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POLITICS AND POWER



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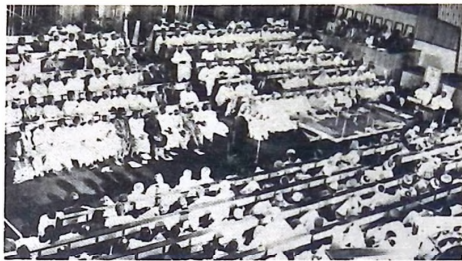


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TRUST

Nigeria No. 101
MAY 1979

Look what
you can
read
this month



Politics and power

As the build-up to the general election continues, TRUST looks at the power game of politics in depth — pages 26-29.



Mount of mystery

Mount Tabor — mount of mystery. Nelson Bankole made the climb, and reports on its supposed powers of healing — pages 4-7.



Why I'm angry

Alhaji A. G. Momoh looks back on his years at the top, and tells TRUST what makes him angry — pages 8 and 9.

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New Judicial System Welcome

TRUST
OPINION

THE newly adopted judicial system in the Cross River State, under which only accused people convicted for serious offences may be remanded in prison, has come as welcome news.

According to the new system, announced by Mr. Justice Edem Koofreh, the state's chief judge, all accused people who are convicted with the option of fines will be granted bail. If they cannot pay the fine on the spot the new order permits them to go home to try to raise the money.

Payment of fines in instalments where convicted people cannot pay all at once is also allowed under the new system, which is aimed at de-congesting prison yards in the state.

When one considers the rate of congestion in most of our prison yards, and imagines the indiscriminate lumping together of minor or first offenders with hardened criminals in the same cells, then such a system should be seen as most reasonable — and long overdue.

TRUST is particularly happy about two merits of the system. Firstly, we are

optimistic that it will save a lot of first offenders — especially those convicted for minor offences — from being exposed to crime and other evils to which otherwise they would have been exposed had they been made to serve their sentences in the prison yard.

Secondly, we hope it will provide a saving grace and a second chance for many people who would otherwise have suffered imprisonment for offences which they did not actually commit, but for which they were found guilty.

Even in some countries where they have modern prison facilities, and less congestion than ours, legal systems still allow for suspended sentences in some cases. In view of the fact that there are some loopholes in our method of prosecuting and penalising accused people it is our submission that Nigeria's legal system needs reform which will give a second chance to first and minor offenders.

The new legal system of the Cross River State may serve as an eye-opener. We hope other states will follow suit. **T**

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On



ABOVE: Members of the sect during a revival service on top of Mount Tabor. **BELOW:** Members of the Evangelical Church of Yahweh on their way to Mount Tabor for spiritual healing and guidance.



top of Mount Tabor

Right on top of the ancient Sobi hill in Ilorin, the Kwara State capital, is a revered area called Mount Tabor to where thousands of people troop in the last fortnight of the month of August in search of spiritual healing and guidance through vision. Nelson Bankole visited the mount; pictures by Abim Oladejo.

MOUNT Tabor is sacred to members of a religious sect called the Evangelical Church of Yahweh, founded by 33-year-old Primate Theophilus Olabayo. Since the sect was founded in 1973, many spiritual wonders, it is claimed, have been performed on the mount.

According to people's testimony, stroke and epileptic patients have been cured through the power of prayer, the blind have seen, the barren have given birth to children, and all sorts of problems have been solved.

Apart from spiritual healing, seemingly accurate revelations of events and about people and places by Primate Olabayo have drawn a lot of people to Mount Tabor every August. In August 1974 Primate Olabayo predicted, among other things, that there would be a change of government in Nigeria, but that the leader to emerge would not last. Less than a year after the prediction, Yakubu Gowon's government was toppled, General Murtala Mohammed took over power and was himself assassinated.

During the 1975 "Tabor", he predicted the death of Alhaji Gobir, a former Federal permanent secretary. Primate Olabayo also predicted the death of Emperor Haile Selassie, and said there would be a fatal motor accident along the Lagos — Shagamu road, which would claim many lives. All these events happened.

One peculiar thing about Primate Olabayo's prophecies and revelations is that he doesn't narrate his revelations in parable, as most other prophets do. When he sees a vision he gives the names of the people involved and the exact place and time when the event will occur.

When TRUST visited Mount Tabor, Primate Olabayo said he had completed a 40-day fast, during which he claimed that a number of things were revealed to him in the form of visions for 1979 until 1982.

According to him: "God has warned that unless everybody is full of prayer, many children of powerful and influential people will be missing this year. Cases of kidnapping will be rampant in 1979.

"Divorce cases will be rampant, and many towns and

cities will experience all sorts of disturbances, including fire disasters. In this respect we should pray for the following cities: Lagos, Ibadan, Kano, Enugu, Calabar, Owerri, Sokoto, Ife, Ilesha and Abeokuta. Many important personalities will pass away in these towns this year.

"It was revealed to me while praying that the next president of Nigeria will be famous and powerful among world leaders, and will be capable of upholding Nigeria's leadership in Africa. A political amnesty will be granted to Yakubu Gowon and Odumegwu Ojukwu, although the latter should pray against sudden death before the time.

"Between 1979 and 1980, Nkasi stream in Anambra State will drown many people, and there is the danger of accidents at Udi Hill. We should pray against serious fire disasters at Onitsha Market this year. There will be various forms of unrest in the country between May and September this year. Abortion will be rampant, and many women will die as a result.

"There will be a mechanical fault at Kainji Dam, and as a result many people will be electrocuted. Kano State will experience an industrial and economic boom, but we should pray against civil unrest between natives and non-natives in Kano township."

On the international front, Primate Olabayo said there will be an attempt to assassinate President Jimmy Carter of the USA this year, Guyana would experience a three year famine, starting from this year, and the same would happen to Paraguay, while the city of Montevideo, in Uruguay, will experience earthquakes for four years.

The world should pray for Mrs Indira Gandhi against sudden death. There will be blood-shed in Singapore, while South Korea will experience a plane disaster which will occur in Pusan. The danger of an air disaster looms at London's Heathrow airport this year, and the world should pray for Mr James Callaghan, the Prime Minister of Britain, against a deterioration of his health. The danger of sudden death hangs around the neck of



THE spiritual founder of the Evangelical Church of Yahweh, Primate T. O. Olabayo, at prayer.

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ABOVE: All kneel down for prayers before Primate Olabayo. BELOW: Primate Olabayo shows Nelson Bankole a spot on top of Mount Tabor where he claimed God gave him a sign some time ago. The spot is marked with a drawing of a crown and a cross.

ON TOP OF MOUNT TABOR

CONTINUED



RIGHT: Chief Obafemi Awalowo, one of Nigeria's political leaders, addresses members of the Evangelical Church of Yahweh during a ceremony.

Princess Margaret.

"There will be boundary dispute between Liberia and Sierra Leone, and there will be an attempt to overthrow the government of Siaka Stevens," he said. "Mali will experience civil unrest and drought as from this year, and there will be a change of government in that country before 1982. There will be civil war and famine in Ethiopia between this year and 1982, and the country's president will be assassinated within the period. Generally the whole world will be passing through a very difficult and unhappy period between now and 1984. We should all be full of prayer."

Who is Primate Olabayo? He

was born at Ogori, Kwara State, in 1946. According to him: "One day when I was about eight years old I saw an angel and was frightened. I shouted, but the messenger of God told me not to fear, for it had not come to scare me but to deliver God's message."

"Since that time I started seeing visions and my prophecies have often come to pass. At first my parents thought I possessed a demonic spirit (ogbanje) and took me to a Cherubim and Seraphim church, where it was confirmed that I was spiritually gifted."

"Through fasting and praying, God revealed a lot of things to me—many of which have often come to pass."

"I loved staying alone in hilly places, fasting and praying and

it was on one such occasion that God commanded me to set a place aside on top of Soba Hill for spiritual healing.

"God also commanded me to establish a church to be known as the Evangelical Church of Yahweh. Yahweh means 'God on the Mountain' and I did this in 1973."

The Evangelical Church of Yahweh is one of the biggest crowd-pulling churches in Nigeria. It attracts people from all walks of life—top executives of government and private sectors, successful businessmen, politicians and people who have various physical and psychological problems.

A few of the members spoke to TRUST about how they became members of the Evangelical Church of Yahweh. Read what they have to say.



'Glory be to God', they all say



SPIRITUAL CAPTAIN ISAAC ONI: My testimony is going to be based on the power of seeing a vision which Yahweh has given to the founder and Primate of the Evangelical Church of Yahweh, Primate T. Olabayo. Some time in August last year one of the three dogs I kept as pets suddenly started behaving stubbornly, and even when I locked myself inside a room it stood on the doorstep trying to force its way in. I have never experienced anything like that before. As I was wondering over what might be responsible for such aggressiveness, I got a message from Primate Olabayo, who was then in spiritual confinement at Mount Tabor, that I should quickly kill one of my three dogs, as it had turned demonic. I wondered how he knew what was happening at that particular time. I prayed for God's protection. The dog jumped on my chest, but I managed to push it aside. Then, I took a cutlass and cut its throat. I wanted to pour kerosene on its corpse and set it on fire, but as I was about to do this it rose up again and wanted to bite me. I rushed inside to pray before hitting it for the last time. It died and I burnt it to ashes. Through similar visions, Primate Olabayo has helped many people.



A. A. AJAYI, civil servant: Until last year, when I developed a stroke, I didn't take religion too seriously. I hated the "Alduras". But I was soon to realise that there was no other way than that of God. Some time in October last year, as I was returning to Ilorin from Egbe after taking my child to a boarding house, I suddenly developed a serious headache. I managed to drive safely to Ilorin, but I didn't tell anybody. I thought it was a common headache, because it fell around a time cerebro spinal meningitis was common. I took a couple of analgesic doses, but without relief. I went to a doctor, who took my blood pressure. I read 160/100. I was admitted, but after a few days I developed a stroke. I was discharged, because no doctor could cure a stroke. I was very sad to think that at my age, and with my domestic commitments unfulfilled, I should be bed-ridden. Who would care for my family? Somebody then told my wife about the Evangelical Church of Yahweh, and the wonderful Mount Tabor. I was carried to the church, where I slept for five days. Surprisingly, and to the glory of God, I walked tall again. God is wonderful.



EVANGELIST AYODE ORUNIMI: a tailor. I have had all sorts of problems from infancy. One night, when I was about eight, I slept and had a feast with some strange people in my dream. When I woke up the following morning I developed an ulcer. My parents tried all sorts of medical and herbal treatments, but I was not relieved of the ailment. Somebody then told us about a woman at Idanre, and my parents took me to her. She administered a charm on me, and I vomited a tooth-like object — after which I had relief. But it was only temporary, because I soon developed tuberculosis and had to go back to her. I later realised, after knowing the Lord through the Evangelical Church of Yahweh, that when people cure an ailment through "black" means, they substitute it with another. Before I stopped consulting the Idanre



LASISI ADEGWALE: a patient at the Evangelical Church of Yahweh in 1975, when I was in Primary Six. I discovered that each time I held something I dropped it. During the final examinations I was not allowed to sit with other people, because they thought I could infect them with a disease which they suspected to be epilepsy. Whether their suspicions were correct or not, I was always falling down and remaining unconscious for varying periods, the least of which was about two hours. This affected my education a great deal, because while my mates were going to school and advancing educationally I was being carried here and there for treatment which didn't yield positive results until I was brought to the Evangelical Church of Yahweh. The disease has left me, and I have sworn to devote my entire life to the service of Yahweh. That is why you still find

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MY

THE OTARU of Auchi, Alhaji A. G. Momoh, is one of the most enlightened and outspoken traditional rulers in Nigeria today.

Before he ascended the throne in 1973, he put in a total of 31 years in the Civil Service, and retired as an executive officer at the Federal Ministry of Trade and Industries in Lagos.

Unlike many other people in similar revered positions, Alhaji Momoh is easily accessible to his subjects. He takes a walk round his domain whenever he wishes without any protocol, just like any other ordinary citizen. And he never hides his viewpoints on matters of national interest — no matter how controversial they might be.

When TRUST met him in his palace the first question he was confronted with centred around the Civil Service as he saw it.

"I think the Civil Service needs a total overhaul," he said. "Until we revert to the old system of training people whereby anybody coming into the Civil Service will have all-round knowledge of administrative procedure, things will continue to be in rickety state, as they are today."

"In our days there was discipline and efficiency. I sometimes shake my head when I look at the way civil servants work nowadays. There is no more dedication, no loyalty, no discipline. How can you expect efficiency in a system where sex, nepotism and personal interest are the order of the day?"

"The so-called Godfatherism has spoilt the whole Civil Service. Imagine a case in which a junior female is questioned by a senior executive officer. Instead of answering the query with a tone

of humility, according to Civil Service tradition, she carries the query to the principal executive officer, who happens to be her boyfriend. He tells her to rip the query paper into pieces and throw it into the wastepaper basket. Isn't that a shame?"

The Otaru of Auchi remains embittered over the land use decree, which stripped traditional rulers, as well as other citizens, of the right to sell land.

"That decree was a rape of tradition. Whoever is on the throne in any town is the owner of the land," he said. "According to tradition, the Otaru of Auchi is referred to as 'onamoroto,' meaning owner of the land. When anyone is fighting for the throne, according to tradition, people say the person is fighting for ownership of the land."

"And having..."

isn't a deprivation of natural rights for any government to strip the person of his own rights over such land?"

"I agree that a lot of people interfered with land matters by way of trafficking on such land, but the people who were doing this were the ordinary people rather than those of us on the throne. Even if the government wanted to take a hard line on the land issue, they should have limited it to the ordinary citizens who were messing it about."

"Sweeping all of us together was like indirectly telling those of us on the throne that we had no right to the land over which we ruled. It was a bad decree."

The Otaru is in support of the government order which banned traditional rulers from taking part in partisan politics.

"I welcomed the order, because..."

throne. Politics is a game that places everyone on an equal level. And how can a natural ruler escape being ridiculed when he comes level with his subjects in a competition in the name of politics?"

"Even if natural rulers were not banned I would not have involved myself in politics. I have hated politics, right from my secondary school days at King's College, Lagos, when even as youth activists many friends became enemies."

"Most of my schoolmates at King's College then are the people in the political arena today. What they are doing today is the carry-forward of what they did in those days. I have never had the nerve for it."

"On the traditional rulers' involvement in business. Alhaji..."



For 31 years, Alhaji A. G. Momoh was a civil servant. That was before 1971, when he retired to start a three-year battle royal for the throne of Auchi, an essentially Muslim town in Bendel State. Alhaji Momoh won the battle, and was enthroned in 1973. In an interview with TRUST's Nelson Bankole (pictured) the Otaru spits out his anger... and reflects in calmer mood.



LEFT: "The position of a natural ruler is becoming unattractive," says the Otaru. BELOW: Alhaji Momoh takes a stroll round the town with one of the princes. ABOVE: Alhaji Momoh descends the staircase from the inner chamber of his palace for his interview with TRUST.

ANGER



way to survive. How much do we earn? Like other natural rulers I spend all I have entertaining visitors, and I don't get any allowance from any source.

Unlike in the past, royalties no longer come from subjects. How can we survive with all the demands made on us daily just because we are on the throne?

The position of a natural ruler is made unattractive every now and then by successive governments. Instead of calling and treating us like natural rulers, which we are as of right, successive governments refer to us as 'traditional rulers'. I don't like the word 'traditional', because it sounds derogatory in that context.

"I pray the day will not come when no-one will be willing to sit on the throne."

by the Otaru of Auchi



TRUST LETTERS

Check this 'justice'!

READ the frightening story about how a robbery suspect, Kala Ramonu, was lynched and his body set ablaze by his own assailants (November TRUST).

I feel I shouldn't allow the comments of people about the primitive act to go without adding that our law enforcing agents need to be more vigilant. Our people seem to have lost confidence in the ability of the police to combat robbery. That is why they mete 'jungle justice' to their victims.

But the real danger in the idea of lynching people is that some innocent people may be mistreated against by their enemies merely by shouting 'thief'. What do you think, Mr. Editor? Joseph Ajayi, Ilesha

The lynching of suspects is indeed a primitive act. It should be stopped. — Editor

Let women join in

APPEAL to the authorities to ensure that more Nigerian women are recruited into the armed forces, not only as cooks, nurses, dentists and office workers, but as fighting soldiers, gunners, naval officers and air force pilots.

If this is done it will increase the strength of our armed forces

to protect the territorial integrity of our dear nation against foreign aggressors.

If this is being done in some advanced countries, why not in Nigeria, the nation that is regarded as the Giant of Africa? L.U. Nwadike, Papa

Come on, you women, how many of you are ready to join the fighting and security arms of the forces? — Editor

Wear plain clothes

ANK robberies are becoming too rampant. Some policemen on guard have lost their lives in some of these inglorious operations. I think one of the best ways of guarding against the loss of innocent lives is to let detectives in plain clothes, but armed with pistols, guard our banks instead of those in uniform, who fall victim to these desperate robbers because they are easily identified. Ben Kam, Ashaka

Old system was better

MY appeal to whichever party comes to power after the elections to consider the issue of returning private and mission schools back to their original owners?

Experience has shown that schools were better managed and students benefitted academically and morally when

private proprietors and missions ran them.

There should be no shame about reverting to the old system if it is considered better than the new. Halima Ndanusa, Bida

It was balanced

OUR feature on the Celestial Church of Christ (February TRUST) was the most balanced of all that I have read in journals about the sect.

If other journals can emulate your magazine in presenting the cases of all the sides involved in every issue, the more mass media practitioners will earn the respect of their readers.

Once again I wish to congratulate you for the feature. It was a masterpiece. Stella Omorodion, Ekpoma

SUPER SYRETA



Our cover girl this month is super Syreta — a lovely lass whose face and figure would turn anybody's head.

Colonial spelling

DESPITE our country's political independence, some of our the way out former colonial masters spelt them to suit their

Stop crying ... and act!

IT IS high time we stopped crying over the failure of Operation Feed the Nation. Rather than cry, we should sit down and think over what has stood in the way of its success, despite the availability of funds and land.

Without any doubt we haven't made agriculture attractive enough. Not until we have cleared a substantial part of the unused land which constitutes nearly two-thirds of the country's areas for agricultural purposes, and made life in the rural areas attractive shall we benefit from Operation Feed the Nation.

Right now we should stop crying and act! Mc Godi Ezeemo, Umuze
You are right, and you win NTO. Action yields better results than crying. But Operation Feed the Nation requires individual as well as collective action. — Editor

inability to pronounce some of our words.

For example, Oka, in Anambra State, is still being spelled as Awka; Ifo in Ogun State is spelled as Ifaw, while Otukpo, in Benue State, is spelled as Otukpu. There are several other towns which retain their colonial spellings. Charity Ogbuebele, Zaria

They are a menace

I FEEL disturbed when I think of the rate at which foreign prostitutes invade our country from neighbouring West African countries like Ghana, Togo and Cameroon.

These girls menace our hotels and nightclubs. Some of them are used as bait by armed robbers to carry out their diabolical operations. I appeal to the police to intensify their raids to rid our cities of these undesirable elements, as most of them are illegal immigrants. Maxwell Offem, Ikom

Kumo needs a face-lift

KUMO is a big town in Bauchi State, and the headquarters of the largest local government area in the state.

Unfortunately there are only four major roads in the entire town. Isn't this a shame? The civilians are coming to power soon, and any party that wins has a job to do to give our town a face-lift. So it's up to you, politicians! Abubakar Abdu, Kumo

Way-out indiscipline

ONE of the social ills that plagues this country is indiscipline. There is indiscipline in schools, in churches, in offices

TOP LETTER

and on our roads. Indiscipline is the gravest sickness any country can suffer, because it is the source of all other evils.

However, it has a very simple panacea — even though a lot of far-reaching suggestions are dashed out every day — and that is living by example.

As soon as everybody — the ruler and the ruled, the priest and the laity, all and sundry — learn to live by practical example, Nigeria's present state of indiscipline will go into oblivion. But as long as we do not practise what we advocate, this menace will continue to abide with us. Samuel N. Diala, Owerri

Those lawless motorcyclists

I AM surprised at the rate at which motorcyclists speed these days. They go at a terrible speed, and don't care for anything. If you dare stand in their way you will be knocked down.

They often team up, because they know they are feared because of their recklessness. If a motorist dares knock a person down, the rest gang up on him. This is taking the law into their own hands, and they should be checked. Benson Madu, Nnewi

It's a good measure

SINCE the Government banned the importation of certain commodities a few months ago, some high quality locally-manufactured equivalents have flooded our markets.

They are being sold at prices which everybody can afford, and, more importantly, the measure has encouraged our people to improve their ability. It was a good one! Abel Emah, Lagos

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CHARITY



Everyone has personal problems. If you are perplexed and need help, write to Charity for advice.

Does she still love me?

I AM 13, and in love with a girl of 14. We love each other and do all sorts of things together. But when I demand sex from her, she refuses. Please tell me what to do, because I don't want to leave her.
Joseph O. Nomeh
Don't you think you are too young to start thinking of sex, especially with someone who is only a year older than you. Girls are usually mindful of their ages, and all she feels for you may be just sisterly love.

Which one should I marry?

I AM a girl of 16, in love with two men. One of them is 19, and has promised to marry me. But he never helps solve any of my problems. The other man loves me and looks into my problems each time I have any. Which of them should I marry?
Uweke Ife, Imo State
I'm not sure what type of problems you have. But I would simply advise you to marry the man you love. You should marry for love, not money. The first boy may love you more than the second, but might have no means of solving your problems for you. But don't hold that against him.

I remember his advice

AT THE age of 16, I am still at secondary school. A lot of boys want me, but I refuse to give myself to them because of my uncle's advice. And I want to remain a virgin until my wedding day. Most of these boys ask me if my uncle had no girlfriend. And they sometimes want to knock me down with their fathers' cars! Please, I need your advice before they kill me.
B. Ifeoma, Oshana
You are right to heed your uncle's advice. If you allow these boys to use you now, they will only ridicule you. They can do you no harm. Go to the police if they try to harm you.

She never answers my letters

I AM 20, and in love with a girl who is 19. My problem is that each time I write her she does not reply, but when I invite her to my place she never fails to come. Why do you think she doesn't answer my letters.
A.C., Sokoto

By not replying to your letters it does not mean she does not love you. In fact, since she never fails to answer your calls, that seems to be proof of her love. Her problem might be that she is not good at writing letters. Try to take her the way she is.

What can I do?

I LOVE a girl who visits me in the company of one of her friends. I made advances to this friend of hers — and she agreed. I make love to both of them, and now they are both pregnant. I don't want them to tell their parents, but they threaten to. If they do tell their parents, what do you think I should do?
Immio, Aba
What else do you want to do than to dance to the tune of your own music? I don't know how old you are, but you don't sound like someone who can take care of himself. Never mind two girls and their babies. You had better talk to your parents and see what they suggest.

She refused to see me again

I AM 18 and my girl is 17. We love each other, but have never had sex. Recently she wrote to tell me that she wasn't coming to see me again because of what I was saying about her. Please, what can I do? I love her so much.
Louis Awomukwu, Imo State
Maybe you are one of those men who goes about boasting of what he hasn't done. If that's the case, you can't expect a girl to keep coming to you. After all she's got a reputation to protect. Apologise to her, and learn to keep your mouth shut if I have thought correctly.

My life depends on him

I AM confident that you can help me trace Emmanuel Anugwu. I saw him last in 1976, when he came to Kaduna. I love him very much, and will run mad if I do not see him again. His last known address was: Federal Government Teachers' College, Paiko, via Minna. All my attempts to get in touch with him have proved abortive, as my letters to him were not answered. I appeal to anyone who knows my sweetheart's whereabouts to contact me.
Miss Cecilia, Ezehe, AB21, Ibrahim Taiwo Street, Kaduna
Can anyone help to mend Cecilia's broken heart?

I'm ashamed of her bust!

I AM 21 while she is 19. We love each other dearly, but each time she calls at my place my co-tenants usually make jest of her because she is busty. Now she has refused to see me again. Should I look for a new apartment, or leave her with her mighty breasts?
Jomi, Kano
If you love her so much, and it is easy to find a new place, you can make the sacrifice for her and move. If not, you should try to convince her that the others don't matter. After all, you know she was busty before making friends with her!

Should I leave her?

I AM 20, and in love with a girl of 18. I love her so much and wish to marry her, but my friends tell me she is ugly. What do you think I should do? I leave her, Charity?
Maris, Sapele
If you allow your friends to dictate to you, you must be stupid. Didn't you see her features before approaching her? If her character is good, I see no reason why you should leave her. As you declared that you love her, I think that's all that matters. Go ahead, and don't mind your friends.

Her religion is stopping her

A CLASS Four student aged 16, I have a girlfriend of 15, who schools at Kaduna. We meet at home on holidays, and have promised to marry each other. But she refuses to have sex with me until her wedding day. She is a Christian, and her religion does not allow it. I want her, so kindly help me, Charity.
Silas E. Staminia, Jos
You can't force her to have sex with you. If you can't wait till she is married to you, free her and go and look for another girl who is more your type.

She stays away from me

SHE IS 18 while I am 20. Both of us are students, and I am a tenant of her father's. She was severely punished the day she was caught in my room, and since then she has avoided me. Her father has threatened to have me arrested if I do not leave his daughter alone. Please, Charity, help me, for she is the girl I love.
Friday, Benin City
A respectable girl will not want a repeat

of the humiliation she was subjected to once, and besides her parents will keep watch on her movements. You live too close to make her visits to you possible, so stop worrying and concentrate on your studies for the time being.

Do I use black magic?

I AM terribly upset by the way my girlfriend. When I invite them to bed they do not refuse, but once I show them my penis they scramble out of bed and run away, leaving me with a feeling of shame and disgrace. No girl has ever given me a reason for their actions. Charity, do you advise me to use black magic on them?
Alexander, Gongola State
Don't waste your money on magic that may not work or may bring you heartache some time later. You see, the action of these girls is a calculated attempt to punish you for your own attitude towards them. Girls are not sex machines. They want to be loved sincerely. I advise you to change and look for a girl to love. Or maybe your penis is simply too big and frightens them.

I have a secret fear

I AM a student, aged 17. I have fallen in love with a girl of 16 whose aim was to become a reverend sister. In fact she was in a convent for some time, and she is still gentle. Although I love her I fear to touch her because I do not want to offend God.
Alexson, Awka
Who am I to judge? But one thing is clear: she is no longer in the convent, and you were not responsible for her being there. Lose your fear and treat her as you would any decent girl.

Her attitude worries me

I AM a form four student, aged 19. I have a boyfriend whom I love very much. The problem is that his mother does not respond well to my greetings. I am afraid she may influence her son to leave me. Charity, please tell me what to do as I love my boyfriend more than my own life.
Grace Luks, Ilaah
Discuss your fear with your boyfriend. If he loves you as much as you love him, you should not worry much. If, however, his mother openly discourages you from befriending her son you should not feel that it is the end of the world.

BLACK SKIN,

This is the last of three short stories from "The House of Hunger" (Heinemann Books, London) by Dambudzo Marechera, a writer from Zimbabwe who is now living in England. Marechera's story is a distressing piece about colour-consciousness.

MY SKIN sticks out a mile in all the crowds around here. Every time I go out I feel it tensing up, hardening, torturing itself. It only relaxes when I am in shadow, when I am alone, when I wake up early in the morning, when I am doing mechanical actions, and, strangely enough, when I am angry. But it is coy and self-conscious when I draw in my chair and begin to write.

It is like a silent friend, moody, assertive, possessive, callous — sometimes

I had such a friend once. He finally slashed his wrists. He is now in a lunatic asylum. I have since asked myself why he did what he did, but I still cannot come to a conclusive answer.

He was always washing himself — at least three baths every day. And he had all sorts of lotions and deodorants to appease the thing that had taken hold of him. He did not so much wash as scrub himself until he bled.

He tried to purge his tongue too, by improving his English and getting rid of any accent from the speaking of it. It was painful to listen to him, as it was painful to watch him trying to scrub the blackness out of his skin.

He did things to his hair, things which the good Lord never intended any man to do to his hair.

He bought clothes, whole snogs of them. If clothes make the man, then certainly he was a man. And his shoes were the kind that make even an elephant lightfooted and elegant. The animals murdered to make those shoes must have turned in their graves and said, 'Yeah, man.'

But still he was dissatisfied. He had to have every other African within ten miles of his person follow his example. After all, if one chimpanzee learns not only to drink tea but also to promote that tea on TV, what does it profit it if all the other God-created chimpanzees out there continue to scratch their fleas

and swing around on their tails chattering about Rhodes and bananas?

However, he was nice enough to put it more obliquely to me one day. We were going to the New Year Ball in Oxford Town Hall.

'Don't you ever change those jeans?' he asked.

'They're my only pair,' I said. 'What do you do with your money, man, booze?'

'Yes,' I said searching through my pockets. Booze and paper and ink. The implements of my trade.

'You ought to take more care of your appearance, you know. We're not monkeys.'

'I'm all right as I am.'

I coughed and because he knew what that cough meant he tensed up as though for a blow.

'If you've got any money, I said firmly, 'lend me a fiver.'

That day he was equally firm: 'Neither a lender nor a borrower be,' he quoted.

And then as an afterthought he said:

'We're the same size. Put on this other suit. You can have it if you like. And the five pounds.'

That is how he put it to me. And that is how it was until he slashed his wrists.

But there was more to it than that.

Appearances alone — however expensive — are doubtful climbing-boots when one hazards the slippery slopes of social adventure. Every time he opened his mouth he made himself ridiculous. Logic — that was his magic word but unfortunately that sort of thing quickly bored even the most thick-skinned anthropologist in search of African attitudes. I was interested in the booze first and then lastly in the company. But he — God help me — relied on politics to get on with people. But who in that company in their right mind gives a damn about Rhodesia? He could never

understand this.

And Christ! when it came to dancing he really made himself look a monkey. He always assumed that if a girl accepted his request for a dance, it meant that she had in reality said Yes to being groped, squeezed, kissed and finally screwed off the dance floor. And the girls were quite merciless with him. The invitations would stop and all would be a chilly silence.

I did not care for the type of girl who seemed to interest him. He liked them starched, smart and demure, and with the same desperate conversation:

'What's your college?'

— 'What's yours?'

Pause.

'What's your subject?'

— 'What's yours?'

Pause. Cough.

'I'm from Zimbabwe.'

'What's that?'

'Rhodesia.'

'Oh I'm from London. Hey (with distinct lack of interest) Smith's a bastard, isn't he?'

And he eagerly:

'As a matter of fact, I have just addressed the Africa Society on the thesis that Ian Smith blah blah blah blah blah blah blah blah.'

[Fawning.] 'Interesting. Very interesting.'

'Smith blah blah blah blah blah blah. (Suddenly) Would you like to dance?'

Started.

'Well, yes, why not?'

Yes, that's how it was, until he slashed his wrists.

But there was even more to it than that.

A black tramp accosted him one night as we walked to the University Literary Society party. It was as if he had been touched by a leper. He literally cringed away from the man, who incidentally knew me from a previous encounter when he and I had sat Christmas Eve through on a bench in Carfax drinking a bottle of whisky. He was apologetic with revulsion and at the party could talk of nothing else.

How can a black man in England let himself become a bum? There is much to be done. Especially in Southern Africa. What I would like to see blah blah blah.

'Have a drink,' I suggested.

He took it the way God accepts anything from Satan.

'You drink too much, you know, he sighed.

'You drink too little for your own good,' I said.

The incident of the tramp must have grieved him more than I had thought because when we got back in college he



WHITE MASK



couldn't sleep and came into my room with a bottle of claret which I was glad to drink with him until breakfast, when he did stop talking about impossible black bastards; he stopped talking because he fell asleep in his chair.

And that's how it was until he slashed his wrists.

But there were other sides to the story.

For example: he did not think that one of his tutors 'liked' him. 'He doesn't have to like anyone,' I pointed out, 'and neither do you.'

But he wasn't listening. He cracked his fingers and said: 'I'll send him a Christmas and New Year card, the best money can buy.'

'Why not spend the money on a Blue Nun?' I suggested.

The way he looked at me, I knew I was losing a friend.

For example: he suggested one day that if the warden or any of the other tutors asked me if I was his friend I was to say no.

'Why?' I asked.

'You do drink too much, you know,' he said looking severe, 'and I'm afraid you do behave rather badly, you know. For instance, I heard about an incident in the bar cellar and another in the dining room and another in the Cornmarket where the police had to be called, and another on your staircase ...'

I smiled.

'I'll have your suit laundered and sent up to your rooms,' I said firmly, 'and I did give you that five pounds back. So that's all right. Are you dining in Hall, because if you are then I will not, it's intolerable. Imagine it. We're the only two Africans in this college. How can we possibly avoid each other, or for that matter ...'

He twisted his brow. Was it painful? He had of late begun to complain of insomnia and headaches, and the lenses of his spectacles did not seem to fit the degree of his myopia. Certainly something cracked in his eyes, smarting.

'Look, I say, what, forget what I said, I don't care what you think. It's my affair, isn't it, who I choose to be friends with?'

I looked him squarely in the eyes.

'Don't let them stuff bullshit into you. Or spew it out right in their faces. But don't ever puke their gut-rot on me.'

'Let's go play tennis,' he said after a moment.

'I can't. I have to collect some dope from a guy the other end of town,' I said.

'Dope? You take that — stuff?'

'Yes. The Lebanese variety is the best for me.'

He really was shocked.

He turned away without another word. I stared after him, hoping he wouldn't work himself up into telling his moral tutor — who was actually the one who didn't like him. And that's how it was. That's how it was, until he slashed his wrists.

But there had to be another side to it: sex.

The black girls in Oxford — whether African, West Indian or American — despised those of us who came from Rhodesia. After all we still haven't won our independence. After all, the papers say we are always quarrelling among ourselves. And all the other reasons which black girls choose to believe. It was all quite unflattering. We had become — indeed we are — the Jews of Africa, and nobody wanted us. It's bad enough to have white people despising us, but it's a more maddening story when one kettle ups its nose at another kettle ... And this he had to learn.

I didn't care one way or the other. Booze was better than girls, even black girls. And dope was heaven. But he worried. And he got himself all mixed up about a West Indian girl who worked in the kitchen. Knowing him as I did, such a 'come-down' was, to say the least, shattering.

'But we're all black,' he insisted.

It was another claret being drunk until breakfast.

'You might as well say to a National Front thug that we're all human,' I said.

'Maybe black men are not good enough for them,' he protested. Maybe all they do is dream all day long of being screwed nuts by white chaps. Maybe ...'

'I hear you've been hanging around the kitchen every day.'

He sat up.

I was finally losing a friend.

But he chose to sigh tragically, and for the first time I had been waiting for this ...

he swore a sudden volley of earthy expletives.

'From now on, it's white girls or nothing.'

'You've tried that already,' I reminded him.

He gripped the arms of his chair and then let his lungs collapse slowly.

'Why don't you try men?'

I asked, reliving my glass.

He stared.

And spat:

'You're full of filth, do you know that?'

'I have long suspected it,' I said, losing interest.

But I threw in my last coin.

'Or simply masturbate. We all do.'

Furiously, he refilled his glass.

We drank in silence for a long, contemplative hour.

'They're going to send me down,' I said.

'What?'

It was good of him to actually sound surprised.

If I refuse to go into Warneford as a voluntary patient,' I added.

'What's Warneford?'

'A psychiatric care unit,' I said. 'I have until lunch this afternoon to decide. Between either voluntary confinement or being sent down.'

I tossed him the Warden's note to that effect. He unfolded it.

He whistled.

The sound of his whistle almost made me forgive him everything, including himself.

Finally he asked: 'What have you decided to do?'

'Be sent down.'

'But ...'

I interrupted:

'It's the one decision in my life which I know will turn out right.'

'Will you stay on in England?'

'Yes.'

'Why not go to Africa and join our guerrillas? You've always been rather more radical than myself and this will be a chance blah blah blah blah blah.'

'I yawned.'

'Your glass is empty,' I said.

'But take a good look anyway, a good look at me and all you know about me and then tell me whether you say a dedicated guerrilla.'

He looked.

I refilled his glass and opened another bottle as he scrutinised me.

He lit up; almost maliciously.

'You're a tramp,' he said firmly. 'You're just like that nigger tramp who accosted me the other day when we ...'

'I know,' I said belching.

He stared.

'What will you do?'

'Writing.'

'How will you live?'

'Tomorrow will take care of itself, I hope,' I said.

And that was the last time we made speech to each other over bottles of claret throughout the small hours until clean sunlight slivered lucidly through the long open windows. And I left him sleeping peacefully in his chair and hurried to my last breakfast in college.

YOUR LUCK IN 1979?

LUCK has been said to be the knack of doing the right thing. BUT AT THE RIGHT TIME! Astrology tries to pick out these right times by researching Daily Planetary Positions, and Birthdate. Sometimes succeeds brilliantly. It's a matter of luck Mrs. Peggy A. of Luton writes to me "Just five weeks after I first wrote to you I have won almost £28 000 in the pools. You said my luck would change, and so it did." Mrs. J. G. of Newcastle writes "£20 000 between them, it sounds absurd for luck to come so quick BUT IT DID! Mrs. Edna A. T. of Bromsgrove writes to me "I am now happy to inform you that I won £44,300 20 on the Pools." And Mrs. Betty G. of Wolverhampton writes "I won £19,326, a friend of mine also won some money, but not as much as I did." I can be some thing even more important than money that comes. "You said my health would improve and I laughed. But it has, and I am now going to start work next week after five years of bad health," writes Mrs. A. D. of London. NW 4.

TRY ME

Let me see if I can help YOU to the kind of life the people above, whose letters I quote with their permission, have had since taking the few FULL POSTAL ADDRESS, and SEND me YOUR FULL NAMES, your OR AS NEAR AS YOU KNOW IT, and your BIRTHDATE and send me a FREE PLANE PARADE all about "STAR-CAST LUCKY NUMBERS" and many exciting things about yourself and how I can make YOU 365 Ours RISING Sign DAILY DATED, FUTURE-Steps. I GUARANTEE to make you win the Pools, but you might I DO NOT REPLY to 115 S. W. 1st Floor, or 1 Rand, or 300 Cameron, France, or 8 Kenya Shillings. OTHER countries ARE NEGOTIABLE IN BRITAIN, and send ONLY in cash or INTERNATIONAL Postal Orders from your own INTERNAL Postal Office. I am not changeable in Britain or in Postal Reply Coupons. But write NOW. NO DOD.

MARIE SIMONE,
TRUST ROOM 1979,
Personal Box 57,
Lind Road,
Sutton,
Surrey, SM1 40Y,
England.



LEFT: If a girl danced with him, he felt she had agreed to being groped, squeezed and screwed.



Let me answer your personal problems

LADY DOCTOR

FOR a family, it is a good thing to have a few medicines at home for emergency purposes. In some parts of Africa doctors are not easily available and hospitals may not be far away. Until one can be reached, drugs from the medicine cupboard can temporarily help during an emergency.

Secondly, cuts often we all suffer from minor ailments. By using simple home remedies we may prevent unnecessary expense and anxiety.

Almost everybody at some time or another gets aches and pains, such as a headache, a toothache, a backache, pains in the joints or a sore throat. All these common and simple complaints can be relieved by the use of preparations that contain Aspirin. They do not need a doctor's prescription and should be kept in the cupboard for use when needed — well away from the children, of course.

There is only one precautionary warning to be given. A person with an ulcer in the stomach should be careful in using Aspirin, because sometimes it can cause bleeding from the stomach.

Aspirin is most useful for colds, temperatures and flu. For children, Aspirin which has been sweetened and made

Keep help within reach

palatable is very effective.

For sore throats, in addition to taking Aspirin, gargles are very soothing. A simple gargle is made up by mixing half a teaspoonful of salt in a large tumbler of warm water. If there is congestion of the throat and the chest strain inhalation is excellent.

This can be made more effective by adding one teaspoonful of Friars balsam to a kettle full of boiling water which can be kept in a closed room. Adults can cover their heads with towels, but this may be dangerous with children. A rub on the chest both for children and adults with camphorated oil

is very comforting.

If a bad cold has blocked the nose, a few drops of Eucalyptus oil on the handkerchief for an adult and on a pillow for children helps relieve it.

Food poisoning, causing stomach upsets, diarrhoea and vomiting, is also very common. This is because of the drop in sanitation and hygiene that occurs from over-crowding, especially during hot weather. Here the best thing is to give up any solid food and stick to water and glucose. Again, many anti-diarrhoea mixtures are available from the chemist and a bottle is worth keeping in the cupboard. All stomach ulcers give pain. If there is abdominal pain with vomiting alone and there is slightest suspicion of appendicitis any type of laxative is strictly prohibited. Medical aid should be obtained without delay.

Cuts and bruises are all too frequent and a good antiseptic solution should be kept to treat these with Spirit stings, but is very effective for the prevention of infection.

In addition, first aid dressings are necessary to treat cuts and bruises. It is a good idea to keep a small collection of sterile cotton wool and bandages in the house. A thermometer would be a good thing to add to this list.

They are too small

I AM a 19-year-old boy. What worries me is that my genitalia are too small. I have been squeezing my scrotum until it became small, because I thought that would help me. Do you think that is the cause of my small genitalia, and how can I make them bigger?
Worried, Benin

You can do little to make your genitalia bigger — but don't worry, there's nothing wrong. Stop squeezing your scrotum.

They both disappear

BOTH my testicles often disappear in to my groin. Is there any operation to cure this condition, because I have been to many doctors and clinics but to no avail. Does it mean that I will be inadequate sexually, because since I was 19 I have not had sex. Will I be able to impregnate a woman?
Worried Boy, Owerri
You can have an operation to



ensure that your testicles stay where they should be. You are NOT sexually inadequate.

None on my head

I AM a 19-year-old boy. My problem is that I am hairy on parts of my body, while the hair on my head does not grow. I have healthy hair on my legs, hands, arm-pits, cheeks and chest, and I have hairs on other parts of my body. But the hair on my head is not growing. Please, doctor, help me.
Frank, Ibadan
It is not unusual for men with hairy bodies to have bald heads. There's nothing you can do

It just won't grow

I WOULD be grateful if you would solve a problem for me. I am 21 years old, and my penis just won't grow. Can I go for an operation? Do you think I have a disease? Your advice is urgently needed.
Dayo, Lagos

There is nothing you can do to make your penis bigger. Some men are small, some are big. Make do with what you've got.

It's much too fat

I AM a 16-year-old boy, and would be very grateful for your help. My problem is that my penis is too fat, and the girls don't want to play with me. Are there pills to slim my fat penis?
Joseph, Jos
You can't slim down a penis. Don't worry eventually you will find a girl who appreciates a big penis.

PEN PALS



Fridas A. Achampan, Black 19, Flat B, Bendel Estate, Ife, Oyo. Warm Nigeria, wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, collecting stamps, reading, tennis. Travelling. Music dancing. Age 22.



Ugwue A. Abah 585, Udoakolo wa Ojaja, Benue State, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, reading, tennis. Travelling. Music dancing. Age 20.



Olaokun L. Akpe 5 Okoakia Oko Road Oyo/Ba. Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: reading, music, travelling. Age 21.



Joseph Ogburnah 14, Accounts Dept. P.O. Box 888, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: reading, music, travelling. Age 20.



Victor M. Enuka Box 101, Uzu-Uwan, USA. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: singing, music, collecting stamps, reading letters and photos. Age 22.



Atrist Abahome Box 6, Asopon, Bendel State, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, dancing. Age 18.



Victor D. Omolu 165 S. Box 123, Iroin, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: dancing, general. Age 17.



Agnes Ogunshah 28, Adeniyi Street, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: dancing, singing, swimming, sports. Age 20.



Mahamad B. Bakir FGSS, P.M.B. 17, Fofokan, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: music, dancing, lightening sports. Age 19.



Mrs. Huseini M. B. 29, 2, Farnham Road, Uyo, Delta 110015, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: magazines, stamps, making friends. Age 24.



Miss. Mary Clare Wadsworth, Box 21, Muanga, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: Canada, swimming, fishing, music, novels, swimming. Age 17.



Lily Wanjohi 22, Main Road, Mombasa, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: dance, cinema, travel. Age 17.



Gilbert N. Udu Mission to Kenya, P.O. Box 30261, Nairobi, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: Tennis, Football, swimming, dancing, singing and ice skating. Views on Postcard. Interested in hearing from ladies. Age 20.



Bondice A. Enuabar Box 68, Onyiahia, Ubaia, Asaba, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: letter writing, current affairs, music, reading, dancing. Age 18.



Photofah Yonefa House No. 314, Near St. Peter & Serevero Churches, Zomba, Zambia. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: Kenya, England, India, China, interested in hearing about football, tennis, exchange letters, music, photos. News. Age 19.



James Gassie Oyin 16, Main Road, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: Tanzania, Zambia, interested in hearing about football, tennis, exchange letters, music, photos. News. Age 19.



Mary Okoro 27, Oboro Edo Street, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: tennis, photography, football. Age 18.



Emmanuel Akamide M.W. and is right way Road, Akuru, Onitsha State, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: cinema, tennis, music. Age 20.



Sarinan Nguren Kotopof Street, Sio, Box 2020, Ende, Kenya. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: USA, Australia, Kenya, Nigeria. Interests: cinema, photography, reading. Age 20.



Carrie W. Murray Box 7037, Chancery, New York, USA. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: writing, music, dancing, magazines. Age 23.



Yusuf Babu 10, Akoka Road, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: tennis, swimming, photography, sailing, music, engineering. Age 20.



Enda Papp 25, College of Education, P.M.B. 1017, Uyo, Onitsha State, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: reading, chess, swimming, tennis, music, table tennis. Age 23.



Abulokan Dan Sule 11, Kwara State College of Tech, Sureda, Delta. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: basketball, drama, film, table tennis. Age 16.



Mahmud Peter 25, Main Road, Lagos, Nigeria. Wants pen pals from all over the world. Interests: tennis, swimming, music, dancing. Age 23.

BOLD BUKI BARES IT ALL...

Bare and beautiful... that's bold Buki, who bares her all for our readers. If you think you've seen the lovely Buki before, you could be right. She's the Miss August girl in the big, bold DRUM and TRUST calendar for 1979.

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GHANA GETS THE RABBIT HABIT...

RABBIT cunningly disguised as chicken and served at an official reception, posters proclaiming "Get The Rabbit Habit," "Make Bunny Money," "Has Ghana been gripped by a strange madness?"

No, in fact, the explanation is quite simple.

For Ghana's nine and a half million people the problem of food has now become acute, partly due to the severity of recent drought in some regions of the country. While the Government has been committed for several years to a drive for self-sufficiency called "Operation Feed Yourself," and while the country now produces cereals, maize and rice in adequate quantities, there is an increasing shortage of meat.

One answer to this problem has been supplied by eccentric genius Newlove Mamattah. He has looked not towards the expensive or the frail chicken, but to something compact, cheap, hardy and far easier to keep—the common rabbit.

Mamattah, former adult educator and now secretary of the African section of the World Rabbit Breeding Association, has given a number of convincing arguments for keeping rabbits as a source of food.

"Rabbits are tasty," he said. "Their meat is white and tender. It's leaner than chicken, and just

as delicious.

"Rabbits are easy to keep. What special care they do need does not take up a lot of time. Their hutches are simple to construct, and they are inexpensive to feed since they eat almost anything. Grass, ground nuts, sweet potato vines, cassava and waste scraps, even brewers mash.

"Rabbits," Mamattah emphasised, "provide many by-products of which people are often unaware. Not only is their

fur useful, but also their brains, which make blood clotting agents essential to hospitals, and their skins, which are used for tape recorder drive belts, not to mention the rabbit's foot much in demand as a good luck charm.

"But," he went on, "the chief consideration is that rabbits multiply extremely quickly. To breed like rabbits is, of course, a well-known expression. You start with a buck and a doe rabbit. They cost about eight

dollars each. The gestation period is only 31 days, and before the year is out, if you are lucky, your female will have produced upwards of 20 young. That is a quantity of meat equal to the weight of an entire cow, and one rabbit is enough to feed the average family."

Faced with such persuasion one would imagine that the people of Ghana would be quick to adopt the idea. Not so, however. For Newlove Mamattah and his rabbits it was by no

means plain sailing.

The story really began in 1972, when Mamattah received a Government grant of 140,000 dollars to establish "Rabbits for Food for the Millions," a 32 hectare rabbit farm at Kwabena, 24km from Accra. There he put his ideas into practice, starting with 80 rabbits. Five years later he had 13,948!

Meanwhile, to improve the stock, donations of rabbits of various exotic breeds were

GOOD FOOD



CONTACT NATION

KC



It looked like chicken, smelt like chicken, even tasted like chicken. But the party guests were in for a surprise. A special correspondent tells the story for TRUST.

FOR GOOD HEALTH



NATIONAL RABBIT PROJECT ABENYA

received from Switzerland, Australia, Belgium, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the USA. The art of "Techno serve," a non-profit-making American foundation which helps small businesses what is needed to give the operation a boost.

But one big obstacle remained. Whereas country people, who are used to eating rabbits, needed no persuading that it was a delicious food, the town dwelling officials of the

Ministry of Agriculture remained unconvinced. "Rabbit? Nobody in his right mind would want to eat rabbit," was a typical official comment. And though Mamatah assured the officials that rabbit could be prepared to taste exactly like chicken, his words fell on deaf ears.

Yet without due Government backing the project would almost certainly be a failure.

Then, rabbit fanciers had a stroke of luck. In 1974 an information support unit sponsored jointly by the United Nations Development Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organisation arrived in Ghana. Its aim was to discover new projects in need of media support. The unit's project manager, university lecturer Joseph Ascroft, quickly became a convert to the rabbit cause. He had a brainwave — a scheme to get Ministry officials

on his side — if they could not be persuaded by words, perhaps the way lay through their stomachs.

The retirement of a Commissioner for Agriculture was made the occasion for a large reception. Everybody was very hungry. The waitresses were crusted, the cook was Newlove Mamatah. The food? Well, it looked like breast of chicken, smelt like chicken, tasted like chicken, delicately stewed in a spicy sauce.

Where has Ascroft found the money for all these chicken breasts? asked a puzzled official after the meal.

Oh, that's a surprise, Joseph Ascroft himself stepped in to explain. "It wasn't chicken at all. It was rabbit. It just goes

**NEWLOVE Mamatah gets
the name of Ashanti**



ROADSIDE billboards promote backyard rabbit breeding as a means of increasing meat supply.

to show how tasty rabbit meat can be.

The new Commissioner was thrilled. "And this scheme to get people to eat more rabbit, I think is a jolly good idea. It is one of our campaigns, isn't it?"

Yes, of course, Ascroft was quick to reply. It is one of the big new campaigns.

And from that point onwards, in Ascroft's words, "they ate it, they liked it, and there was no looking back."

Ghana's national rabbit project has gone from strength to strength. A massive publicity campaign has been mounted on posters, in schools and on TV. The UNDP-FAO support unit has helped produce a booklet on the care of rabbits, and potential rabbit breeders are able to attend a special training course. A competition has been held to find the "Rabbiteer of the Year."

The result has been an unprecedented demand for rabbits. About 160 people came forward to found the National Rabbit Breeders Association in Accra. The Kingsway Super market, which reluctantly agreed to sell rabbit meat on a trial basis, was amazed when its stocks vanished within an hour.

Another rabbit breeding centre has been established in the North under Joseph Ascroft. Even that can barely keep pace with the demand. It seems that genuine advantage is being taken out of this cheap source of essential animal protein.

Mamatah and Ascroft are thrilled with the success of their idea and their work goes on. And what is Mamatah's next ambition? To teach rabbits to lay eggs, he joked. Judging by his luck, he



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ONE thing responsible for a lot of our troubles is that we have refused to put women in their rightful place in the zoo! Most women don't deserve our company; they should really be somewhere behind double-fenced walls, mixing with baboons and guinea-fowl.

Despite the fact that women do their reasoning in an anti-clockwise, irrational and unprogressive manner, they still want to be part of a civilized community. Even if we want to tolerate them, there is still the sad fact that one day they will go back to their filthy places.

Women could not have been created to come and enjoy life — no, not with their anatomical composition. Considering the various uncomfortable experiences they undergo for a good part of their lifetime, one could safely argue that they

The shame of being a woman...

were definitely not created to come and enjoy life down here. They suffer!

Maybe it is gradually becoming clearer to women that there is nothing really special

about them. Rather, there is a lot to be pitied about them.

They often complain that they suffer the consequences of the sexual act because they have to carry the ensuing baby for nine months. Whose fault? Whose business? Who cares?

Why do men not cry that they are tired of carrying live male seeds about for their lifetime? Women simply like to complain over unnecessary matters. What is so special about the ordeals of pregnancy — don't she-goats and female dogs go through the same experience without complaining?

Women might soon become totally irrelevant and useless to our existence if "baby factories" go into mass production. I think it will be possible some day for the entire growth and development of the human child to take place in a test tube. Then it will no longer be necessary to harbour a woman for the sole purpose of manufacturing babies.

UNFAITHFUL

Yours Truly had to spend some time at the body-mender's recently. That was the time I decided that there are few faithful



ARGUMENT

Uncle Toks Dodo recently confronted me with a million-naire question: "When will these girls learn their lesson?" I looked into his bespectacled, handsome face and laughed. I knew he had once again discovered something squalid about the daughters of Eve.

I told him that our girls will change from their evil ways when Amagedon comes down; in other words, on the last day.

But in my avowed objectivity, I approached Aunty Dele for a solution — and an argument. I argued that women should be flushed away down the toilet. She vehemently pro-

cedure sitting down at home to gossip, preparing the meals (which are tasteless at times), washing the dishes, and at night jumping into the husband's bed to enjoy his manhood. Invariably, we are the cheated party.

A woman is a liability any day of the week! Associating with her is like patronising a gambling machine which is programmed to gain. You are deceived into thinking you are winning; then suddenly bingo! You learn your lesson the hard way.

These parasites called women want to make the world believe that we are equal. It is ridiculous. How can I be equal to a woman? Maybe I can accept being equal to ten women, but not less. With the daylight robbery called marriage which allows women to drain our purses, the facts stand out clearly. How can a parasite wife and a bread-winning husband be said to be equal?

I think women only pretend to be happy. Given the choice they would have opted to be born male. With all the woes and curses surrounding the notion of womanhood, no honest woman would say she is proud to be female.

It is bad enough coming into the world through a woman, and only the heavens know what crime it is to be born female.

So, if you are a woman consider the apparent disadvantages in your anatomy; the parasitic life you are born to live, the traditionally dormant role of a wife, the unhappiness you have caused several honest men, the brainlessness of your type and utter utility of your existence — and you will sadly curse the day you were born.

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housewives left in this country. And if there are any there can't be many!

One of the popular members of the medical staff (a married woman) is the one in question. Rumour has it that she has been laid by virtually every medical doctor in the place, but I discountenanced all the stories because they might just have been fabricated. But I was to find out otherwise.

I managed to overhear her telling a particularly handsome medical doctor that she would be at his house by 10 p.m. that night.

"What of your husband, won't he suspect?" the doctor asked. The housewife countered: "Him? He is as dumb as a stone, he won't suspect a thing."

At that point I felt like getting up from my sick bed and knocking off the two fools. I also felt like weeping. If the world is to continue rotating on the axis of culpable filth, then where lies our hope?

tested: "You men are responsible for whatever the women of today are. You try to impress us with money, then when you meet a cunning woman you start yelling. If only you men would try to be more responsible, women would follow suit."

I was baffled. I couldn't agree with Aunty Dele. How can men be held culpable for every flattering step of women? Even when a woman is born rotten we have to take the blame for her rottenness!

Ah, if this is how the world is going to treat us after all what we have endured from the hands of the daughters of Eve, then let the whole world collapse for lack of a rational order.

LIABILITY

The conventional set-up hasn't been fair to men after all. We are referred to as bread winners. Okay, so we are bread winners, but must women be parasites for whom?

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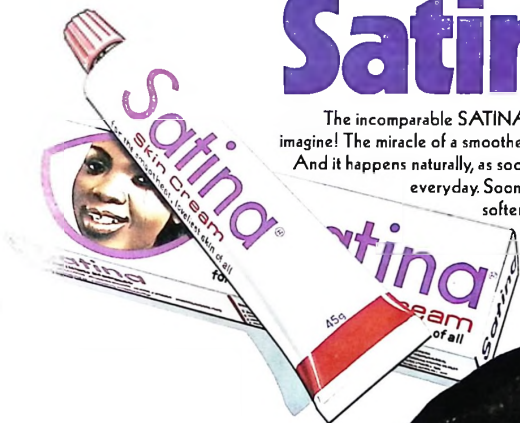
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Why do we all pretend?

ANOTHER of the funny traits in our society is that we all pretend a lot. We tend to present images that are direct opposites of what we really are. And sometimes we condemn and pretend to hate that which we really do ... and which we enjoy doing.

When you offer a beer to an alhaji at a party, for instance, he fumes "Taboo! It's forbidden." He tells you he would rather have a Coke or any other soft drink. But don't be surprised to see the same man treating

himself to several gins and other drinks when he is alone!

A lot of men who, for reason of status or religion, preach a "holier than thou" gospel in public, are better seen in the company of their close friends at exclusive clubs or at an indoor party. Their true colours show especially when wine and the "sweet 16s" are in abundance.

Many of the intellectuals and others who just managed to pass through one university or the other would rather not be found with a magazine or news-

NELSON'S COLUMN



paper unless it is one dealing with economics, politics or other topics considered serious. They like to display serious journals, not because they necessarily read them but just to give an impression that they are serious-minded.

They'll tell you they have no time for journals which have nothing to offer an intellectual mind. But these same people buy a lot, read, digest and emotionally react to pictorial as well as text contents of the so-called "pornographic" journals like *Penthouse* and *Men Only* whenever they are alone.

Many of us will shout like hell when offered bribes in public. "No, I don't take it. Don't corrupt me," everyone will say. But how many of us, in fact, reject "gifts" before or after rendering a service to others, especially

when they are offered in "confidence"?

How many of us have "returned to sender" those Christmas parcels we receive from people whom we favoured one way or the other around the beginning of December?

The trick is that when some of us are involved in that type of corruption we call it a "gift." But when others are involved it is then we see it as a bribe.

How many of the Nigerians who profess to be apostles of Marxism and Leninism, and who say they champion the cause of the oppressed people, are not inwardly capitalistic?

We see a lot of them in outlandish outfits as they shout socialist slogans, but how many of them, in fact, do not live above average lives or own some property hidden some-

TRUST Editor Nelson Bankole reflects on another of man's strange traits.

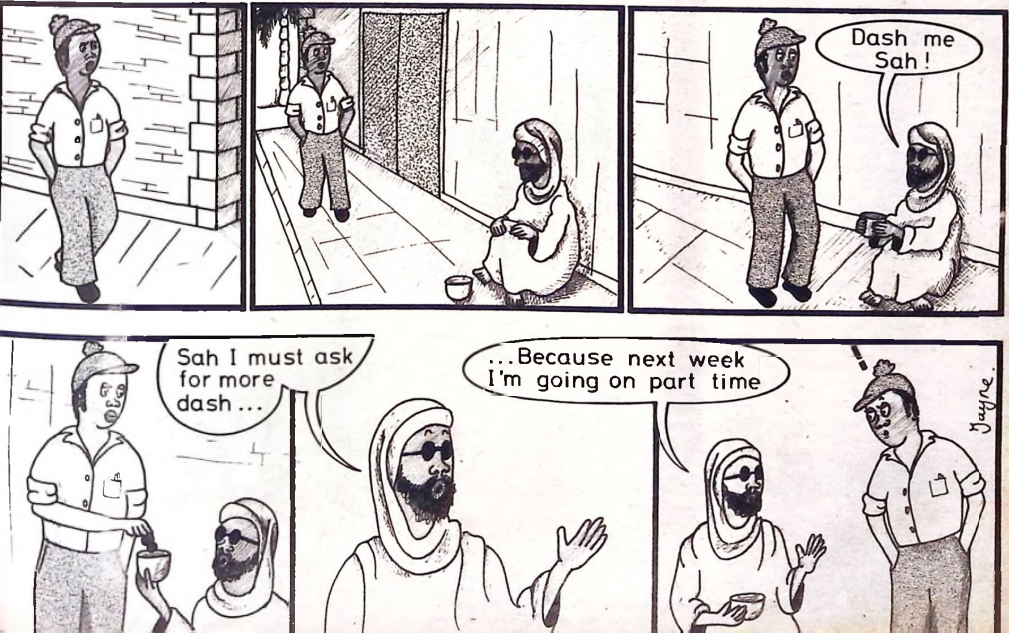
where? Of course we have examples of those who have "given up the struggle," having made it materially!

We have a lot of men in society whose main interest is in flirting with all sorts of women. These men are those you see, all the time, frowning and bullying their female members of staff — especially if they happen to be bosses.

They intimidate and victimise, instead of expressing their real feelings. They belong to the set who make sure that their car windows are darkly tinted to prevent people from seeing them when they are inside with women.

The question I have often asked is: just why can't we be ourselves, and damn whatever anybody may feel about us?

SAM



POWER

and the new constitution

THE distribution of power is a sensitive constitutional matter, particularly in countries which adopt the federal system. Imbalance in the distribution of power among institutions of government can be a major destabilising factor — creating conflicts among various organs and individuals.

An examination of the distribution of power in the new constitution is timely in view of the assertion by some political scientists that the defective nature of the republican constitution was a contributory factor to the demise of the First Republic.

It has been stated that the structure on the federation was topsy-turvy; that the allocation of functions between the head of state and head of government was not clearly and unambiguously demarcated; that the distribution of power between the federal and regional governments did not take adequate notice of the socio-economic problems of the country; that the party system functioned in a manner detrimental to the stability of the political system. Thus the major problems of the Republic were of a constitutional nature.

The new constitution adopts the federal arrangement. There are 19 states in the Federation as against the three regions at independence in 1960. In 1963 the Midwest Region was carved out of the West. Even then, the Northern Region was, both in terms of population and territory, twice as large as the three southern regions — the West, East and Midwest.

The preponderant political advantage on the Northern Region was a source of conflict in the Federation.

The exercise of state creation began in 1967 when Nigeria was divided into 12 states, and was completed in 1976 on the further balkanisation resulting in the present 19 state structure. The new constitution has adopted the 19 state structure, and to a large extent removed the fear of one constituent state imposing its will on the federation.

In the federal system, power is distributed between the central authority and the constituent states. The new constitution endows the central government with legislative and executive powers. But an "exclusive list" is completely removed from the sphere of the state governments and reserved solely for the central government. Items on the list range from currency, coinage and legal tender to external affairs, covering 66 important subjects.

There is no doubt that the new constitution gives greater power to the federal government. Most of the items placed on the concurrent list in the 1963 republican constitution have now been made federal subjects. Examples include arms and ammunition, the census, prisons and the Tribunal of Inquiry.

ORGANIC

As regards the concurrent list, both the federal and state governments have legal authority over matters included, but now the federal government is invested with the predominant authority in case of inconsistency between the federal and state legislation on any matter included in the concurrent list; the state legislation shall be void to the degree of its inconsistency with the federal legislation.

An important feature of the new constitution is that emphasis is laid on the organic nature of the country. There is no provision for a separate constitution for each of the 19 states of the federation. In the 1963 republican constitution, provisions were made for the constitution of each of the regions. The regional government had autonomous amending power to the constitution of the region, whereas any amendment to the constitution of the federation could only be made after all the regional legislatures and the federal authority had sanctioned it.

In effect, the regional government became more powerful than the federal government, in

1962, the governor of the Western Region dismissed the premier of the region when it appeared to him that the premier no longer commanded the confidence of the majority of the members of the House of Assembly. The matter was subsequently referred to the Privy Council. Meanwhile the regional premier refused to vacate his office, and he carried on his duties as premier pending the determination of the case.

When it became apparent that the decision of the Privy Council favoured the governor, the House of Assembly amended the constitution with retrospective effect, and nullified the power of the governor to dismiss the premier as well as severing official links with the Privy Council.

The Western Region provides a further illustration of the constitutional conflict between the federal and regional governments in the celebrated Coker Commission of Inquiry into the assets of the Nigeria Investment and Property Corporation (NIPC) — a private concern which benefited from loans granted by the regional government.

The West Regional government challenged the legality of the action of the federal government, claiming that there was no constitutional authority to empower the federal government to probe the assets and liabilities of the company and the financial involvement of the regional government in the company.

There is a radical departure from the cabinet system adopted in the republican constitution of 1963. The new constitution creates an executive presidential system of government, thus the legislature is separated from the executive. The federal legislative power is conferred upon the national assembly and the senate, each of which is capable of originating any Bill for the consideration of the legislature.

The executive power is invested in the president, who has the responsibility for the selec-



tion of his ministers to assist him in the execution of the laws made by the national assembly. Although the president, like all state governors, has the right of attendance at the legislative house, he is not granted a voting right.

The president

originate a Bill, but he has a delaying power by withholding assent to any Bill beyond the 30 days stipulated on the constitution. There are adequate provisions guaranteeing parliamentary supremacy in legis-

As Nigeria prepares for the general election in anticipation of a return to civil rule after years of military administration, TRUST's political correspondent, Kayode Iwakun, explains what the situation could be under the new presidential system.



FEDERAL Parliament in session during the First Republic of Nigeria.

Passing after the president has withheld his assent. If it is passed by Parliament the second time the Bill shall not require presidential assent, and it shall become law.

In matters relating to general administration, the executive powers of the

trammelled. There are, however, severe limitations on the power of the president to declare a state of war with another country.

Chapter 1, part 11, section 5 subsection 3(a) states: "The president shall not declare a

federation and another country except with the sanction of a resolution of both houses of the national assembly sitting in a joint session," and subsection 3(b) spells out the procedure for deployment of the armed forces for outside combat engagements: "Except with the prior

approval of the senate, no member of the armed forces of the federation shall be deployed on combat duty outside Nigeria."

Section 12(1) indicates that any treaty between Nigeria and another country shall be implemented unless the national

assembly has enacted such treaty into law.

It is clear that in matters relating to foreign affairs, the power of the president is severely curtailed. The provisions of the

CONTINUED

constitution underline the serious business attached to Nigeria's external relations.

The pertinent question is: why is it desirable to separate the legislature from the executive? In the cabinet system based on the Westminster model, the prime minister was the chief executive of state, he was a member of the national assembly. In fact, the business of the national assembly was arranged from the cabinet office. Thus the prime minister and his other cabinet colleagues were both members of the executive and the legislature. The new constitution not only separates the executive from the legislature, it provides that no member of the executive shall retain his membership of the legislature.

The separation of the executive and the legislature is justifiable because of the axiom that the concentration of power in the same person or body leads to dictatorship.

It was discovered that the cabinet controlled parliament in the First Republic. The allocation of parliamentary time was determined by the cabinet. The result was that little time was available for members of the national assembly to scrutinise the performances of the members of the executive. Thus the removal of the executive from the legislature would give the latter greater discretion in terms of allocation of parliamentary time.

WEAPON

There is also the important issue of the discretionary power of the prime minister to advise the president to dissolve the national assembly. This was an important weapon used to exert influence on members of the legislature. In the new constitution the president has no power to dissolve the national assembly before the expiration of its life. Even in periods of emergency, when conditions do not permit the conduct of elections, only a resolution of the national assembly itself can prolong its life.

According to the new constitution, the president is more than the chief executive. He is also the head of state and chief spokesman for the country. In this capacity he would perform a number of functions on behalf of all the people of Nigeria. The armed forces owe their loyalty to him as Nigeria's Number One citizen.

It is hoped that the new arrangement will eliminate the inherent conflict in separating the head of government from the head of state.

It is interesting to recall the constitutional crisis of 1964 involving the president, Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe, and the prime minister, the late Alhaji Abubakar Tafawa Balewa. The crisis emanated from the general elections of 1964. The issue was whether the president had



ALHAJI Waziri Ibrahim, chairman and presidential candidate, Great Nigeria People's Party (GNPP).



CHIEF Obafemi Awolowo, leader of defunct Action Group and now leader and presidential candidate, Unity Party of Nigeria (UPN).

the power to reject the results of the elections and refuse to appoint as prime minister the leader of the party which claimed that it had the majority of the elected members of the House of Representatives.

The constitutional crisis of 1964 was similar to that in the Western Region, when both the governor and the premier claimed to have the power to sack the other.

In spite of the importance of political parties as the mechanism for the procurement of personnel for government offices, both in the legislature and the executive, the past constitutions did not take any notice of the formation and operations of the party system. Operating largely without constitutional control, political parties must have become excessively undisciplined — much to the detriment of the stability of the political system.

Thus an important innovation in the new order is the constitutionalisation of political parties. The formation and operation of political parties are now a constitutional matter.

Some disquieting features of the party system of the First Republic include their parochial orientation and internal schism. The new constitution provides that political associations shall be registered as political parties. To qualify for registration they shall be seen to be national in character, and to have a nationwide following. The operation of such parties is also subject to control and surveillance by the Federal Electoral Commission — the body which has constitutional responsibility for the formation, conduct and operation of political parties.

The constitutionalisation of political parties is a form of recognition that political parties constitute a power base. For election to any office unless he is sponsored by a political party. There is also the provision that an elected member of either the legislature or the executive who

POWER... AND ITS DISTRIBUTION

desires to change his political party should first resign from his elected office.

These constitutional measures are designed to serve three important functions: to accord recognition to political parties as powerful institutions within the political system; to orientate the party system towards national rather than sectional or parochial interests (for it is realised that the emergence of national leadership depends on the party system); to impose discipline on the political parties and through them extend such discipline to their members.

Political parties suffer from repeated allegations that the discipline of the political leadership was one of the causes of the demise of the last civil political order. The incidence of carpet-crossing among members of the Legislative House became a national scandal. For instance, in 1962, following the internal crisis of the Action Group, a faction of the party elected into the West Regional House of Assembly renounced their membership of the party, formed a new political party and without reference to the electorate installed themselves in the government. It is that type of political irresponsibility

which the new constitution seeks to prevent.

It seems that enough attention was not given to the internal structure of the political parties. It hardly needs to be said that the internal structure of a political party would determine to a large extent its ability to perform its constitutionally prescribed functions.

A close examination of the internal structures of four out of the five registered political parties reveals two structural patterns: the separation of the post of presidential candidature from that of the party chairmanship, and the fusion of the two posts. The National Party of Nigeria (NPN) and the Nigeria People's Party (NPP) separate the post of party chairman from that of the presidential candidate. One person cannot combine the posts of party chairman and presidential candidate. Those who favour the separation of both posts decry concentration of power in the presidential candidate, for he might place himself above his party once he is elected to office as president.

It is equally true that separating both posts could lead to serious constitutional crisis. It is stated in chapter VI, Part 111, Section 201, that "No person

other than a political party shall canvass for votes for any candidate at any election or contribute to the funds of any political party or to the election expenses of any candidate at an election."

This is saying that only candidates sponsored by political parties can contest elections. What happens if a presidential candidate, following a disagreement with the chairman of his party, is dismissed before a few months before a general election? Supposing the crisis which attended the maiden convention of the NPP took place in March 1979, what would be the position of Alhaji Waziri?

The constitution is silent on the position of a president who is dismissed from his party. Should he stay in office or resign? I favour strongly the structure of both the UPN and the GNPP — both parties which conferred the post of party chairman on the presidential candidate.

It is not unlikely that the interpersonal relationship between the president and the chairman of his party might generate conflicts which could have a destabilising effect on the party and the national system.



THE late S. L. Akintola, deputy leader of Chief Awolowo's Action Group, Premier of old Western Region. Power tussle with Chief Awolowo led to crisis and army take-over in 1966.



THE late Ahmadu Bello, leader of defunct NPC. More powerful than the Prime Minister under old political system; killed during the coup of January 1966.



ALHAJI Shehu Shagari, presidential candidate, National Party of Nigeria (NPN).



RIGHT: Chief Olu Akinfosile, chairman, Nigeria People's Party (NPP).



CHIEF Rotimi Williams, chairman of the Constitution Drafting Committee (left) handing over the draft of the present constitution to Nigeria's Head of State, General Olusegun Obasanjo.

Group in 1962 had repercussions beyond the confines of the Western Region

The distribution of power in the new constitution is a vast improvement on past constitutions. The creation of a 19-state structure is aimed at a greater diffusion of power on a territorial basis. There are, in effect, 19 centres of power within the limits of the constitutional authority granted to the states. The pattern of distribution of functions between the states and the federal authorities ensures the predominance of the federal government. For instance, most of the objects in the concurrent list of the independence constitution have been transferred to the exclusive list.

constitutional prescription as regards the institutions of government and the relationship among these institutions. There are no special constitutions for each separate state, and no state has autonomous power to amend the constitution, even when the section refers to states other than the federation as a whole.

In adopting the executive presidential system, the executive has been separated from the legislature. This is aimed at eliminating the tendency of the executive to control the legislature. Adequate provisions have been made to ensure the supremacy of the national assembly in all legislative matters. The conduct of Nigeria's foreign relations has been brought within the auth-

ority of the national assembly. The curtailment of the power of the president can be justified because of the intricacy of external relations. The president may not declare a state of war between Nigeria and another country until he has received the approval of the legislature. The formation and organisation of political parties has been made a constitutional matter. The rationale for this measure is to ensure the emergence of a national party system.

It is my view that the new constitution, by its distribution of power, aims at preventing the concentration of power in a body or person, as well as ensuring a greater territorial spread of governmental activities.

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HAIL KING

For more than 20 years Nigeria had not had a boxing champion at heavy-weight class — until referee Howard Jones raised Ngozika Ekwellum's hand in the third round of a scheduled 15-round bout to declare him the victor over his highly rated opponent, Eddy Cooper.



THE fight is over. Look at the face of a loser (left).



"I TOLD you that guy Eddy wouldn't last the distance, didn't I?" yells Ngozika at the end.

THAT Friday night fight between Ngozika Ekwellum and Eddy Cooper, at the Sports Hall of the National Stadium in Lagos, was indeed historic.

Since the 30s, through the 40s and early 50s when boxing celebrates like Al Olorikwo, Bob Savage, Sammy Idowu and a few other heavyweights made their names, there has never been a fight between such "super-muscles" in this country. The last heavy weight, Joe Agbabiaka, left for the USA in 1978 because there was no one to challenge him.

So, when a date was fixed to decide who would again wear the crown — Ngozika or Eddy — boxing enthusiasts knew they were in for a treat. No wonder they turned out in such great numbers.

Before the big day, Eddy Cooper, who turned professional in 1974, promised to make the fight his "1979 present".

He said: "I'll beat that sluggish fighter, come what may. I trained in Nigeria, and I'm fighting in Nigeria. It's going to be my title."

But Ngozika Ekwellum, the

Germany-based Nigerian, was even more confident. "I've fought and beaten better boxers than Eddy. He'll provide good practice, but won't last the distance," he said in a pre-fight interview.

And when the fight started the crowd soon realised who was the better fighter. Cooper attempted a few punches, but they were too slow and ineffective for the more experienced Ngozika.

Before the second round of the bout was over, Eddy was already in difficulties. He couldn't avoid any longer an array of devastating blows which kept coming and coming from Ngozika.

Then came the third round, when Ngozika put his 10 kilograms weight advantage to maximum use. A number of uppercuts had Eddy panting. He was down several times before he finally succumbed after 2 minutes 15 seconds of the third round.

Ngozika Ekwellum had become the first Nigerian national heavyweight boxing champion for more than 20 years!

Story: Nelly Bee. Ringside pictures: Abim Oladejo

NGOZIKA...



CROSS-SECTION of the huge crowd that watched the fight. Ngozika is carried shoulder-high from the ring by his fans.

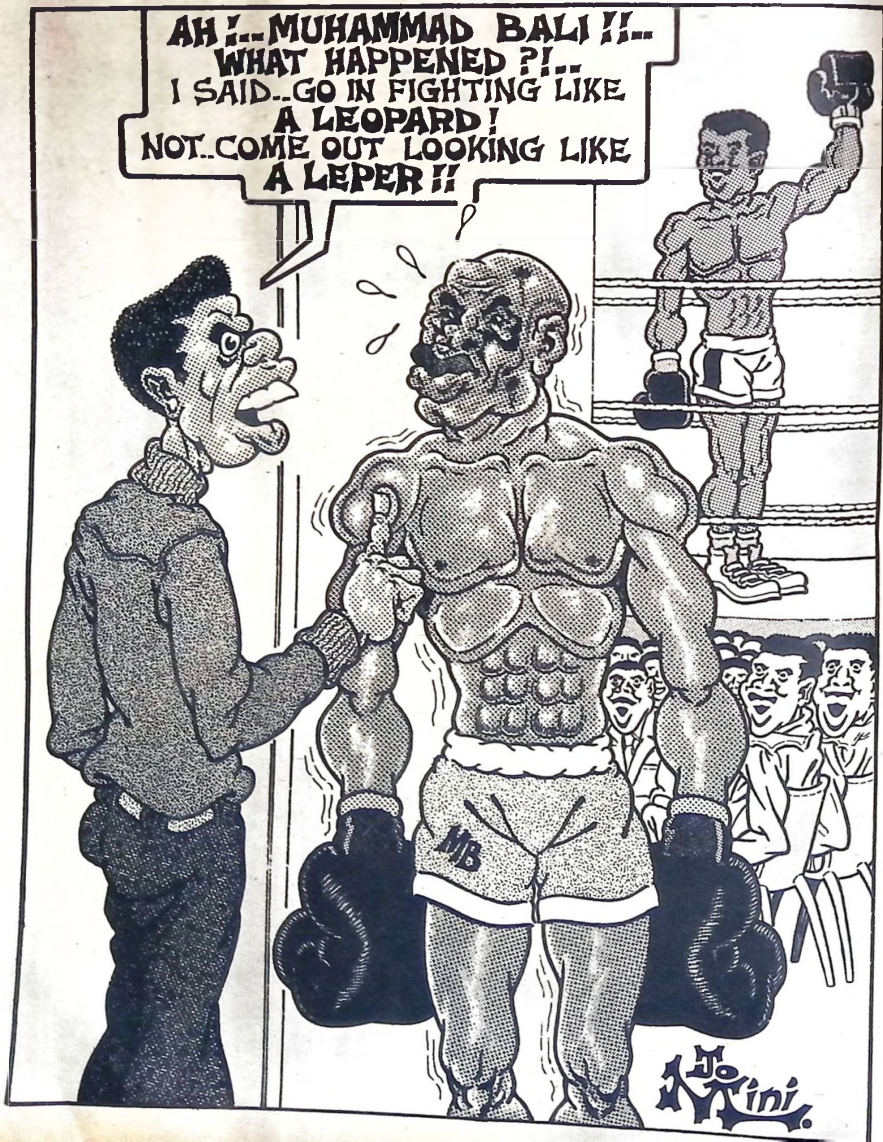


MOVE: A left jab from Eddy hits nothing but empty air.
FIGHT: A straight one from Ngozika early in the third round marks the beginning of the end. Cooper's problems really begun!



LIFE WITH *Jo Jini*....

AH!... MUHAMMAD BALI !!...
WHAT HAPPENED ?!...
I SAID... GO IN FIGHTING LIKE
A LEOPARD!
NOT... COME OUT LOOKING LIKE
A LEPER !!





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skin from **ASTRAL**

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Astral Cream
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Large (100g) — N1.10
Family (175g) — N1.65

Astral Soap
Standard (75g) — 25k
Bath (120g) — 38k

The promise is yours for the asking, the promise of **ASTRAL** for a smoother, softer skin

THE 20th century woman is, on the whole, a hard-working, energetic and efficient being who is ready at all times to perform her duties effectively. But there are a few who hold the traditional belief that women are made for light, less energy-sapping duties. This I consider the wrong attitude to progress, especially when we are all fighting to be given our rights.

It is a thing of joy for most of us women to hear that such and such an institution is headed by a woman. We believe a woman who heads an institution, and is performing well, is not somebody to brushed aside. We appreciate that she must have laboured through her education to become qualified, and how she was able to prove her ability beyond doubt to have risen to the extent of being entrusted with such an honourable and responsible post.

On the other hand, many reports reaching one's ears from people who know "Mrs Super-boss," especially those who work directly under her, continue to be sour. Most of her immediate subordinates have nothing good to say about her in terms of giving room for other people's considerations and feelings.

Though some of these grudges from subordinate workers can be dismissed as petty jealousies, one develops cold feet in doing the same to grumbles from other workers, especially woman.

Most workers who find themselves working under women have contended that female

bosses are too difficult to work with. Perhaps this is true to some extent, but I know some women do *not* allow their status to go to their heads.

A secretary with a prominent firm once confided in me that she had enjoyed her job for over 15 years until last June, when she was posted to a new boss — who happens to be a woman. She finds her boss disagreeable and unsympathetic.

A male clerk working with a woman administrative secretary finds his boss "too hard-boiled." He says: "She is too rigid to the rules of the establishment, as if nothing else matters. She feels unconcerned about workers' problems

and gives no thought to how she lashes out at people for making mistakes."

If such allegations against women bosses are true, then we should roll up our sleeves and do something concrete before it is too late to avoid laboured so hard to attain.

For some natural reasons a woman's occasional outbursts and irritations can be overlooked, because we know the she is exposed. From all angles she is confronted with opposition which she must fight to get through. There are times when her children prove a problem, or nights when

WOMAN'S AI

How do you rate?

her husband drives her nuts! Obviously it is to be expected that some of her emotional discharge will come up in the office — and nobody feels it more than the staff who work under her.

Moreover, one finds some gence in the discharge of their duties. To this type of worker the woman boss has no choice but to be ready to strike out with a sharp reproach or bounce down heavy with all her administrative powers.

On the other hand, some woman bosses make a forget to consider other people's problems, and feel that every one, with no exceptions, should perform official duties to the maximum — always!

This is impossible, because no matter how hard one tries there is bound to be some time of unhappiness in one's private

life. And it's too

Most peo bosses wh people as h difficult bos come a cor their husba own lead haughtily, dr because the look down o

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To you, the it is good te effective. Bu typed to the no feelings problems is No matter under operate, try nothing but v terms of how you and co-o of the discharge duties.

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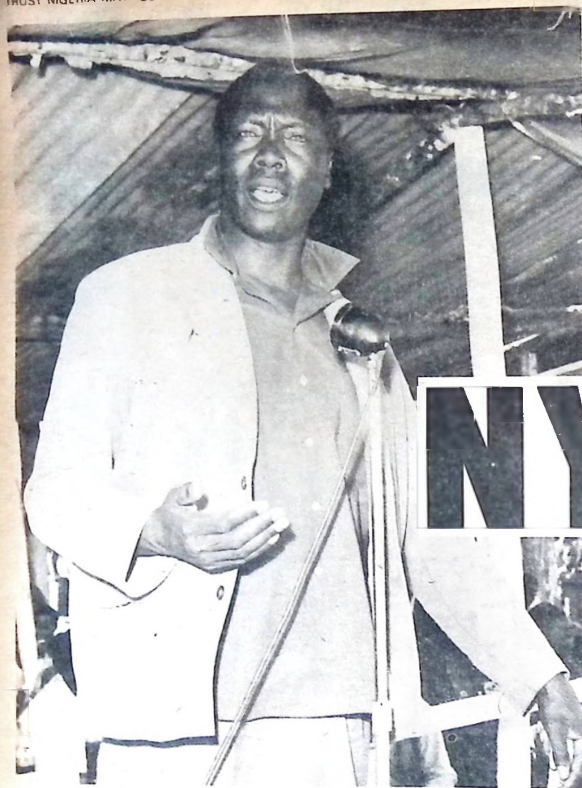


YOU CAN'T BEAT

DRUM

ON SALE EVERY MONTH





CONTINUING in the style he adopted as a minister President Moi constantly goes out into the countryside to meet the people (ABOVE and BELOW) and to urge them on to greater progress.



President Moi has been Kenya's leader for only a few months, yet his achievements have already been considerable. He has inspired his people both by his example and by his exhortations. To lead them on the path to progress he has coined a new watchword which looks back to the great strides which the country made under Mzee Jomo Kenyatta and which looks forward to an even brighter future. TRUST reports on. . .

NYAYO

PRESIDENT Daniel arap Moi has coined a new word to give weight to his determination to end all sorts of evils ranging from corruption, tribalism and nepotism to smuggling, hoarding and other malpractices.

While the late President Kenyatta made famous the word Harambee, which is Kiswahili for "let us pull together", President Moi has made his mark with a new Kiswahili word — *nyayo*.

It means footsteps. While President Moi says he is following in the footsteps of the late founder of the Kenya nation he has asked everyone in the country to follow in his own footsteps, and judging from the overwhelming support he has achieved during his first few months in office the word *Nyayo* is bound to become part and parcel of the Kenya political and social vocabulary.

Gone are the days when our newspapers carried daily reports of bank robberies. Gone are the days when the police harassed the people unnecessarily and gone are the days of tribal or clanish discrimination.

President Moi's achievements are simply staggering. Within a short space of three months he (1) Released all political detainees (2) made primary education free and compulsory from standard one to standard six (3) ordered all schools to give free milk to children from the second term of 1979 (4) Ordered employers to increase their labour force by 10 per cent (5) Reshuffled the police, the army and the diplomatic service (6) Put a stop to setting up of the Lake Victoria Basin Authority (7) Ordered the building of a State Lodge at Kakamega (8) Ordered a new policy on the purchase of land

Since 1979 is an election year in Kenya (President Moi is assured of unanimous election) Kenyans will expect an even more vigorous Ministerial team when President Moi makes his own choice of Ministers. When he took over office he decided to retain all Ministers who had served under Mzee Kenyatta, but he has hinted that he would make changes after the results of the next general election.

Changes are also expected in the composition of the statutory boards, some of which may have to be scrapped, merged or streamlined to ensure that they serve the purposes for which they were set up. It is also suggested that there might be changes in the running of the Government owned financial institutions including the banks in which the Government has control.

President Moi's style of doing things is his own. While President Kenyatta preferred to remain at the State Houses at Nakuru and Mombasa and at his home in Gatundu, where he met delegations, President Moi, on the other hand, goes out of his way to visit the people in the countryside. This enables him to learn their problems and in some cases he has had to make decisions on the spot without shelving problems to be discussed in Nairobi.

In a reshuffle of Kenya's diplomatic corps, the President ensured that he had some of the best men in the countries where he wanted them. For a long time Kenya's balance of trade with Japan has been in favour of Tokyo and by appointing Mr. Kefu Onyoni as Ambassador to Japan, President Moi is trying to redress the imbalance. Mr. Onyoni has a daunting task.

The mood in the country is one of optimism. Even the university students who in the past



MASS rallies all over the country have benefitted in the past from the wise words of President Moi.

the Government appear to have changed their tactics: they are following in the footsteps of President Moi's release of detainees on December 12 last year. One of the detainees was Professor Ngugi wa Thiong'o, one of East Africa's leading novelists and playwrights.

With everyone following in the President's footsteps and with the determination of the Government to uphold the constitution Kenya appears to be on the right path.

Here is a summary of some of the President's recent pronouncements.

October 10, 1978: President Moi ordered a halt to what he called "Mini-coups" in the ruling KANU party where officials were expelling or suspending their opponents and said he is the only one who will be making final decisions after reports have been submitted to him on party matters.

November 1, 1978: He called on all teachers who are also councillors to either resign from their civic jobs or their teaching posts before January 1979.

November 21, 1978: University students will have to do practical work of national importance before graduating. President Moi said The Government and University would work out a scheme for university students to understand fully the problems facing the country.

November 22, 1978: President Moi said civil servants could engage in business provided it did not interfere with their work. He said he sup-

ported the Ndegwa Commission Report but warned that civil servants should conduct only legal business.

December 10, 1978: The President ordered the reduction of the remand period to ensure that there were no delays in hearing cases. On the same day he renamed Nairobi Airport Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

December 10, 1978: President Moi banned Government officials from distributing tea. All tea distribution will be done by wananchi.

The next development plan (1978-1983) will lay emphasis on the alleviation of poverty — President Moi told a passing out parade of National Youth Servicemen and women at Gilgil.

December 15, 1978: Mr Moi said parking boys and girls are to be turned into useful citizens. He told a meeting of the Child Welfare Society of Kenya that the Government would be responsible for taking these children off the streets.

On the same day he warned that any KANU officials found practising corruption to win votes will be expelled from the party.

December 16, 1978: The President warned police officers not to get involved in politics during their investigations.

December 18, 1978: President Moi praised the police for curbing smuggling and warned that those still engaged in the practice would be severely dealt with.

On the same day he ordered

that a State House be built at Kakamega during this year. Earlier he told another rally at Kisumu that the Government will establish a multi-million shilling Lake Victoria Basin Authority to bring about rapid economic development in Western Kenya, particularly Nyanza Province. The giant project will boost rice, cotton and sugar production in the lake region, and control recurrent floods, especially in the Kano Plains. The Vice-President and Minister for Finance, Mr. Kibaki, and Minister for Economic Planning and Community Affairs, Dr. Ouko, are to work on the project.

December 19, 1978: The President ordered the police to probe complaints over unfair land transactions in the Rift Valley Province after condemning land-grabbing.

December 21, 1978: He ordered the abolition of building fees in all primary schools saying funds are a big financial strain.

December 27, 1978: He appealed to Kenyans in a Christ-mas message to uphold what is just and righteous.

December 27, 1978: President Moi said the Kenya Police should gain the confidence of members of the public who should run to them for help instead of running away from them in fear.

Yes, President Daniel arap Moi has accomplished a lot within a short span. He is the man to watch in Africa this year.



FOLLOWING in the footsteps of Mzee Kenyatta, President Moi is leading the people forward.



WORLD leaders such as Britain's James Callaghan (ABOVE) and France's Foreign Minister Louis de Euringaud (BELOW) have been keen to strike up friendships with President Moi.



STEP INTO FASHION '79 WITH ...

A TOUCH OF CLASS

MORE dress designs for you to copy — this time from a young designer who lives and works in Kenya. To wear them you'll need to stay in shape, so stay beautiful by attending yoga and keep fit classes.

"Swimming is excellent for the figure — particularly for keeping your bust-line firm," says Marion, who runs a successful dress boutique in Kilifi's Mnarani Club, in Mombasa.

Marion comes from Homa Bay, South Nyanza, but loves her coastal job as, she says, "I enjoy meeting the many visitors who come to stay here from so many parts of the world. It is a constant joy to see their happiness as they see our beautiful African coast for the first time."

Marion kindly agreed to model for us, wearing a selection of the dresses she sells in the Club Boutique.



T COOLING OFF... Marion wears a mauve cover-up dress lightly etched with fine gold flowers.



MARION SPORTS a locally-made "zebra" dress.



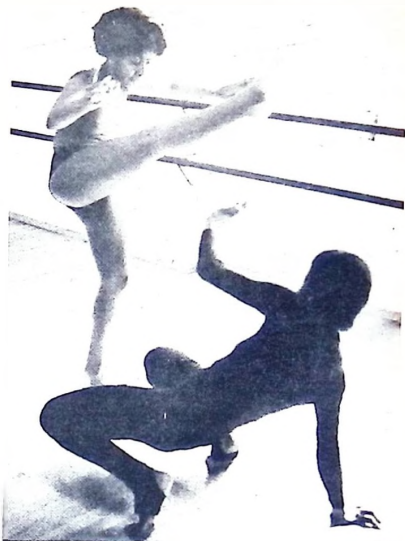
WARM EVENINGS demand romantic dresses. This is a halter-neck two-piece,



THIS loose-topped two-piece in flame-orange

Getting your kicks from martial art

Kung-fu and karate have become very popular in Africa over the past few years. But there is a martial art form which was entirely developed by black people and which is backed by African musical rhythms. On this and the following pages TRUST tells the story of how Capoeira was developed and how it is being kept alive in America. Pictures and report by Floyd Webb.





AGILITY and speed rather than strength are the keys to capoeira, which is attracting men (ABOVE), women (ABOVE RIGHT) and children (RIGHT).

Slaves turned battle into a dance

THE scene is Brazil, 1820. The Portuguese slave system is thriving, but many slaves have escaped to the undeveloped interior to set up liberated areas known as "Palmares." These independent republics guarantee liberty to slaves who can reach them.

The Portuguese are determined to stop the drain of valuable human labour and troops are despatched. The Portuguese, armed with cutlasses and muskets, are ambushed by unarmed slaves and soundly defeated.

The Capoeiras — Angolan slaves — attacked with spinning cartwheels and high kicks, slashing with open hands, between their fingers and toes were concealed razors.

The Capoeiras of Bahia were able to hold the "Palmares" for over 20 years against the constant onslaught of military expeditions and bounty-hunters.

Resistance has always been the norm for an enslaved people, and as a result cultural patterns are redeveloped and redefined.

Among the cultural redefinitions brought about by the slave system is the dance, game and martial art called "Capoeira." According to Eusebio Da Silva, dance instructor and Capoeira instructor at the Katherine Dunham School of Dance in East Saint Louis, Illinois, Capoeira began in Angola as a game played between the men. Slavery caused the Angolan people to turn it into a method of self-defence, similar to karate

and kung-fu.

Capoeira, he says, was a tool of liberation for the Angolan people in Brazil — a product of their spirit.

It was disguised as a plantation dance and the slavemasters, entranced by the movement, failed to realise it would result in some of their deaths. By the time they had discovered what Capoeira meant it was too late. Many lives had been lost and many slaves had escaped.

The practice and the musical instruments associated with it were outlawed.

When Brazil abolished slavery, Capoeira entered a new era. Slaves without the means of making a living survived as outlaws, robbing the wealthy.

Again Capoeira was outlawed, but it continued to be practiced in secret. The sound of berimbau and drum could be heard in isolated areas of Bahia as two Capoeiras faced each other in combat — sometimes for pride and sometimes to the death. If the police approached the rhythm would change and the fighters would disperse.

There are songs and stories of great Capoeiras — colourful and exciting men. Master Satan, who when drunk became disorderly and refused to leave a local pub, is said to have laid on his back and fought off the police and a military platoon of eight men until they allowed him to sleep the drink off.

Capoeira was given a new respectability by the





TRADITIONAL music on the berimbau (ABOVE) and drum (ABOVE left) provide the martial rhythm.

Master Bimba He promoted Capoeira as a national sport and established the first school

Capoeira pre-dates modern karate as a martial art. Karate in its present form began in the early 1900s under Master Ginchin Funakoshi. Its roots are Chinese and Okinawan. During the Japanese occupation of Okinawa in the early 1800s the local population was forbidden to hold weapons and developed alternative means of defence against the Japanese swordsmen. It was called Okinawa-te, or Okinawan hand. Master Funakoshi reworked it into karate.

Chinese kung-fu has a history going back as far as 600 AD, making it the oldest martial art. But, as with karate, there are many styles.

Capoeira is similar to karate and kung-fu in its defensive principle, but in practice it is entirely a different matter. Eusebio Da Silva sees the defensive similarities in the three arts, but says Capoeira is purely African.

He started at the age of six in the streets of Bahia watching the older Capoeira. Eusebio received no formal training until he was 17 at Master Bimba's school.

"Capoeira is one style," says Eusebio, "but it is identified as Capoeira de Angola, meaning the original form which was practised close to the ground and Capoeira de Regional, which emphasises high kicks from a standing position.

The two forms of Capoeira are an extension of the other.

The movements are always fluid and graceful, always relaxed with improvisation at Capoeira's roots.

"Unlike the other martial arts the practice is not restricted by stands and set patterns," says Eusebio. "He is free to create, to invent according to his own capabilities. The student is able to develop his body naturally, at his own pace, to speak with his own voice."

Music holds an important position. It is traditionally African and is played on the berimbau — a length of wood four feet long, curved into a bow with a gourd attached as a sound box — and drum. "Berimbau directs Capoeira, it is the soul of Capoeira," says Eusebio.

Eusebio's dance centre in East St. Louis is part of Southern Illinois University. He has been there for over a year and was recruited as an exchange student. His students range in age from four to 29. He is 25.

The class begins with a brief round of warming up exercises — cartwheels, and then one-hand cartwheels.

Students then pair off to practice the basic combination of kicks, but with emphasis on... By involving students' experience

As the music beats out the fighters cartwheel into action. Defence becomes offence, offence becomes defence. "Like in the Chinese arts there is yin/yang in Capoeira," says Eusebio. "When I fight I seem to run away, to fall to the ground and turn my opponent's attack against him."

The fighters use all parts of the body — butting and hitting the shoulder, knee and elbow.

Many of his students come from karate or kung-fu schools, but join Eusebio's class because Capoeira is "a black man's art."

"It is a question of getting back to our roots," said a student. "It is a question of history and its misuse. Our history, even though hidden, is returning to us."

"The music has a certain magic," says another. "It makes you enjoy what you're doing more. You leave class laughing instead of thinking of your aches and pains."

Women are very much involved in Capoeira in East St. Louis. Traditionally there was really no womanly participation in the class to speak of in Capoeira. Eusebio attributes the large number of women in his class to the dance movements inherent in Capoeira. "Remember, Capoeira as a dance also draws women to the class which was family oriented." The children participated with as much enthusiasm as the adults. As Eusebio

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TRUST can publish your pen pals request only if you send it to us on this form, enclosing a passport-sized photo of yourself.

NAME
 ADDRESS
 Where do you want pals from?
 Interests
 Age

HERE is where to send your pen pals request. Pen Pals, PMB 2128, Lagos, Nigeria.

PEN PALS



Rose O'Donohue, 115, Dublin, Ireland. She is a nurse and would like to meet a pen pal from Africa who is interested in reading and writing. Age 18.



Eric Bacon, 101, Alajama, Sierra Leone. He is a student and would like to meet a pen pal from Africa who is interested in reading and writing. Age 16.



Mari A. Sirova, 172, Danilovo, Bulgaria. She is a student and would like to meet a pen pal from Africa who is interested in reading and writing. Age 14.



Joe Simons, 172, Lagos, Nigeria. He is a student and would like to meet a pen pal from Africa who is interested in reading and writing. Age 14.



Eob A. Mosh, 1, Onkwe Street, Palm Grove, Lagos. He is a student and would like to meet a pen pal from Africa who is interested in reading and writing. Age 25.



Kumanana, 166, Namoria, Benin. He is a student and would like to meet a pen pal from Africa who is interested in reading and writing. Age 19.



Said Salim, 80132, Mombasa, Kenya. He is a student and would like to meet a pen pal from Africa who is interested in reading and writing. Age 20.



Peter N. Daniels, 152, Harare, Zimbabwe. He is a student and would like to meet a pen pal from Africa who is interested in reading and writing. Age 20.

YOU AND YOUR STARS



Taurus
April 21 - May 20



Gemini
May 21 - June 20

Fortunate indications for most of your activities, but particularly business and money matters. New people who enter your scene will have a constructive effect on your affairs — and your outlook. Fix up evening arrangements early to make sure others are available.

Planets on angles of your Solar chart are an indication that the affairs of associates will take precedence. However, an enjoyable phase, one of happy communication. Co-operate with others, be prepared to play second fiddle! Social life and romance are favoured.



Cancer
June 21 - July 20

All aspects of family life are happily emphasized, particularly if you are considering changes in routine. Contact with relatives will be lucky in minor ways, as well as enjoyable, arrange a get-together.



Leo
July 21 - August 21

You will be cheered by good news, also the co-operative atmosphere. Not a bad time for giving some time and thought to your financial position. When planning, think ahead on more expansive lines.



Virgo
Aug. 21 - Sept. 20

The starry pattern rather gives the advantage to colleagues and other close companions. You could find yourself just a little too agreeable to ideas and arrangements suggested.



Libra
Sept. 21 - Oct. 20

Pluto in Libra is well aspected — the general pattern is optimistic, rather carefree. You could take a small risk if you get a financial hunch, but it is friendships that bring you luck.



Scorpio
Oct. 21 - Nov. 20

Pleasant surprises will probably concern cash matters. If you spot an opportunity to make

some profit, be quick of the mark. An unexpected encounter could give current ambitions a push forward.



Sagittarius
Nov. 21 - Dec. 20

The moon in Sagittarius, aspects other stars, brings a happy go-lucky mood, adds something to your personality. You will be pleasantly in tune with the folk around you, inclined towards the lighter side of life.



Capricorn
Dec. 21 - Jan. 20

A lot going on to keep you interested and to give you new incentive. Ideas will come and go, some of them worth hanging on to for future use. A minor stroke of luck is a possibility, also helpful advice or information from a colleague, senior to yourself.



Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 18

Mars in your sign is favoured by the Moon, other aspects are sympathetic to you. It promises to be a friendly, go-ahead time, both for work and for the lighter side of life. Ambitions are favoured through goodwill, past and present, there might be good news from afar.



Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 20

You will strike a peak of vitality soon. A series of helpful transits through your sign will bring a new impetus to your affairs and will give plans and ambitions a boost.



Aries
March 21 - April 20

It will benefit you to inquire, shop around, weigh up various possibilities and probabilities. Much can be done to further a new project, to advance your interests.

TRUST

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Editor NELSON BANKOLE

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