIQUE (Created by North Branson) THIS IS DONE BY BRUSHING FROM THE GUM TOWARDS THE BITING SURFACE OF THE TEETH.



HOW TO BRUSH THE OUTER SURFACES.



HOW TO BRUSH THE INNER SURFACES

FLUORIDE AND PHOSPHOROUS THESE SUBSTANCES ARE FOUND IN



A HEALTH Ministry poster gives some tips on teeth care. Take note, for you should, as an adult, have 32 teeth. And there is no reason for you not to keep smiling with most of them for the rest of your life. The secret lies in what you eat... and how you then get rid of the bits that cling to the

## Keep that smile!

teeth. Stay clear of sugar foods. And after a meal with meat in it, be sure to remove all the bits that may have stuck between the teeth. Do this by brushing well and by using dental floss to clean off damaging elements.



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PLEASE TURN OVER

# Multivitaplex



## for happy children

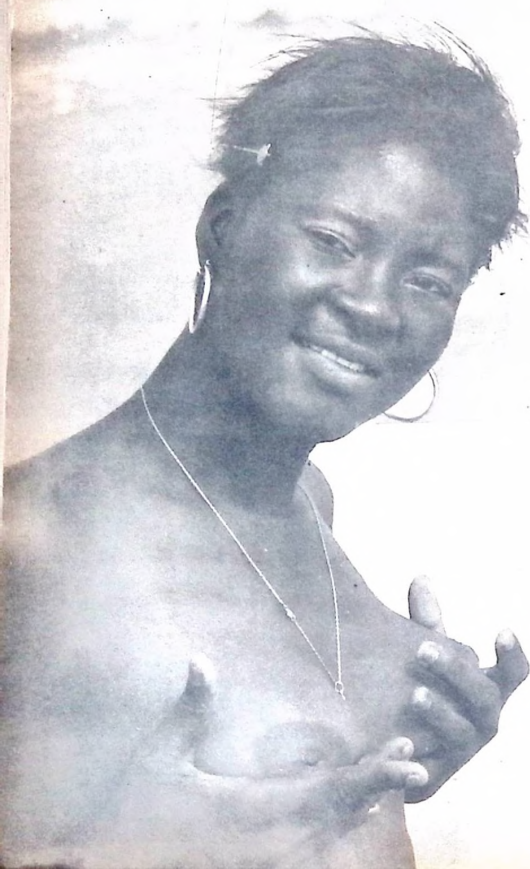
The main vitamins necessary for your children every day.  
Supplied as tablets, paediatric drops, and a pleasant tasting elixir.



DUMEX



# MEET MISS BIMPE COLLINS



## MEET MISS BIMPE COLLINS

When 18 year-old Miss BIMPE COLLINS offered to join the bevy of beautiful girls who model for DRUM, ace photographer MATHEW FAJI gladly took up the challenge.

Bimpe promised to show Mathew that she's got all it takes to be a successful model. And Mathew vowed to give Bimpe 'the full works'. Here are samples of the results of the encounter.

# MEDICINE and YOU



## THE OLD WAYS...

DO the traditional medicines really work? The average Nigerian apparently thinks so. And many herbalists' remedies have proved useful in treating a variety of ailments and diseases. Here (LEFT) an experienced old native doctor diagnoses the illness of a young patient with the approval of its mother. And (RIGHT) this young herbalist, keenly watched by his customers as he prepares the ingredients for one of his potions, is proof that traditional medicine isn't only an old man's field.



# Falling in love can be a disease

**GONORRHOEA** is still the major venereal disease in Nigeria. This was found in a communique from Lagos by the Committee for Medical Research of the Nigerian Council of Nigeria and of a consultative committee of experts drawn from all parts of Nigeria. The committee examined the problems of venereal diseases. A meeting was held in Lagos with a World Health Organisation resolution calling for member states of WHO to employ appropriate measures for the control of transmitted diseases in their countries. Nigerian experts emphasised the lack of reliable information on the incidence of venereal diseases in Nigeria and the need for laboratory facilities for diagnosis. Sexually transmitted diseases, such as gonorrhoea, syphilis, herpes genitalis, lymphogranuloma venereum and chancroid were also common in Nigeria. The problems of few trained personnel and the effectiveness of the currently available drugs were examined. The need for

continued education of medical personnel and health teams dealing with these problems, and health education for the masses, was emphasised. So was the fact that these diseases are giving rise to many complications, among them infertility and sub-fertility among Nigeria's woman and urethral stricture among the men. Screening tests, which might be of importance in the early detection of the diseases, are limited by lack of reliability. Nonetheless, syphilis and lymphogranuloma venereum can be screened among specific groups at risk. The meeting felt that the law in its present form is restrictive, and would require a drastic review to meet present needs. Self-treatment by many victims who want to keep their affliction as private as possible was recognised as presenting a major problem. The meeting therefore stressed the need for standard treatment for sexually transmitted diseases.

PLEASE TURN OVER



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THE GENTLE WAY TO HEALTHY SKIN

**MEDICINE**  
and YOU

# Baby makes you a new woman



**P**REGNANCY has a profound effect on a woman. The changes are so great that it is almost true to say every organ in the body plays its part.

The outlook of the woman, and her general appearance, alter. The consistency of her skin changes to a certain extent

and her stance is altered. Her digestion is affected and her emotions are strongly involved in all that is going on. The balance of her hormones changes, too.

Certain organs, however, are the most affected. These include the uterus, and the breasts. The blood, skin and

endocrine system are also affected.

In the sexual act the man deposits many spermatozoa in the woman's vagina. A spermatozoon has a head, a body and a tail and is capable of fast movement, or "swimming".

On being deposited in the vagina, many of them swim into the uterus, where an egg is waiting to be fertilised. A spermatozoon penetrates the egg, leaving its tail behind. Fertilisation takes place and a zygote is produced. This zygote then undergoes a series of divisions, culminating in the long process of embryology. That causes the production of a child.

The size of the uterus increases according to the size of the foetus. The length of the foetus is the square of the month up to the fifth month — after which it is five times the month. Thus at the fourth month the length of the foetus is 16 centimetres. At the sixth month it is 30 centimetres.

The abdominal wall stretches to allow the uterus to grow inside. As the contents of the abdomen and the volume of the circulating blood increases, the lungs have to expand.

The diaphragm is pushed up, the heart tends to be pushed over towards the left

and the bases of the lungs have less room to expand. The skin of the abdominal wall and of the upper thighs and breasts becomes wrinkled in some patients as a normal physiological process, causing "stretch".

In the breasts an increased amount of water is retained, together with a slight increase in fat. From about the 20th week milk, looking like a watery discharge, may be expelled from the nipple.

Fairly early in pregnancy brownish pigmentation occurs in nipples that before

pregnancy had been darkish colour. The area surrounding the nipple increases in size.

Tiny glands surrounding the nipple secrete a small quantity of oily fluid to help keep the nipples soft in pregnancy and during lactation, and for that they increase in size.

The easiest way to diagnose early pregnancy is the use of gravindex and prognosticon tests. They are practical, reliable and quick and can be performed in the out-patient clinic of any hospital.



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## The tragedy they call polio

POLIO IS caused by a group of viruses which attack the nervous system and affect the motor functions of the spinal cord and the brain. Infection is mainly transmitted from people who, though not suffering from this disease, carry the germs causing it. It can be spread by food, water and milk.

The disease most frequently affects young adults and children.

At first there is a mild general malaise, with fever, headache and gastro-intestinal disturbance lasting about two days. Cases which do not progress past this stage are called abortive polio. But others develop the major disease a few days later.

The major illness can be divided into two stages:

(1) **THE PRE-PARALYTIC** stage: the temperature rises, with severe headache. There is malaise, vomiting, loss of

appetite and frequent stooling. The muscles are painful. The patient becomes restless. In some cases these symptoms disappear after 48 hours.

(2) **THE PARALYTIC** stage. The temperature subsides but pain persists in the muscles. Paralysis may appear in any site. The lower limbs are more often affected than the upper. Paralysis is complete within 24 hours. The affected muscles lose their reflexes and atrophy.

Life is endangered when the muscles involved in respiration or deglutition are paralysed. The patient is then restless and unable to sleep, and difficulty in swallowing and coughing may occur.

Diagnosis is difficult before the onset of paralysis but polio

should be suspected as the cause of a febrile illness if there is unusual restlessness and muscular pain. Polio should be suspected in cases of children who suddenly stop crawling after a fever.

Vaccination can give a high measure of protection against polio. People who have been exposed to the disease but not vaccinated may be given temporary protection by an injection of gamma-globulin.

The treatment of polio consists of bed rest with sedatives to control restlessness. When there is paralysis the limbs should be placed in positions of relaxation while gentle movements of the limbs are carried out to maintain mobility and avoid contractures.

## Do you have all the answers now?

Doing this will strengthen their trust and confidence in us. Some parents may think that this is a Westernised approach which cannot be conveniently practised in our society. To my mind, this is untrue. Take the following experience I had some years back.

I was travelling with my brother, his wife and their three-year-old daughter in a lorry. We got to a town where the cemetery was by the roadside. My little niece quickly inquired from her father what "those huns" were. He simply told her children are not allowed to know about the huns.

My little niece persisted, but instead of explaining things to her he shouted at her to stop asking foolish questions. You can imagine how the child felt about this.

Immediately I noticed she was not pleased, I called her and started explaining to her that the things she saw were graves where dead bodies are buried. She then asked me how a person dies and what happens when a person dies.

I told her that when a person dies he or she will be dressed in white clothes, put in a coffin and buried under the ground, so that no-one will see him or her again, and that the remaining people will cry and cry because of his or her death. A quick look at my brother revealed that he was not pleased with what I was doing, and when we got home he told me that he didn't welcome such a "lecture" from me to his daughter because he believed she was too young to know

# quiet moments

with Gbemi

anything about such a subject. He was seething with anger, but I kept my cool.

About three years after that one of our neighbours died in hospital, and my niece came in and told us: "Daddy, mummy and aunty, someone has just told me that the man next door is dead, and, like aunty told me that means we are no longer going to see him around — I feel sorry for him."

My brother was gently surprised that she still remembered what I had told her three years back. From then on he took it upon himself to explain things to his daughter and they have been very much closer since. She now asks any question she wishes without

any remorse. My belief is that children brought up in a free atmosphere will never find it difficult to express themselves and their intelligence always surpasses that of children brought up under restricted conditions.

Take a minute or two, ponder over what you've just read, and perhaps you will discover the type of parent you are. Perhaps this will ginger you up to make yourself more accessible to your children — helping them to face life with all the confidence it demands.

By so doing, you will satisfy your conscience as a parent — so give your child enough access to you and he or she will grow up not to suffer in silence.

age of parent are  
how accessible  
to your own  
questions that  
judging  
of some  
children.  
today's children  
intelligent and  
cannot be  
aged, but if their  
even a chance  
they ought  
their intelligence  
ignorance or  
follows because  
dependence of their  
am more and  
ing questions and  
right answers. The  
my sound silly to us  
to get on our  
to parents we must  
and whenever  
options we consider  
and for their age, we  
and try to discourage



**Senga Olatunwa**, 27  
State, 7/6 J O  
Street, Badagry, Ondo  
Lagos, Nigeria, writes  
poems from all over the  
world. Interests:  
teaching, writing.  
Age 27



**Kishorika Lengua**,  
Mbari, Vai, See  
School, Box 36, Vai,  
Koroma, writes poems  
from all over the  
world. Interests:  
Loves music, teaching.  
Age 27



**Luby Adenika**, Min  
of Education, Ibadan,  
Nigeria, writes poems  
from USA, India,  
New Zealand, etc.  
Interests: physics,  
current affairs, games.  
Age 27



**Joseph Ndumu**, De  
Vestiture Church, Box  
28100, Nairobi,  
Kenya, writes poems  
from all over the  
world. Interests:  
music, sport, reading.  
Age 24



**Hussaini Sulaiman**,  
Fajana, Teaching  
College, Box 120,  
Kaduna, Nigeria, writes  
poems from all over the  
world. Interests:  
music, sport, general. Age  
17



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# The jazz event of the decade

by Al Cook

THE RELEASE of five albums by jazz pianist Oscar Peterson, accompanying five of the great trumpeters of all time, is not just the musical event of the year. It is the musical event of the decade.

Let's not waste anybody's time. If you get turned on by the effects cooked up by the engineers in the mixing room, this is not for you. If your favorites must wear white gloves and do fancy choreography in unison, forget it. If you like to have your mind blown with light shows, go-go dancers and megatons of volume, go to a discotheque.

But if you're the type who likes to sit down on a dark, warm night with a glass of cold beer, put on the stereo, and thrill to the sound of genius, this set is for you. Every kind of musical excitement is here.

There are no drums, no bass, no players at all on these sides apart from Peterson and the trumpeters. Yet the beat is often so intense that it imparts the wildest dance. Any other musicians would lessen the impact. Peterson is himself the equivalent of an entire orchestra. He is everywhere, on a piano seemingly two miles long, whirling, dancing, crackling, stabbing out bass lines that put the trumpeters

into orbit, rocking on chords that send shivers of joy down your spine, zig-zagging through frantic runs like a soccer star dribbling his way through a whole team and scoring with a note placed impeccably in the corner of the beat.

## DRUMBEAT REVIEWS

The piano sings, drives, explodes — it is truly amazing. On some of the tracks with Roy Eldridge, Peterson plays organ, and such is his genius that he adapts to that lumbering monster perfectly, skipping past its pitfalls and instantly making most pure organists sound clumsy.

With such accompaniment, the trumpeters have no alternative but to play their very best. If you know Eldridge, Edson, Terry and Gillespie, you'll know how good that is. Twenty-one-year-old Faddis is not so well known but is up to the standard of the others, though his playing is touched with the brashness of youth: more flashy, less subtle.

There are wide differences in the styles of all the trumpet kings, but they all have their own excitements, which is one

of the reasons this series of records is so wonderful. Differences are magnificently revealed in the lib blues, which each of the

Faddis races into stratosphere over a break tempo. Gillespie still develops a creation of and drama, his approach varied as to include even of singing Terry shrieks mumbles, using quirky effects, his trumpet occasionally almost the

quintessence of it. Edson quite simply blows joint apart, over the superb, sustained performance of the series.

And then there is Eldridge. His blues, his album, must be described separately, to do justice to trumpet. Good, even though the others' efforts are power, truth and majesty. Eldridge's trumpet is that it makes them — E excepted — sound a little though they are only pl games, compared with the thing.

Some of the music of Eldridge album is overwhelming that the listener can only feel a sense of profound gratitude that he has been privileged to hear it is nothing more to say.

To sum up, it is a luck who is able to obtain the series of five great albums if you can only afford two, get the Eldridge the records.

The discs: Oscar Peterson & Roy Eldridge, Pablo 739; Oscar Peterson & Gillespie, Pablo 2310; Oscar Peterson & Edson, Pablo 2310 741; Peterson & Clark Terry, 2310 742; Oscar Peterson & Faddis, Pablo 2310 743.

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Pivotal of the jazz trumpet



ary book  
making  
istory

# A poet who loves—and sings

**NO BABY MUST WEEP** by Mongane Wally Serote, (Ad Donker, Johannesburg).

**T**HIS is a powerful 54-page statement by Wally Serote — about "this time/past and coming," about himself as a poet, and about man.

He traces his growth in thought and feeling from the young boy making love in wrecked cars in the dirt and shabbiness of Alexandra Township to a poet who loves man and sings his love.

In an age when some poets believe they are the centres of the universe, or swing to the direct opposite and mouth political slogans, it is refreshing to meet a poet who is able to define himself, his role in the slum of Alexandra Township, in a colour conscious South Africa and in the larger slum that is part of the world today.

Serote has a poet's vision. Listen to his talk about man: "things who have forgotten how to kiss or smile because their pipes and cigarettes are always in the way these things dead but walking thinking they are striding forgetting love on their tables like they do their keys bloody things with blooded shoes spawcrows placed in the middle of the garden by greed disturbing birds these things and scaring cats when they make love in the dark these things which can't even read a poem or listen to a song worse than bloody shit."

But Serote is also man "but my muscles are disgusted because I am man"

In spite of this, he is committed to his poetry. "I sit here hursting words between my



**STRONG** voice from South Africa: M. Wally Serote

wringing fingers like ripe boils sometimes they deflate and hide their roots bury the pain for tomorrow yesterday the pus spurted out and the smell coming to my nostrils

I sat back and saw the type-writer staring and the whores were still screaming in the night"

On his concern for man:

"who am I lost like this broken like this weary like this who am I let me touch with my fingers I have cut my nails I hope that my fingers are soft, as soft as a baby's heel so I can grope this thicker dark of what remains after tongues have wagg'd and only the stars, the sky, the moon, the mountains and the wind in their silence as they witness have understood for what it is what had happened..."

At the end of the poem we discover that his black mother is Africa, "where humility seeps into rocks and roots/singing the heart-break-

ing tune." His father is "this earth/this dust..."

And Serote paints a picture of Africa taking its rightful place in the world, each man free and contributing to the common pool:

"I can say hallelujah and clap my hands and do my dance and ring my laughter into the air like birds do their whistles I can say

am I not the one who recalls footsteps, hasty running on the thick dusty shadows of the night..."

I can say hurrah I can hear voices and voices and voices saying child honey-child I love you

I can hear voices and voices and voices repeating hurrah and the footsteps have died now here we come here we come one man a million men"

**HISTORY OF**

by Raymond D. Fage, London, 1969, 90p.

History of Africa required for students first appeared in 1962. Since then it has been reprinted ten times and is now part of the first of a series of books that represent the coming of a new era.

One of its brevity the book includes only a few chapters of the material used monthly on the entire colonial era discussed in just over 100 pages, and independent Africa even less space. Every reader will find these are important

ing history will always select what to neglect. Oliver and Fage generally selected the best men and events to tell a convincing story that the wars in Mozambique and Rhodesia have come to an end.

The works of Weiss, Davidson, and above all Gabriel and Machel, must be read if a new focus is to be found.

A concise course that will lead the student into his new rich field of Africa, few volumes will be as successful as this by Oliver and Fage.

HH

orth noting, briefly

**SWAZILAND TO MALAWI, East African Publishing House, R. J. 48. 316 pages, shs. 48.**

may constitute a system of administration of such key areas of Malawi's history as the Portuguese conflict over the Highlands, the African Company and the problems of labour, the emergence of the Nyasaland African Congress and mass nationalism, and the African initiative in local administration.

**AFRICAN JOURNAL OF HISTORY** (Vol. 1, Nos. 1 & 2) B. A. Ogot, Nairobi, shs. 25, 189 pages.

Available number of the journal of African history covers such key topics as the problem in Kenya, political

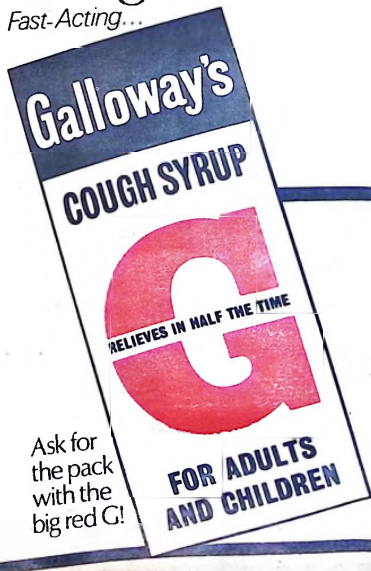
survival in colonial Botswana, Kikuyu reaction to land alienation, Islamic movements in West Africa, the spread of agriculture in Central Africa in the last millennium before Christ, and Chagga farming initiatives in the 1920s. Contributors include Atieno-Odhiambo, Christopher Ehret, Abdalla Batran, Kennell Jackson and Monane Omotile

**PRIMARY AND LOWER SECONDARY READERS FROM EAPH:**

**YASINS NIGHTMARE**, Martha V. Muzaga; (shs. 5) **ISLAND OF YOLO**, E. Ndiranang; (shs. 6) **ADVENTURES OF PONGO**, George G. Kamsu; (shs. 7) **VALLEY OF FLAMES**, John Kala; (shs. 7) **BURGULARS AT BUKIANGALE**, T. C. Hall; (shs. 7) **CIRCLE OF REVENGE**, David M. Mwaruh; (shs. 9). All readers are illustrated in colour and with line drawings.

# Big G - No: 1 Cough Killer!

Fast-Acting...



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FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN



# Help yourself to good health

Doctors enter people to themselves for illnesses like headaches, upsets and these days of late, it is everybody to of first-aid, azardous to be for for too long as that you do understand.

ntaking this to be treatment of his illness and son of a serious

with discretion vents, minor ailments and a few ill be kept in a those. Somebody gets aches. Those can be easily taking tablets that of pen, codeine or

preparations are on and some do not need a prescription. If I spray these in good pen to aches that on during the night 2 weekends when of a nasty.

ommon, junior preparations the same drugs are some warning, aspirins to cause bleeding in and should not be people who are prone to seizures or too much

about up high fever, most reasons, and aspirin and cold should be kept handy for seizures. A thermometer taking tempera-

tures both of children and the adults is a good buy.

A doctor will usually want to know how high the temperature has been and at what time of the day or night. If the temperature stays high for more than 24 hours, especially in children, then urgent medical attention should be obtained.

Cuts and bruises are common in the kitchen and the garden. For these, keep some antiseptic solutions. Application of plain spirit is very effective for the prevention of infection.

Many simple preparations are available from chemists and should be kept at home. First-aid dressings are available to cover small wounds, but for larger wounds sterile gauze and cotton wool is a good thing to keep in the house.



## Disease

I have suffered from venereal disease for 18 months. I have had various treatments but after a temporary cure, I find that I get urethral discharge again. What do I do?  
J.B., Nairobi

## WHY I WANT A NEW WIFE...

### Ringworm

For the last two years I have had ringworm infection. I have tried all types of medicines but in vain. What can cure me, Doc?  
Bargab, Lagos

I think you are being cured but getting re-infected. Discard all your old underwear a week after you start your treatment. Many medicines are available for ringworm but on ethical grounds I cannot give you the names. You can go to a chemist and ask him for lotions and creams that are used against fungal ringworm infection.

It seems that you have got chronic gonorrhoeal infection. Despite a lot of new drugs, it is not very easy to cure. You will need a prolonged course of antibiotic treatment. Do not have sexual intercourse until cured.

### Slim Jim

I am 25 years old and I weigh 120 lbs. I feel that I am extremely skinny. My height is 5ft. 1in. What shall I do?  
James O., Lusaka  
A person's build is partly genetic and hereditary, so it is extremely difficult to change it. You should consider yourself fortunate because there are many more people who are overweight and cannot shed an ounce.

### Sexless?

I am a Catholic Christian aged 18. I believe in the Commandments and have therefore not indulged in any sex. Does that mean that I will be barren and impotent?  
Sammy, Mbarara  
No

### Smoker

I am a 21-year-old man. I have been smoking heavily and taking a lot of alcohol. I feel that I do not have any sex desire. Do you think I have become permanently impotent because of heavy smoking and drinking?  
A.R., Uganda  
Too much alcohol and smoking do suppress sex desire although, within moderation, they are stimulants. I feel that if you cut down on smoking and drinking you will be normal again.

### Injections

I have seen many private and Government doctors, for pus discharge from my urinary passage. I have had several injections and though the discharge settles down temporarily, it has not been cured. What is your advice, Doctor?  
I.A., Ibadan  
Have your pus examined in a proper laboratory. Once it is found what is causing this pus and to what drugs the germs are sensitive, a prolonged course of these drugs will cure you.

### Plastic surgery

I have a narrow scar, three inches long on my right cheek. A doctor has said that I need major plastic surgery on the face and that it will cost me a lot of money. What do you suggest?  
Kamau, Nairobi  
In Nairobi, go to the Kenyatta National Hospital Plastic Unit. They will operate at very little cost to you.

## Doctor

If you have a medical problem, DRUM's doctor may be able to advise you.



PMB 2128 Lagos, Nigeria.

### Circumcision

What can happen if I have venereal disease and also got circumcised?  
James, Ibadan  
Nothing much wrong can happen. But it is better to get your venereal disease cured by medicine then undergo the operation of circumcision.

### Missing beard

I am 27 years old and though I have got pubic hair I cannot grow a beard. I am worried about this.  
M.K., Accra  
If you have other masculine features like hair under your armpits, change of voice and have

the usual male desires, you have nothing to worry about.

### Baby

I am a 19-year-old boy. I had sex with a girl on 28 September, 1972, and she delivered a baby on the 18 April, 1973. She now claims that I am the father.  
B.N., Freetown  
If your girlfriend became pregnant on 28 September, 1972, her full term baby should have arrived about July, 1973. She could have had a premature baby in April 1973. A premature baby would be underweight and small in size. So you will have to find out the weight and the length of the baby when it was born.

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### FOR WEAK MEN TOO

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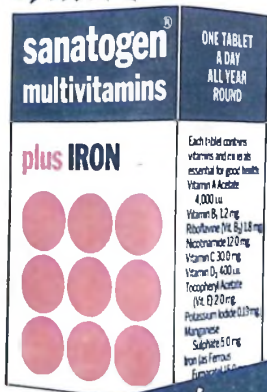
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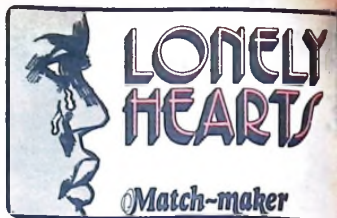
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EVERYBODY passes through lonely times. Most people find happiness when they meet a partner with whom they will spend the rest of their lives. But for some, the magic spark of compatibility doesn't occur. For these DRUM publishes a new column. Our MATCH-MAKER will help you find a match if you want. Write to Lonely Hearts, DRUM Publications (Nigeria) Ltd., PMB 2128 Lagos, Nigeria. You won't regret the few minutes you spend writing to MATCH-MAKER. All correspondence is confidential.

I may be old fashioned to believe that a Prince Charming or a Cinderella is just around the corner from you. But if you are going to sit back and wait for Lady Luck, brother, you might wait until Doomsday.

These days you have to go out and do the hunting. In some countries abroad they use what they call computer dating machines for introductions.

But since we don't have them here, why not let DRUM help? I'll try to help you solve your problem.

It is a crying shame to see so many nice guys and chicks sitting around wondering why they in particular don't have a loved one to help make the world go round. If you write to me that problem will be almost solved for you. Just tell me your problems, and what kind of person you would wish to hear from, or more precisely the one who is your dream boy or girl.

Hey presto, and who knows, you might find him or her.

It is not an easy thing for a guy to walk up to somebody on the street, and say: "Hey honey, I love you. How about

marriage?"

YOU SAY you can help the lonely hearts. Well, here I am I have had this lonely heart for so long. I am not ugly in a sense but still there must be something missing as I find it hard to find a boy who would love me forever. I do get them but they vanish after a short time.

Maybe there is something wrong with me, I don't know do try to treat them nicely, am even ready to wash his feet.

Let me tell you something about myself. I am a girl of 24 a teacher, tall, slender, not so ugly but not so beautiful either. I love things like music, movies, games. And though am a shy person, I like meeting people.

The man of my dream should have great understanding, have interest like mine, should be in socialising type, lovable and educated. Through your magazine, I hope to find the kind of man who will occupy my heart forever.

Sophie Olsore,  
c/o DRUM, PMB 2128  
Lagos, Nigeria.

Don't hesitate to write to me  
—now.

## You write...

HAVING LIVED for 45 years in this world, it is hard to believe that I have never been able to find someone to share my life. I have a good job with an oil company, of course good money too, but no wife, no kids, not even a permanent lover.

What went wrong? The trouble is I have this inferiority complex thing, so that whenever I have a date with a certain girl, I have to drag along a friend of mine.

In most cases my friend

keeps the conversation going as I am not a talkative person. So, during our rendezvous, the girl gets more attracted to me than me — and naturally at the end I am the loser.

Give them another date they don't turn up! Believe it or not at this age I am ready to take on any woman who comes along, not bothering about sentimental side. So girls, will not make me a proud man?

George Adeogun,  
c/o DRUM, PMB 2128  
Lagos, Nigeria.

# Dear Dolly

## boy fail me

My problem is how to get a boy who will eventually marry me. I have had boys but they disappointed me.

part of living. Don't worry about money. After all, you are only 19. You will get a reliable boy who will help.

## her hus

I am 19. Whenever I visit her, her husband is by coming into the living room and sits next to her. I think he suspects we are together. Please tell me what to do.

She is in his house and he wants to fight against doing anything foolish. He will trust you after some time and

## had before

The girl I have fallen in love with is 19. I want to marry her but she has already got a bachelor and I do not think that I am proper to start my married life with a girl who has a child already. She has told me about herself. Help me, Dolly.

is a dog in the manger. If you don't want her you should let her go but, come to me what is wrong with a man marrying a girl who has already got a child? She made a girl she has learnt her lesson. Make a man who a woman would make a better wife than a so-called spinster? The choice is yours.

## girl I agree

I had fallen in love with a schoolgirl of 12. I was very dear and I would like to marry her. I am difficult to make her agree on the date for me. Do you think that she really loves for me? Help me.

Clouds, you will agree with me that a girl who is a child, and she cannot make up her mind to grow up and to finish her stu-

## boy doesn't for me

I have been in love with a boy for the past three years. He does not even care for me but he is not writing letters. My friend has fallen in love with a boy who has two wives and four children, but I still

love my first boy. Please advise me before it is too late. I am 18.

Joy, Kampala  
The problem with you is you like to attach yourself to a man. Otherwise, I cannot see why you should go in for a married man when you felt that your boyfriend did not care for you the way you wanted. What future do you think you have with a man with two wives and children? Be patiently for a man getting marriage proposals, or you will fall into the wrong hands.

## Me and my unfaithful wife

My wife is 24 and I am 25. We are blessed with two children, aged three and two respectively. She has now run away to a soldier and she is expecting his child. Please tell me what to do, Dolly.

Forget about him, boy. Take your children from her. She will soon regret her action and want to come back to you. You would be a fool to put her back after the mess into which she has put herself. You will soon find yourself a better woman to marry.

## Why should she be jealous?

I am 22. I was married to a girl in 1972. She is now in form four in a secondary school. When I asked her for sex, she advised me to let her finish her studies before I take her to bed, because she is afraid of pregnancy. Some time later she caught me with a girl in my bed. She was furious and she fought the girl. What puzzles me is why she should be annoyed, since she refused to have sex with me. Do you think she is faithful to me?

Akarika, Accra  
It is natural for one to guard jealousy while he or she has. You are married and she expects you to be faithful to her. You surely do not want to do anything that could disrupt her studies. She will soon finish her course, so can't you wait patiently? Consider whether she is faithful to you, that is left to her and her conscience.

## They all want me to marry them

I am 20. I want to have a girlfriend, but unfortunately they are after marriage. They tell me that they cannot have sex with someone who will not marry them. I am always frank with them by telling them that I am not yet ready for marriage. Dolly, please tell me why girls are crazy about marriage. Is marriage good? How can I get a girl to love me without any strings attached?

Liba, Asaba  
Marriage is good and it is the ambition of any respectable girl to get married some day. Girls don't like to sleep about with men. You won't get a girl friend if you make sex your main aim of wanting a girlfriend. First approach a girl for friendship. Be friends for some time before you ask her for sex.

## My father warned her off

I am a third-year student in love with a second-year student. My father went behind me to the girl's house to warn her to desist from befriending me. He also reported to her parents that they should see that their daughter did not visit me again. My girl wrote to tell me of my father's action. The girl has since stopped seeing me and I cannot go to visit her in her house. Dolly, please advise me; I beg you to know that this girl cannot do without me. She would rather commit suicide than leave me. She is 17 and I am 18.

Kank, Lusaka  
Your father really went to the extreme. I am afraid the harm has been done and - self-respecting girl would not continue - the son of such a man. As for you girl committing suicide, you can forget it.

Your father's action is enough to start that she did not waste her time going out with other boys and fall in love. She doesn't need to be afraid for her.

## I have too many girlfriends

I'm a young, smart boy aged 20. My problem is that I am so much involved in affairs that most of my friends think I am abnormal. Any beautiful woman does not pass me. This has led me into having many girlfriends, most of them claiming they will marry me in the future. My parents want me to look for a beautiful and mannered lady to marry, but I am unable to look or choose since I don't know which of my many girlfriends loves me best. Worse, I cannot keep to one female. Am I abnormal or is there any way you can help me, Dolly?

J.C., Dar es Salaam  
Not abnormal, certainly. Just an emotional butterfly flitting from one flower to another. The time for you to marry is when you can learn to settle down and plan for the future. So tell your parents you are not yet ready for the rigorous responsibilities of a husband or parent.

## She doesn't write any more

I am a form three guy in love with an 18-year-old form two girl who was my neighbour. She loves me very much and I love her more than words can say. The trouble, which makes me frightened, is that the girl has stopped writing to me for about a year since she left for Kampala. So I am somewhat confused. What should I do so that I may get back my girl friend from the Ugandan boyfriends? Should I share the beautiful girl with them? Your help is urgently needed, Dolly.

Godson Lyimo, Moshi  
Make a wish to your fairy godmother. I don't think you have a chance of seeing your Uganda girlfriend again. A year is far too long to wait.

## I cry with love for him

As I read that you help people if they have any problem, I hope you are going to help me. I am an 18-year-old girl and I have fallen in love with a boy. I used to talk to this boy who comes home to talk with my sister. I love this boy so much that if I don't see him one day, I feel like I am not feeling well. He lives next to our house. So please help me. I am crying for this boy, Dolly.

Harina Punia, Bukoba  
I cannot understand why you are crying. The boy visits your house. He is next door to you. If you cannot communicate with him how can you communicate with anyone? Tell him you love him. And if he does not love you remember that at your age you will undoubtedly find love somewhere else.

## I've loved them both for years

I have been in love with two girls. One has left school and the other is employed. I have been in love with the first one for the last six years and the other girl for one year, and I love them both dearly. My problem is that each girl tells me that she will hang herself if I don't marry her. Neither of them knows the other. Help me before I go mad.

G.K., Narok  
Unless you still believe in polygamy you will have to make a decision about which girl you want to marry. And you will have to tell the unlucky one, gently and kindly, that you no longer want to see her. But you have been deceiving both and you should make sure that you stop this practice.



