

WEST AFRICA

West Africa No. 215
23rd April, 1973

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LONRHO'S LABYRINTH



In London a boardroom squabble in Lonrho makes the headlines. For Lonrho is not only a vast international group. The main characters in the squabble are newsworthy. Mr. "Tiny" Rowlands, aged 55, the chief executive, whom now rather over half the directors wish to remove, is a colourful figure. Born in India to a German merchant and his English wife, he was interned in England during the 1939-45 war because of his parentage and was later a hotel porter. It was in post-war Rhodesia that he laid the foundations of his fortune and in 1961 took over there the small mining and cattle company called Lonrho.

Since then the company has expanded dramatically, making Mr. Rowlands a multi-millionaire. But his individual, some would say unique, style of management has alienated some of the more conventional of his directors, among whom General Sir Edward Spears, former Chairman of Ashanti Goldfields, now part of the Lonrho group, is prominent. Mr.

Angus Ogilvy, the Queen's relation, whose presence as a director seemed to many in Africa a guarantee of Lonrho's standing, has left the board, while Mr. Duncan Sandys, the former Commonwealth Secretary, installed as chairman after another boardroom row, claims to be above the battle.

A mysterious Middle-Eastern businessman - Dr. Khalil Osman, a Sudanese with interests in Kuwait - an unnamed Zambian group, and London merchant bankers all take the stage and next month the small shareholders who own most of Lonrho's capital have to decide whether they want Mr. Rowlands to stay or whether they would prefer to put themselves in the hands of his more conventional colleagues.

What does all this matter to West Africa? It matters very much. Lonrho has extensive interests in Nigeria, Ghana, the Ivory Coast, and Zaire. And it has tried to establish itself in Sierra Leone and other territories.

- Beggars in Nigeria
- Sierra Leone election in May
- Many faces of ECA
- Akwapim: portrait of a people
- Ford foundation and Africa



Three Presidents in Conakry

Most commentators on the affair repeat, almost as a ritual, that Mr. Rowlands is exceptionally valuable to the company because of the excellent relations he quickly and easily establishes with African leaders. Certainly Mr. Rowlands likes to deal directly with the men at the top, even if this sometimes upsets those lower down who in the end will have to attend to the details of any agreement made. Nor, as he has said, is he interested in "cocktail party public relations" — a private word with a president, long distance telephone calls, brief and unpublished visits in his private jet — these rather than long negotiations and news conferences are his style. But what about these relations with African leaders?

In Sierra Leone Mr. Rowlands and Mr. Ball, then Lonrho's chairman, were frequent visitors after the announcement in 1969 that the government was to take 51 per cent of the shares in the big mining companies. It was thought that Mr. Rowlands saw an opportunity of getting into the diamond business at a time when this might add a little lustre to Lonrho's depressed shares. In return for a stake in diamonds, it was reported, Lonrho would develop the uneconomic Fankohli iron ore deposits, whose low grade, Mr. Rowlands thought, would be no obstacle to their sale overseas through the Lonrho world-wide network.

Such negotiations were conducted at the very top. Nothing, however, came of

the projected joint company with the government, the textile or timber industry, iron ore mining, or diamond marketing and it is a long time since the Lonrho executive jet was seen at Lungu airfield.

Lonrho came to Ghana in 1968, after making a successful take-over bid for Ashanti Goldfields Corporation. It was believed that the Ghana military government of the day was behind the move — it certainly supported it — because the then Ashanti directors declined to give the government a share of the equity. This, no doubt, was shortsighted of General Spears and his colleagues, particularly as Ashanti was the only gold mine left in private hands in Ghana and in contrast to the state-operated mines was highly profitable. Lonrho immediately gave the government the equity share it wanted, with a promise of more. The immediate result, however, was a strike by the workers, the first at the mine for many years. The workers, rightly or wrongly, expected some form of compensation for losing, as they thought, a management which they knew and being taken over by an unknown company. The workers in the end had to be reassured that there was no change in management, only of ownership.

Since then Ashanti has been regarded as perhaps the most valuable of the Lonrho properties, although in recent times it can not have contributed very much to

London revenues because of exchange restrictions. (One of Lonrho's problems as shown by the 1971 report, is that almost half its profits come from countries which stringently restrict remittances). The promised pitu brewer in Tamale in the north has not materialised.

Although, undoubtedly, Lonrho started its Ghana career with excellent relations with the government of the day, there is no evidence that Mr. Rowlands has had any special relations with the men at the top. Certainly he has not been able to dissuade Colonel Acheampong from increasing the government's equity in Ashanti to 55 per cent with little hope of immediate compensation for shareholders.

£8m for Holts

In Nigeria Lonrho's main interest is the John Holt group which has operated in West Africa for almost 90 years. The Lonrho bid was reported in 1969 to be for £8m. The Holt group, which in the year before the Lonrho take-over had made a profit of over £850,000, had already acquired wine and other interests in Europe in efforts to diversify, but its main interests were in Nigeria where they ranged from ownership of the port of Warri (since taken over by the Port Authority) to the Kano tannery. Lonrho already had a foothold in Nigeria through the Kaduna subsidiary of Davy Whitehead, the Lancashire textile group, acquired by Lonrho in 1968.

Since then Lonrho has taken over the Mandrides groundnut crushing mill in Kano as a basis for a processing industry while Holts is participating in another mill in the North West state. It is believed that Mr. Rowlands wanted to participate in Nigeria's oil industry, through operating grant tanker ships; but in this pro-

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as in Sierra Leone, he may have relied on the wrong people.

Lonrho's other West African interests are in the Ivory Coast. There the company manages a major sugar enterprise for the government, which is expected to come into production by the end of the year. Lonrho also runs an organisation for selling Ivory Coast crops abroad and participates in an insurance company.

Lonrho has had a particularly chequered career in Zaire. Early in 1970 President Mobutu strongly attacked the company and warned other African countries to have nothing to do with it. The danger of having such varied interests as Lonrho can boast in Africa was shown by the attacks made by Zaire spokesmen on the company because of alleged insults made against President Mobutu in a Lonrho-owned newspaper in Zambia during the President's visit to that country. For a while Lonrho's extensive interests in Zaire were taken over by the state. The government rejected the claim of Lonrho's then Chairman that the company had been given a contract for construction of a railway from Katanga to the Atlantic. Since then the return of almost all Lonrho's Zaire assets to the company, has represented one of Mr Rowland's greatest triumphs.

Undoubtedly, it was "at the top" that Lonrho established its new, if slightly mysterious, Sudan enterprise and the company is said to have had good relations with the government of Zambia. It operates also in Malawi, Kenya and Tanzania and has an interest in sugar in Swaziland. There is, however, no evidence that the Managing Director's talent for conducting relations with African leaders has affected these operation any more than it has those in other African states.

Whatever the importance of Mr Rowland's relations with African leaders may be, the company is by no means in the forefront of what is known as "Africanisation". It is true that one of its



Mr. Tony Rowlands (standing) while Ghana's representatives sign the Ashanti agreement. Mr. Ball is on the right.

chief executives is Mr. Gil Olympio, son of Togo's murdered President, and a former IMF official. It is, no doubt, to Mr. Olympio rather than to Mr. Rowlands' relations with President Houphouët-Boigny, that Lonrho owes its success in breaking into the Ivory Coast, where French firms have managed to maintain something of a monopoly. But Lonrho is not in the forefront of those firms which have brought on Africans as executives. Indeed, in the company's last annual report it was stated that "we propose to pay more attention to bringing on local management in African countries. As a group we seek to identify ourselves with our host countries. Part and parcel of this policy is to recruit and train Africans for top management and senior posts in each country." This suggests that as recently as 1971 the idea of Africanisation was something of a revelation to the Lonrho management, although it had been commonplace for two decades and more for older companies. On the other hand it must be gratifying to Mr. Rowlands that one of the strongest messages of support he has received has come from Mr. Olympio and two other senior African executives of the group.

In 1970 Lonrho announced the setting up of a subsidiary, the African Industrial and Finance Corporation, to handle the bulk of the company's interest in black Africa. Joint Managing Director of the subsidiary with Mr. Rowlands was to be Mr. Andrew Sardanis, who had been closely connected with President Kaunda in Zambia, and who had been released by the President from his appointments to take the Lonrho job. Little has been heard since of this enterprise, and Mr. Sardanis remained with Lonrho only a short time.

Outside alliances

There is much to be said for any enterprise in West Africa having an alliance with a more powerful enterprise outside. The outside enterprise can, for example, provide foreign exchange credits when a West African country's balance of payments inhibits overseas spending. An outside enterprise can also provide development capital. In many cases, too, an outside enterprise can give managerial support and training for African executives, or offer international marketing facilities. There is no evidence that Lonrho can provide such services more fully than could the companies it has taken over. Indeed, surprisingly few of Lonrho's West African employees seem to realise that they belong to this great international organisation. It is all the more unfortunate that domestic squabbles in the London boardroom should cause uncertainties and tension which must affect the company's West African activities, even if, as seems likely, Mr. Rowlands wins the day.

With the possible exception of the platinum mining in South Africa and the Wankel engines, Lonrho's new activities seem mostly to be small-scale or abortive. The main-stay of the company are enterprises, like Ashanti, which were operating perfectly well before Lonrho's intervention. One must ask whether, if Lonrho take-overs in Africa are justifiable, anybody can question take-overs by governments, which have a much closer interest in the fate of local enterprises. To create new enterprises is a valuable service. To take-over existing ones requires more justification than Lonrho has yet been able to provide.



Lonrho's Gold Mine: Waiting to descend the Ashanti shaft

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The Deniau Memorandum : 2

Our Summary of the European Commission's Memorandum on future relations between the EEC and the associated states in Africa, as well as potential associates in Africa and elsewhere, continues with further details of the past performance of the Yaounde and Arusha Conventions in the field of trade.

In the field of marketing, the memorandum notes that the existing Yaounde Convention marks a step forward in that the Associates are entitled to draw on the resources of the European Development Fund to promote sales in the Community market, thus "increasing the automatic effects of free trade by active export promotion", although as this is a "new area of skills", the memorandum accepts that "progress to date is still only relatively modest".

Noting some successes in the field of trade, the document says it is difficult to say how far these are due to the free trade system, when only one-third of the exports of the associates are eligible for preferential treatment in the community market, the other two-thirds being products on which no duties are levied whatever the countries of origin*. These successes however, would not have been achieved had the associates been "subject to the rules governing exports from third countries".

In the period 1958-71, exports from the 18 associates rose from \$896m to \$1,638m (they were \$1,863m in 1970). This represented a growth of 6.2 per cent a year, lower than that of exports from all developing countries to the EEC in the same period (7.7 per cent). If oil exports are excluded, the average annual rate of associates' exports (6.2 per cent) is higher than that of all developing countries (5.8 per cent).

The distribution of these exports in the EEC shows more encouraging trends, with an annual growth rate of 10.7 per cent for exports from associates to the Netherlands, 11.2 per cent to West Germany and 11.6 per cent to Italy, as compared with 3.1 per cent for France and 6.8 per cent for the Belgium-Luxembourg economic union (BLEU).

In the other direction, EEC exports to the associates rose from \$668m in 1958 to \$1,265m in 1970 and \$1,401m in 1971, an annual growth rate of 6.5 per cent (ie. at a slightly higher rate than the 5.7 per cent growth rate of the EEC's exports to all developing countries). The same phenomenon of geographic diversification can also be seen here. Where France's exports to associates only increased by 5.1 per cent annually, and BLEU's by 4.6 per cent, those of Netherlands increased by 11.2 per cent, West Germany by 11.9 per cent and Italy by 14.7 per cent.

The Yaounde Convention has no *The Common Customs Tariff stipulates a zero duty for calcium phosphatic gum arabic, other kinds of rubber, raw hides and skins, wool, cotton, steel, copper, tin, cobalt, tea, seeds and oleaginous fruits.

provision under which a contribution could be made to solving the problem of improving stability and increasing the rate of growth of export earnings in its general and long term aspects, although Article 20 provides for grants in emergencies, and the little-used Article 21 provides for advances to be made to the stabilisation funds of associated states. Past experience has shown that these two provisions are incapable of providing a general and lasting solution. Instability is not only due to price fluctuation, but changes in the supply situation due to weather or reactions by producers in the face of price fluctuations they cannot control. Between 1965 and 1969 the average volume of groundnut oil exports fell off by about 28 per cent under conditions where price fluctuations at no time exceeded 10 per cent.

The memorandum also makes the point that about ten African countries have been particularly prone to unstable export earnings in the last decade, and they include those which are the least advanced, with the least diversified economies. Such fluctuating earnings jeopardise investment planning. These imbalances, "bringing in their wake foreign debts and a reduction in the real income of producers may set off a chain reaction with the ultimate threat of political and social instability".

Problems unsolved

After commenting that it was "quite clear" that the Association, in spite of its achievements had failed to solve the problems of the associates, (the more regrettable since parallel developments on an international scale have been equally disappointing), the memorandum goes on to spell out future guidelines for the trading system of the Association, stressing again this question of export diversification. Developing countries feel that financial assistance from foreign public funds, while essential, is incapable on its own of adequately coping with the needs of short-term economic growth. Hopes of swiftly concluding satisfactory agreements for a significant range of primary products are still very small, and existing agreements are continuously running into operating difficulties.

It is understandable that associates and associates have called on the EEC to introduce interim or supplementary formulae in the form of agreements of a geographically more restricted nature.

EEC states imports for 1958 and 1971 in millions of dollars: France 563 705, BLEU 175 638, Netherlands 38 120, W Germany 75 272, Italy - 45 203. Exports: France 437 841, BLEU 128 158, Netherlands 30 87, W Germany 48 182, Italy 25 133.

The provisions of protocol No. 22 of the Treaty of Accession can only encourage the hope that the EEC will introduce "new hitherto untried methods which may serve as an example for relations between developed and under-developed countries". In view also of the general and continuing reduction in tariffs by the EEC and its enlargement, the Community will have to take steps "to revitalise and improve the commercial content of the Association unless it wishes to see a large part of its commercial importance whittled away with the additional risk that within fifteen years the Association will have ceased to be a framework for an effective overall policy of cooperation in the development field". Such an outcome cannot be envisaged, says the Memorandum, in view of the endorsement by the EEC Summit in 1972 of the importance of Association for the Community, and the call at the same time for an overall policy towards all developing countries.

The document gives a number of reasons for the continuation of the free trade area. Firstly, it safeguards the contractual nature of the association. The free trade area is what distinguishes association from the system of generalised preferences, which was determined by the Community by itself. The Community and Associates have always regarded it as essential that despite inequalities between partners, the Convention should seize on every available means to emphasise their mutual equality and solidarity. Also, the Community was and is the main customer and the main supplier of the Associates and the associables (in 1970, 78 per cent of all exports of the Associates to the industrialised countries went to the Six and in its enlarged state the EEC buys about two-thirds of the exports to the same industrialised countries of associates and associables). Despite attempts to diversify (a process which, says the memorandum should be encouraged), all the signs are that, in the medium term there will be no major changes in these patterns of foreign trade. In view of the importance of this trade, maximum effort should be made to eliminate barriers.

In the longer term, although the associates are only exporters of finished and semi-finished goods on a very minor scale, and industrialisation is largely geared to domestic markets, "there is every reason to believe that in the years to come it is bound to switch to the markets of the developed countries". Against this background "it is important that companies in the associated states can rest assured that the system governing their exports to the Community will remain as liberal as possible. The free trade system offers a much broader solution in this respect than the system of generalised preferences, which for many years to come will essentially benefit the most highly developed of the developing countries and which does not cover all the products of interest to the associated and associable countries".

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Many faces of ECA: 2

From the Addis Ababa headquarters of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) a stream of studies, recommendations, reports, and memoranda flows to the governments of the 41 member states. Throughout the continent conferences, seminars, symposia, and the like are held under the auspices of ECA, whose staff are constantly found conducting research or enquiries, assisting member governments, or "servicing" the meetings held under ECA auspices. What does all this activity amount to? In the second of two articles a correspondent continues to describe some of the activities without attempting a complete catalogue.

During 1972 ECA initiated action to examine key factors in industrial development such as reduction of costs and operating costs and promotion of multinational projects and inter-governmental consultations. A study was completed on petroleum and petrochemical industries. Work continued on compilation of data on engineering industries in 37 African countries to identify areas for multinational co-operation. Two missions were undertaken to the Ivory Coast in connection with the forest industry and production of pulp. A register was published of new and planned industrial projects in certain African countries.

ECA formulated guidelines for development of investment promotion institutions. A cement clinker mill in Upper Volta, a nuts and bolts factory in Nigeria, an enamelware industry at Dabonney, and aluminium sulphate plants in Senegal and Cameroon were approved by the governments, and ECA was requested to take these up for promotion among foreign investors. Potential investors were found for the cement and aluminium sulphate projects. Advice was given to Ghana on establishment of a small-scale industries center and to OCAM countries on the setting up of a sub-regional institute for industrial training of extension workers and managerial staff.

For mineral resources, ECA's work is devoted to promotion of exploration, exploitation and utilisation of deposits. Advisory services are provided to governments and representatives of organisations and companies in all aspects of mineral resource development.

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The proposed Mineral Economics Centre in West Africa was fully supported by the governments and universities of Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. The Regional Conference on the Petroleum Industry and Manpower Requirements in the Field of Hydrocarbons is scheduled for September, 1973, at Tripoli. The secretariat has prepared documents on the development of the petroleum industry in Algeria, Congo, Egypt, Gabon, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria and Tunisia.

Water resources is another concern of ECA. During the year work was started on preparation of a master plan for hydrological networks. The secretariat, and some 35 African countries, participated in the UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm. Work was carried out on collection of data aimed at producing a periodic report on "the African Environment".

Cartography is an obvious field for international co-operation. The first meeting of the governing council of the Regional Centre for Training in Aerial Surveys established at Itz was held at the University in June, while the Third Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa was held. The Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy and ECA sponsored at Ibadan a seminar on land administration and development of African resources. The Map Documentation and Reference Centre received some 500 maps and charts and prepared 80 maps for internal use and distribution.

To help African governments focus attention on science and technology with regard to Africa's economic and social development, the secretariat prepared an *African Strategy for Science and Technology Development*.

Tourism is another matter for ECA's attention. The secretariat completed a report on the cost and revenue structure of hotels in Tanzania and recommended measures to raise their efficiency.

Increased attention has been given to the ECA-FAO African Livestock Development Study Project in view of the expected world meat shortage. Africa is a net importer of meat. The project is planned to increase supplies of meat and other livestock products for the African market and for export. The recommendations of the project include proposals for production of disease-free meat acceptable in any world market.

The training programme in statistics continued in the two Institutes of Statistics and Applied Economics operating in Morocco and Uganda, as well as in the lower level Statistics Training Institute in Cameroon.

One of ECA's "principal continuing tasks" was assistance to African countries in developing statistical programmes by applying the revised UN System of National Accounts. Advisory missions were undertaken to assist the UNEAC secretariat and Chad in respect of trade statistics and computerisation of data

Two population census courses were conducted in 1972 and a further two were planned for 1973.

The secretariat prepared papers for the Meeting of Experts on Scientific and Technological Research in Africa and the use of its results. The secretariat concluded a survey of professional engineering associations.

Transport, too, offers immense possibilities for co-operation. ECA participated in the Second African Highway Conference; the UNCTAD Committee on Shipping; and the UN-IMCO Conference on International Container Traffic. ECA also organised the Regional Meeting on Freight Containers.

At its meeting at Bangui the Trans-African Highway Co-ordinating Committee agreed on the routing of the highway. The secretariat organised a meeting on feeder-road links to the Highway, and a meeting of industrialised countries to determine their assistance for feasibility studies. At the meeting convened by ECA at Freetown states of the West and Central African sub-regions decided to form *The Port Management Association of West and Central Africa*. The secretariat took part in a mission to seven countries to undertake a preliminary study of a regional satellite system for education, information and development in Africa south of the Sahara.

Patterns of consumption

Progress was made in a study of the pattern of private consumption expenditure, for which the North and West African sections were completed. A report on capital formation in African countries was finalised. A study on the change in terms of trade of developing Africa was completed. Work continued on development of data collection arrangements to allow international comparison of prices.

The Economic Information Section added to the Statistics Division in 1971 has made better co-ordination and development of statistical and related publications possible. The *Statistical Yearbook* was completely revised on a country basis. The 1972 issues of *Economic Data Summaries* for individual African countries were prepared. In 1973, the secretariat expects to begin development of its existing punch card records to provide the basis for a fully computerised data bank.

As a first stage in preparation of a Manual on Physical Planning, a synopsis has been prepared and sent to physical planners for examination and comments. A mission advised on the establishment of a specialist housing section in the Ministry in Sierra Leone.

The Section continued its collaboration with the UN Centre for Housing, Building and Planning and UNDP in the establishment of a Special Fund Project in Housing, Building and Planning in Liberia. As part of this project, a Housing and Building Bank has been established.



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Ford in the third world

Explaining the Ford Foundation's decision to maintain a big programme in poor countries the President, Mr. McGeorge Bundy, said in the foundation's report for 1972 that the prospect of any increase in foreign aid from the US Government is "bleak", and that such aid, even when private, is viewed with more scepticism in the US than in the past. Mr. Bundy said that the foundation will continue to concentrate on agriculture, population, education and development planning and administration. The Trustees consider that their overseas offices are essential, the foundation's work is a "relatively small addition" to assistance afforded by governments and international bodies. At the same time they recognise that each country was an individual society "with a temper of its own". A special field of study should concern international economic relations as they affected the poorer and smaller countries.

The foundation disbursed a total of \$262m in 1972, slightly less than in the previous year. Mr. Bundy said that in recent years programmes in the poorer countries had been taking about a quarter of foundation expenditure.

Nigeria is one of the foundation's main areas of activity. During the year final capital grants to the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in Ibadan (bringing the total since 1965

to nearly \$17m.) enabled the Institute to complete construction of basic research and training facilities. Subsequent grants will be for general operating costs.

IITA, says the report, is a major international centre of research whose scientists concentrate on improving the quality and quantity of tropical food crops through research on farming systems, cereals, grain legumes, and roots, tubers and vegetables. A grant was made to enable the Centre to supplement its regular programme of seminars, conferences and study grants with short visits by African agriculturists, one-year residencies for African scientists, and training for up to ninety junior scientists. IITA has also helped Ibadan University to develop a master's degree in agriculture. The University was granted \$102,000 for graduate training in the US to help faculty members to teach the new course.

The West African Linguistics Society received funds for regional conferences, for basic research, including an inventory of the several hundred unrecorded languages of West Africa and development of practical grammars for major languages; and for publication of the *Journal of West African Languages*.

The foundation has supplied specialists and consultants to advise African nations on administration and planning since 1961. Under several new foundation-

managed projects providing about twenty consultants for East, West and Central Africa, the emphasis is shifting to the training of Africans. Fewer consultants, and more on a short-term basis, will be provided in future.

A foundation-managed project of \$40,000 will enable West African officials to study abroad in economics, business and public administration, agriculture and education.

Foundation support continued Nigeria's vocational education centres. The Vocational Improvement Centre programme began in 1964 when the foundation helped to establish a centre at Kaduna to serve the then Northern Region. The programme is unique, says the report, in that it provides free evening classes to day workers so they will not have to lose pay. The classes are on two levels, basic instruction in reading, writing and elementary bookkeeping; and practical subjects as carpentry and welding. Courses last ten months, four nights a week. More than 2,000 craftsmen have completed training.

The centres spread quickly, and there are now in ten of the twelve states. A foundation-managed project this year helped set up two centres in East Central state. The success of the programme is attributed to its highly localised nature. Subjects are selected and taught to local needs in mind, and instructors recruited locally to ensure that they are familiar with the students' requirements and language.



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Beggars in Nigeria

from a correspondent

Debate on rehabilitation of beggars in Nigeria has been put in its proper perspective by a conference held at the University of Ibadan, proceedings of which have been compiled and edited by Professor Olu Okediji, Professor and Head of the Department of Sociology, University of Ibadan, under the title *The Rehabilitation of Beggars in Nigeria*. The conference was organised by the National Council of Social Work in Nigeria, formed in 1969 and recognised by the Government "as the national voluntary body competent to coordinate voluntary actions in the field of social welfare in Nigeria".

It is significant that the conference was organised by a voluntary organisation. Historically, the main effort to rehabilitate the destitute and disabled, of whom beggars form the major part, has been made by voluntary bodies with scant financial support from the government. The Council had identified rehabilitation of beggars "as one of the most urgent, troublesome and irritating problems in Nigeria" and therefore had decided to focus attention on it throughout the conference.

The conference examined the causes of begging and problems of rehabilitation of beggars from the medical, political, sociological, economic and legal viewpoints. No doubt the papers delivered were academic, but the fact is that participants came up with suggestions to assist the government in evolving policy on the problem. Opening the conference, the Western State Commissioner for Economic Planning and Reconstruction, Mr. Ladoso Ladapo, noted that "begging must be seen as a symptom of a sick and careless society".

"Ours is a free and forward-looking society and we must, whether as governments or as individuals, accept the challenge of making life a little more tolerable for the less fortunate members of our communities," he said.

Rehabilitation plans

While there is an appreciation by the government of the magnitude of the problem of rehabilitating beggars and other destitute persons, little has been done to solve the problem. The four-year development plan provides for four rehabilitation and training centres to "keep this group of unfortunate people from the streets while providing facilities for training them to become useful citizens". Three years after the start of the plan this still remains a pious hope.

Measures taken by government in the past to rehabilitate beggars were short-term and localised and scarcely

constructive. For example, during the tenth independence anniversary celebrations, beggars were removed from Lagos streets and quartered at Osodi, near Lagos, only later to find their way back to the streets. Also before the second All-Africa Games, they were collected and put in a camp at Barga, near Lagos. Although beggars have remained in the camp the question is how much longer will they stay there?

The problem of beggars is a politically sensitive one and their rehabilitation is no less so. After discussion, those at the conference put forward short- and long-term guidelines for policy by government. Short-term solutions are meant to ameliorate the conditions of beggars as a matter of urgency. As a first step, a census of beggars should be taken to determine their demographic, social and economic characteristics. Their medical and psychological needs should also be determined.

Short-term solutions

Short-term solutions include establishment of work-houses and training centres for disabled persons who should be given gainful employment on completion of their training; establishment of old people's homes and construction of more homes for treatment of the mentally sick; while the federal and state governments should encourage and assist establishment of organisations to look after the destitute and disabled. Another recommendation is that laws should be enacted to make employed persons pay a percentage of their earnings towards rehabilitation of the less fortunate. But there is no doubt that the brunt of such contributions would fall on salary and wage earners who are already overburdened financially.

Modest progress has been made in the training of disabled persons in existing government and voluntary agency centres. But much remains to be done in giving the public a correct orientation in their attitude towards this group of people. Of particular importance is the need to persuade employers to give jobs to the disabled who have been trained. Training should also aim at making them self-employed.

Long-term solutions suggested by the conference are aimed at eradicating begging, and relate to removing the conditions which produce beggars. In both long- and short-term approach, government should collaborate with the universities and others and should provide necessary funds for rehabilitation.

An interesting observation about the legal aspect of begging was made by Professor Odumoso of the University of Ife, who said that begging is illegal under



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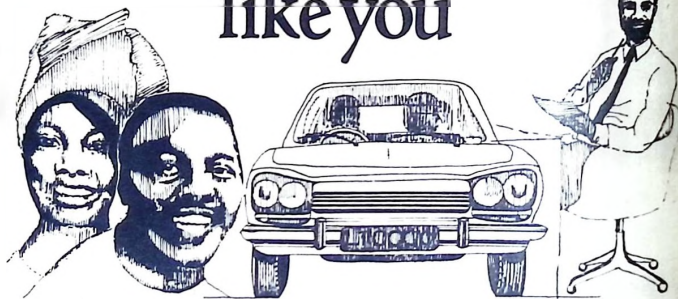
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the Nigerian law, but that the police have not enforced this provision by bringing beggars to trial. Right now beggars have called a national conference to be held in Lagos to discuss their welfare, following the announcement of the budget by General Gowon. They are also planning a demonstration on May 1 in the federal capital.

If the criminal law were to be enforced, many of the beggars now roaming the streets would be in gaol. But would that solve any problem? Definitely not. Beggars, like other Nigerians, have a right to live and earn a living. Because they are people whom no relations would claim, they have had to live on begging, as they have no skill to sell. They have to be helped to help themselves if the society is to be saved the embarrassment they constitute.

The conference has brought beggars' rehabilitation into public focus. The governments should implement as a matter of urgency their rehabilitation programmes to assist these people to live a normal life. But it would appear that much rehabilitation work for beggars and destitute people will continue to be undertaken by voluntary agencies backed financially by the governments.

Matchet's Diary

Claude Cheysson, who has been appointed to succeed Jean-Francois Deniau as Commissioner with responsibilities for developing countries in Brussels, is a figure who was well-known on the African circuit some fifteen years back, when he was Secretary-General of the Commission for Technical Cooperation in Africa (CTCA). This was a body set up on a Franco-British initiative in the early fifties, the only institution at that time which brought together the then French and British colonies. It became submerged after independence into the Scientific and Technical Research Commission of the OAU (with its HQ in Lagos). All the commentators on Cheysson's appointment have noted that he is "outsoken", and that his

academic record is singularly brilliant; he was a graduate not only of the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, but also of the famed Polytechnic. His knowledge of Africa comes not only from his period at CCTA, but also from periods in North Africa while at the French Foreign Office, notably from 1962 to 1966, when he was an adviser to the Secretary of State for Algerian Affairs in Paris. Earlier he had been responsible for a report on Algeria which had been disapproved of by his masters, and he had enjoyed a period "on ice". He was also for a time Director-General of the short-lived "body for the development of the Sahara". From 1966 to 1970 he was Ambassador in Indonesia, and for the last three years he has been the Chairman of the *Entreprise Minière et Chimique*, the giant state-owned chemicals company. As well as being "outsoken" he has a reputation as a forceful administrator with a keen interest in economic affairs.

The return of M. Deniau to Paris provoked surprise that he should accept the post of junior minister after having had such a key post in Brussels. First, it could be that there is a commitment to him for full ministerial rank after a little while, so as not to upset the party loyalists too much. Secondly, the job of Secretary of State for Cooperation may sound puny, but he enters it at a particularly vital stage in Franco-African relations. The clamour of states calling for revision of cooperation agreements has not died down, and the Madagascar negotiations in particular are at a delicate stage. That M. Pompidou should put a heavy weight at Cooperation at this stage shows how much importance he attaches to the question.

A Soyinka play

Collecting all the best and known "Black" actors to play in a Soyinka (masterpiece?), does not guarantee anyone who undertakes such a theatrical venture the assurance of having a long run backed by financiers and backers, writes Yulsa Amadu Maddy. "I have yet to see in my lifetime in Europe, not only in London," he says, "a play by a black writer,



A scene from "The Trials of Brother Jero".

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directed by black or white and with a complete cast of black actors, given the chance and enough money to mount a decent production which will do justice to the writer's work, the actors' talents and the director's creative ability - it happens to be black. Or for that matter, if he is white and genuinely wants to work with black performing artists."

"It therefore becomes obvious that most plays produced by blacks are never seen or heard of until they have long been forgotten. That is, some time later, when the criticisms appear. Other people get to hear of 'how good, bad, embarrassing, frustrating or disgusting and shameful' was the play through 'hearsay' and from second or third persons. *The Trials of Brother Jero*, by Wole Soyinka, mounted by Jumoke Debayo at the British Council in Portland Place, has suffered the same fate although it ran for ten days. However, it was a very 'valid' effort. As part of a mixed audience, I did have my bellyful of laughs. There should have been serious moments of more thoughtfulness to give the play the balance it truly deserves. A lively slum crowd and an apathetic fish seller helped to remind us of the life-style of those unfortunate victims who are the living-forgotten. The main actors did not seem to be communicating as they should have as characters. Perhaps, if the direction was more carefully thought out, it would have been a brilliant piece of team work." Maddy concludes.

I should add that this is not the first time *Brother Jero* has been seen in London. Jumoke Debayo played the same part (Amope - the harassed harasser) in a production nine years ago at the Hampstead Theatre Club. It is a crisp and witty one-acter, good early Soyinka and has been rightly praised by a number of critics. Let me add my own award to the brilliant small-part vignette of a market mummy by Jello Edwards, a Sierra Leonean of whom we should hear more.

Teachers on tour

Nearly one hundred British lecturers and teachers will spend part of their summer holidays this year in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean helping to run over 40 intensive training courses for teachers in sixteen countries. The courses are usually held in July and August and last for 3-4 weeks. Among countries where courses will be held this year are The Gambia, Ghana and Sierra Leone. Nigeria is not having these courses this year although they were started in 1961 following the report of the Ashby Commission on Education in Nigeria. For the first two years they took place only in Nigeria but now some countries run their own courses without further British assistance. The British tutorial teams are mainly experienced secondary schoolmasters, headmasters of primary schools or members of university departments of education and institutes of education.

Books and Publications

Cradle of cocoa

Akwapim Handbook edited by David Brokensha (Ghana Publishing Corporation, 6.50 cedis)

Any stranger who takes the road from Accra to Kumasi via Aburi will be struck by the large number of big houses in the towns in the Akwapim hills, particularly if he leaves the main road to go to the Akwapim capital of Akropong. He may notice, too, that many houses are unfinished, and that there are foundations or walls in a state which suggests that they will never be finished. If very observant he will also note that although most older houses are of "swish", a number are of stone and have Alpine features, with elaborate woodwork and steep roofs.

In one of his many contributions to this valuable study of one of the most interesting areas in Ghana, the editor, Professor Brokensha, explains the historical significance of these houses. Whether you believe that cocoa was introduced to Ghana by Fetteh Qasheh, the Ga, from Sao Tome, or by the Basle Missionaries, or through the Government Botanical Gardens at Aburi, it doesn't matter, it would still have been in these hills that it was first grown and, as Polly Hill explains in a beautifully concise summary of her major book on the subject, it was Akwapim farmers who were mainly responsible for taking the crop to other parts of Ghana.

The older big houses reflect the early prosperity which cocoa brought in the period 1800 to 1910 — Professor Brokensha notes that 55 per cent of houses in Larteh were built before 1910. The use of stone and of decorated woodwork reflects the influence of the Basle Missionaries who made their headquarters here in the 1840's, and particularly the influence of Andreas Riss. The unfinished houses may date back to the cocoa boom and reflect the coming of swollen shoot which, in a short time from the early thirties, virtually wiped out cocoa in the area and so the hopes of farmers and traders.

Newer big houses will almost certainly be the property of successful Akwapim people who have gone elsewhere in Ghana, to trade or to take jobs, but who retain close links with their towns and villages. For, with the exception of Cape Coast, this is the area where education developed earliest in Ghana — there was a girls' secondary school well over 100

years ago — and when the cocoa went it was their education that became one of the main economic assets of the people.

All this and many other aspects of Akwapim's history and present situation are dealt with by the contributors to this volume, which was originally conceived by Mr Thomas Hodgkin in 1961 when he was Director of the Institute of African Studies at Legon. He could not then have imagined that the concept would take so long to fulfil, but he must now welcome it with all its imperfections.

The area covered by the handbook is that formerly covered by the Akwapim Local Council, beginning at a point some 20 miles north of Accra and stretching northwards for some 30 miles to include as well as Aburi, Akropong and Larteh, the towns of Nsawam, Koforidua, Adawso, Mampong and Mamfe. The population today is some 80,000, a people far from homogeneous in their composition, but sharing a devotion to their country.

Before the seventeenth century, the inhabitants of Akwapim were Guan-speaking peoples, mainly agriculturists, and with no formal political organisation. From the early seventeenth century, there was migration of Akwamu and Akim peoples from the west, who effected a peaceful invasion and traded increasingly, particularly in gold. Akwamu came under Akwamu rule, but in 1729-30 the Akwamu king was overthrown and the State of Akwapim was formed. From about 1742 to 1872, the Ashanti exercised much power, demanding tax and tribute. From the early 19th century the Dutch, Danes and British successively claimed authority over Akwapim. The confederation of Akwapim was never strong and there were many attempts by towns, or groups of towns, to secede.

The establishment of Basle Mission schools in the 1840's led to a relatively high degree of literacy. Introduction of cocoa, in the 1890's brought an economic revolution.

Akwapim means "a thousand companies" and, like all Akan states, it has military offices, now long obsolete, and all the other titles. For how long can all Akwapim people return to their home to claim land is uncertain, but at present they all assume that they can. Since the extinction of cocoa, as Professor Brokensha puts it, "little money is

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Letters to the Editor

Cultural currencies

SIR, May I be permitted some comments on Yao Aduamah's *Tongue-Twice* 'Citizens of two worlds' in your February 26 issue? The author, presumably a Ghanaian, has used emotional words such as "pagan", "fetish" in connection with the religious observances of some of his compatriots. I find this sad. For too long, many non-Africans have deliberately or unwittingly devalued African cultural currencies and elicited only passive acquiescence or weak protest from Africans. In fact, many of us have allowed ourselves to be brainwashed into mouthing the same misinformed and derogatory descriptions of our indigenous institutions.

I wish to register my strong protest at this state of affairs. African religious and social practices have evolved within the context of African societies in which they have played positive roles. We Africans, with some book learning, have too glibly accepted foreign values and institutions and rejected or even ridiculed our own. We urgently need to re-establish contacts with our roots. Our future as peoples with self-respect and therefore the respect of others can be properly built only on a sound appreciation of our past.

In the last paragraph of his article, Mr. Aduamah writes "... with the coming of modern industries, the Volta dam and rural electrification and the Benin University in Ibadan ... the fate of pagan practices is sealed. We must hurry if we are to learn more about them." I hope Mr. Aduamah's learning will teach him and others the value of things spiritual which Africa has. We all ought to take a clear-eyed look at "modern industrialisation" and its effects on peoples elsewhere.

Zimbabwe

S.A. APEJI (Dr.)

Racial dilemmas

SIR, Referring to Professor Essien Udum's speech, "Dilemma for National and Racial Minorities", (*Matchless* Daily, April 9) I think Professor Essien Udum is doing a great and necessary job in his endeavour to put the socio-political situation in Africa in its proper perspective. A redefinition of many English words, in their common usage in the African context, is very much needed. For example, as Professor Udum rightly points out, the use of such a derogatory word as tribe to describe the nations of Africa should be checked. A country like Nigeria is comprised of many nations.

On the other hand I can't help disagreeing with his conclusion that the blacks in Britain would do best to return to their countries of origin contrary to their counterparts in America who should seek to build their homes there. Blacks in Britain are as much a part of the socio-political and economic structure of Britain as the Afro-Americans are in America. The West Indies, where most of the blacks in Britain come from, are internal parts of Britain. To advance the argument further along the line adopted by Prof. Udum, the same losses which led to the presence of blacks in the US were also responsible for the presence of the blacks in the West Indies. The history of the blacks in Britain

is not therefore unidentical to those of Afro-Americans as Professor Udum might have suggested.

As a result of their small number, Professor Udum sees the position of blacks in Britain as a dead-end. This statement also provokes a strong disagreement. What he seems to overlook is that the black population in Britain is not evenly and thinly spread over the country. They are concentrated in a few of the big cities, e.g. London, Birmingham, to mention but a few. 49 per cent of the members of what is euphemistically called the "New Commonwealth Countries", in plain language non-white Commonwealth countries, in Britain, live in London. Further, within the cities, there is a concentration of blacks in certain areas. Blacks can make a considerable impact on the British power structure by taking control of certain communities in the big cities. The big cities and their constituent communities are after all the power base for the nation.

E. ENEBOYE

London

Farmers and Marketing Boards

SIR, General Gowon should be congratulated for rescuing the farmers in Nigeria from the marketing boards who have been milking them of their net farm incomes ever since such a system of handling agricultural export commodities was instituted.

However, no one should be over-optimistic about the positive net contribution of this ploy in resurrecting the declining agricultural industry of the country. To guarantee high producer prices is one thing and to ensure that these high guaranteed prices are actually received by producers is entirely another thing. Past evidence tends to show that even the very low guaranteed prices for various commodities fixed by the marketing boards before recent policy measure are not being received by farmers due to various frauds and malpractices at the various handling stages. Thus the guaranteed high prices may turn out to be an opportunity created by the government for the licensed buying agents and other middlemen for greater price manipulation facilities, a much greater extortion of the producers' prices.

It is therefore important that in order that these high producer prices act as an incentive for productivity increases, adequate measures will be taken to see that the various producer purchasing intermediaries do in fact pay producers the guaranteed prices. But this is just one side of the coin; for even if producers do actually receive the guaranteed high prices it is a necessary but not a sufficient condition for raising the productivity of the agricultural industry; another important factor that has to be taken into account along with fixing producer prices is that of price re-investing which could affect the capacity of the farmer's net capital formation necessary for production increases.

Therefore one can only hope, with the general awareness at executive levels of the serious consequences of a deterioration in the performance of the agricultural industry, that this measure is just one of a series of measures aimed at reviving and sustaining the productivity of the agricultural sector of the economy. But one must bear in mind of course that the problem of the agricultural industry is so complex that it can not be solved by mere exclusive policies, rather for a long term development a package-deal type strategy is needed that is worked out in relation to the economy of the country as a whole.

IMAM W. YUSUF

University of Leeds

Commercial News

UAC profits down

The volume of the United Africa Group's sales in 1972 showed little change on the previous year but total trading results declined, according to the annual report of Unilever, the parent company. UAC provides some 7½ per cent of group operating profit, and its lower profit contrasted with the rise of 27 per cent in profits as a whole. "Merchandise and other activities of the United Africa Group and plantations" accounted for £19m. of operating profit last year, compared with £22m. in 1971 and £23m. in 1970.

The financial position eased in Nigeria, where rising foreign exchange earnings enabled Government "to

repay the backlog of payments for imports and to ease controls on dividend remittances". In Ghana the 1971 devaluation was followed by a military coup, a moratorium on outstanding foreign commercial debts, a partial revaluation and a return to strict import licensing.

In many of the countries in which the Group operates, terms of trade deteriorated, says the report, as a result of inflation in the costs of goods imported from industrialised countries.

The dock strike in the United Kingdom frustrated Palm Line's efforts "to cope with rising costs and a reduced cargo tonnage to

West African ports" in Nigeria the textile, industrial and distributive businesses had to contend with increased competition from imported goods and their trading margins were reduced. In contrast, results from the textile factory in the Ivory Coast showed a continuing improvement.

The Group's ventures in French-speaking Africa, continues the report, did well and improved results were achieved by the businesses in the Arabian Gulf and Morocco. Aggregate profits were reduced in Nigeria by the greater intensity of competition and in Zaïre by the economic climate. Profits were also down in East Africa, including Zambia.

There is already local participation in the equity of several of the Group's enterprises, the report explains. The Ghana Government has compulsorily acquired 55 per cent of the timber business in that country "The compensation for this acquisition remains to be agreed". More recently the Ghana Government has published a White Paper proposing a substantial local shareholding in most

foreign-owned businesses. "Nearly all the Group's interests will be affected". A public offer for sale of 40 per cent of the shares in the principal businesses in Nigeria will be made during 1973 in accordance with the terms of the Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Decree.

The United Africa Company, parent of the group, has changed its name to UAC International Limited. "The change of name reflects the Group's widening geographical interests".

Produce prices for all Unilever's plantation crops were lower than in 1971 and total profits were less.

The fall in the price of the main crop, palm oil, had a particularly adverse effect on results, although prices of some of the other crops fell more sharply. There was a further decline in the price of rubber, and the improvement towards the end of the year came too late to affect profits.

Production of most crops was satisfactory, but oil palm yields in Africa were less than expected owing to adverse weather.

World-wide consumption of margarine, butter and other

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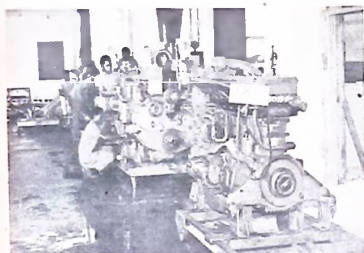
Regular and efficient services run from the UK and Continent. Delivering cargo to 40 ports on the West African coast, including the Canary Islands.

Palm Line also has agency interests in Nigeria, Ghana and Sierra Leone, with clearing and forwarding facilities. Passengers can be carried on some vessels with Owner's Suites.



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UAC at work. Caterpillar industrial engines being overhauled in Port Harcourt UAC workshops.

edible fats and oils, the report notes, increased in 1972 by 2 per cent. A further drop of 2 per cent in consumption of butter was more than off-set by an increase of 3 per cent in that of vegetable fats and oils, this increase being mainly attributable to countries outside Europe.

World market prices of oils and fats, which reached a peak in February, 1971, eased downwards for the rest of that year and the greater part of 1972, and by the year end most prices again started to move upwards.

In the UK growth in demand for margarine at the expense of butter, a feature of 1971, continued until about the middle of 1972 when falling butter prices slowed down the trend.

No groundnut danger

The African Groundnut Council has accused the European Economic Community of carrying on a campaign to ruin the African groundnut trade. The Executive Secretary of the Council told a news conference in Kaduna that the EEC had been publishing false reports that African groundnuts contain a poisonous substance known as aflatoxin. He pointed out that groundnuts and some commodities produced in Europe contain aflatoxin but the EEC has never labelled the European commodities as dangerous to human health.

"Contrary to Western propaganda, African scientists have proved that the level of aflatoxin in African groundnuts does not constitute a danger to health". The finding of the scientists had

Dr Woodroffe, Unilever's Chairman, indicated in his statement that concentration on development would be away from the less developed countries. There had been a trend away from these areas "or rather we are investing taster in Europe and America."

In 1972 £26m was written off throughout the entire group as "provision for nationalisation of interests, war damage, disposal and closing of units". Unilever has also set aside £26m to provide for possible losses on investments in areas of political uncertainty, the report states that this covers "nationalisation of interests, war damage, disposal and closing of units".

been made available to the world, including the EEC. The meeting of the Council's General Assembly has ended in Kaduna after reviewing the recommendations of the economic and commercial committee.

A communique issued by the African Groundnut Council called on member states to strive hard to produce a high-quality crop for overseas consumption.

The Council said that the seven member-nations felt that "they all have an ethical obligation towards the human race by producing the highest quality of groundnuts". It recommended a number of control and preventive measures including matured harvesting, proper drying, hygienic storage and destruction of damaged pods and broken kernels.

It also appealed to the various agricultural research institutes in Africa to step up research work into the possibility of producing toxin-free groundnuts.

The Council said that aflatoxin, a fungus-produced poison which is thought to be a cause of cancer, was common to many agricultural commodities and its effects on human beings were exaggerated.

The next meeting of the Council, consisting of Gambia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sudan, Senegal and Zaïre, has been fixed for November in Dakar, Senegal.

The retired Federal Commissioner for Special Duties, Mr Stanley Olabode Wey, has been appointed a director of PZ, Nigeria. He had served in the Federal Civil Service for 30 years. He was secretary to Prime Minister Tafawa Balewa and his executive council from 1961 to 1966.

Britain and the US are insisting that other countries bear a greater share of the burden in providing funds for the International Development Association (IDA), the soft loan division of the World Bank.

They made this demand in negotiations in London on a provisional plan for developed countries to nearly double their contributions to IDA to \$1,500m a year in the three years beginning 1975.

Under existing arrangements the US would be committed to contribute 39 per cent of the planned total and Britain 12.7 per cent. West German contribution would be 9.6 per cent, the French contribution 6 per cent and the Japanese 5.9 per cent.

Britain's Overseas Development Administration has made a grant of £8,620 to E.W.H. Gifford and Partners, consulting engineers of Southampton, to test the handling characteristics of a catamaran in Western Nigeria. The boat was designed and built by Mr Edwan Gifford, now in Lagos, who will test it in various surf conditions and will also train local fishermen to use it. The main purpose of the tests is to observe the catamaran's behaviour in making beach landings. The Nigerians will also test the

vessel's fishing potential. If trials are successful the Western State will consider ordering more catamarans or constructing them under licence in Nigeria.

Mr J. Q. Wood, Forestry and Personnel Director of UAC Timber, has retired after 26 years service with the organisation. His career with UAC goes back to the setting up of the African Timber & Plywood factories in Ghana and Nigeria in the late 1940s. Before joining UAC Mr Wood, an MA Classics of Cambridge and one-time cricketer for Somerset, was with the Bombay Burma Company. He is succeeded by Mr D. L. McNeil, a director and supervising manager, forest operations, African Timber & Plywood, Sapele.

Ghana exhibited textiles, canned food, handicrafts, timber, leather goods, footwear and cocoa products at the Leipzig spring trade fair. Photographic exhibits depicting Operation Feed Yourself, traditional drummers and development activities were also on show. Mr R.N. Ankrab, deputy director of the Ghana stand said that orders worth several thousands in hard currency had been placed for 300 to 500 tons of cocoa by East German firms. Mr Ankrab also said firm orders had been received for hard wood like sapele.

Nasco International Export and Import Company of Hamburg is to negotiate soon for the establishment of a textile factory said Mr Nassim, a director of the company, shortly before he flew to Nigeria after a two-day market and industrial survey in Ghana.

He said his company would increase its export of synthetic yarn and imitation leather to Ghana. In return the company would import raw materials such as cotton.

Chief Alhaji Kashi Abiola has been appointed a vice-president of ITT Africa and the Middle East for Nigeria. Chief Abiola's is the first appointment as a vice-president in his own country by ITT AME. He remains managing director of ITT Nigeria, the Lagos-based sales and service company of International Telephone and Tele-

graph Corporation. ITT's activities cover products and services ranging from telecommunications to industrial equipment, consumer durables, insurance and hotels. Chief Abiola is aged 36. He joined ITT Nigeria in 1969 as comptroller, being made a director of the company in the following year, and managing director in 1971.

• The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) are to set up a joint Industry Division at ECA headquarters in Addis Ababa. This is to strengthen co-operative efforts in industry on behalf of developing African countries.

• As part of efforts to "streamline concession arguments with a view to Liberia obtaining a better deal" the Bong Mining Company concession agreement is being renegotiated. The company, owned by German steel interests, mines iron ore.

• A prominent Ghanaian timber producer, Mr Oteng Gyam, urged major cocoa producing countries "to re-examine themselves with regard to their relations with the United States" if he failed to ratify the international cocoa agreement. He said the attitude of the US Government was at variance with the hopes and aspirations of developing countries in their determination to stabilise their economies. He urged the US to ratify the agreement "as a proof of her sincerity of friendship to these countries".

• A cargo-passenger vessel, built at the CHACONA (Chantiers de constructions navales) shipyard in Congo, has been launched by President Nguabi. The vessel can carry 100 passengers and 20 tons of cargo; its length is 41 m and its beam 9 m. It is the second vessel built at the yard, which employs 98 Congolese and 39 Chinese technicians. The Chinese helped to build it.

• Britain intends to seek intermediate stops in West Africa for proposed Concorde flights between London and Johannesburg. Parliament has been told British Aerospace Minister Michael Heseltine

stated in a written reply: "discussions will shortly be held with the Nigerian authorities concerning the possible use of Lagos. Alternative stops at Accra and elsewhere are also being examined".

Concorde is due to go into commercial service with BOAC and Air France in 1975.

African Development Fund

The first meeting of African Development Bank representatives and foreign countries who have joined the African Development Fund has taken place in Abidjan. The main aim of the meeting was to discuss rules for the Fund and interim measures needed until the Fund's various bodies are set up. The Fund currently has more than 90m units of account and hopes to finance projects for at least 10m more when it starts operations in August.

Fifteen non-African countries have joined the Fund so far - Spain, Yugoslavia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Holland, West Germany, the UK, Sweden and Switzerland. The results of this first meeting, presided over by Development Bank and Fund President Abdel Wahab Labidi, will be submitted to the Constitutive Assembly of the Fund which will meet in Lusaka in July.

• Economic and trade links between some African countries and the Common Market were a mixed blessing for Africa, Dr. Robert Gardiner, Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa said when giving the first David Livingstone memorial lecture at Strathclyde University.

Although essential for the countries' economic development, the links may also be an obstacle to African economic co-operation, especially between those associated with the Community and those who are not, he explained.

He said medical science had reduced the African death rate but not its fast growing birth rate.

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From Poole: CLEARWAY due Appa Apr 27
From Southampton: AUREOL due Freetown Apr 27

NORTHBOUND - To Liverpool: FOURAH BAY slg Appa Apr 29, BHAMO slg Calabar Apr 28, MANDU due Apr 28
To London: PEGU due Lincoc Apr 28, SYLVIA CORD due Apr 26
To Belfast: KIRSTEN SKOU slg Abidjan Apr 27

To Asonmouh: DUNKWA due Apr 27
To Hull: EGORI due May 1
To N. Continent: KABALA slg Sapele Apr 29, Kaduna slg Appa Apr 30
WESTBOUND To USA/Canada: DUSUMA due Baltimore May 3
Eastern Service to W.A.: MAPLEBANK due Pointe Noire Apr 27

BARBER LINES
OUTWARDS - BARBERGATE due Monrovia May 4, Hence Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/Appa, Douala
NEW YORK May 22 for Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/Appa, Douala
HOMEBWARDS - BARBERBROOK idg Abidjan/Monrovia early May, Freetown 2nd week May, BARBERGATE idg Lagos S. bound May 10, Sapele May 12, Doula May 14, Ghana May 17, Abidjan/Monrovia 3rd week May, Freetown 4th week May.

K LINE
WESTBOUND - From Japan via Hong Kong to Lobito, Luanda, Matadi, Port Harcourt, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Abidjan, Accra, MARU slg Japan Apr 6 due Lagos May 13
EASTBOUND From Lagos, Abidjan, Freetown, etc.: BAHAMA MARU slg Lagos May 19, Tema May 21, Freetown May 26, Abidjan June 1 due Hong Kong July 4, Japan July 8

PAK LINE/USNH/
WEST AFRICA
WESTBOUND - OTI RIVER due Philadelphia May 3
EASTBOUND - LINA/UK/CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA
SOUTHBOUND - OUCHI RIVER Dunkirk May 3, Rouen May 5, Bordeaux May 8, PRA RIVER Middlesbrough May 8
NORTHBOUND - KLORIE LAGOON Avonmouth Apr. 30, London May 14

PAK LINES
EASTBOUND - FRANKRIG slg New Orleans May 12 due Jacksonville May 16, Monrovia May 19
WESTBOUND - NIGERIA slg Monrovia May 6 due Charleston May 18, Jacksonville May 20

PAK LINES
SOUTHBOUND - ANDONI PAL 3 due Tema May 1
NORTHBOUND - ILISHA due Appa May 1
MATADI PAL 3 due Abidjan May 2
N. Y. K. LINE
EASTBOUND - SHIMANE MARU Doula May 3/5, Takoradi May 9/10, Abidjan May 14/12
EASTBOUND - SHIMANE MARU Takoradi May 9/10,

Abidjan May 11/12, Lobito May 10/7, Tema First Port Jun. 13, MITSUI OSK LINE
HOUSTON MARU slg, Kobe Apr. 19 due Lagos May 23; TACOMA MARU slg, Kobe May 4 due Lagos Jun. 7; ARIZONA MARU slg, Kobe May 19 due Lagos Jun. 23

MAERSK LINE
INWARDS - From Japan via Hong Kong to Matadi, Lagos, Abidjan: NOVIA slg, Kobe May 5 due Lagos Jun 11, Tema Jun 17

OUTWARDS - From Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Takoradi: JESPER MAERSK slg Freetown Apr. 27, Abidjan May 6
SCANLLOYD AB HOEGH MELING due Lobito May 2, Pointe Noire May 11, Sao Tome May 18; BALONG due Homs/Matadi May 13, Luanda May 16, Lobito May 18

SCANDINAVIAN WEST AFRICA LINE
NORTHBOUND - COVENTRY CITY slg W.A. May/early Jun for discharge Scan. 2nd half Jun, VIKAREN slg W.A. late May/early Jun for discharge Scan late Jun/early Jul

ROYAL INDIAN OCEAN LINES
OUTWARDS - STRAAT FORCADOS slg Japan Apr 18 due Luanda May 17, Monrovia May 22, Freetown May 24, Port Harcourt May 29, Lagos/Appa Jun. 1, Tema Jun 10, Takoradi Jun. 11, Abidjan Jun. 15, STRAIT WAN NIEMEN slg Hong Kong Apr. 6 due Lagos/Appa May 8, Cotonou May 16, Lome May 18, Tema May 19, Accra May 21, Monrovia May 24, Freetown May 26, Dakar May 30, Conakry Jun. 4, Takoradi Jun. 9, Luanda Jun. 13 opt.

INWARDS - STRAAT FORCADOS slg Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt., Hong Kong, Japan early opt., STRAAT WAN NIEMEN opt. Hong Kong, Japan, Shanghai end May/early Jun

FARRER LINES
HOMEBWARDS - AFRICAN MERCURY for Lobito, Luanda May 2, Abidjan, Monrovia, US Ports, AFRICAN SUN slg Lagos/Appa May 14 for Douala, Abidjan, Monrovia, US Ports, GUARDIANS - AFRICAN MOON due Freetown May 12 for Monrovia May 14, Buchanan, Abidjan, Tema May 20, Lagos/Appa May 22, Port Harcourt, Matadi, Luanda, Lobito, AFRICAN METEOR due Monrovia May 27 for Freetown, Monrovia May 29, Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema Jun. 5, Lagos/Appa Jun. 7, Port Harcourt

WESTWIND AFRICA LINE
SOPHIE C slg New Orleans May 14, Houston May 11 for Tema, Lagos, Freetown May 17, Abidjan, NORTHWIND slg New Orleans May 13, Houston May 18 for Tema, Lagos, Pointe Noire, Abidjan, Freetown

THE E.A.C. LINES
SOUTHBOUND - SIMBA slg Hamburg May 1, Antwerp May 3, due Lagos May 1, Abidjan May 20, Lagos/Appa May 27, Douala May 30

NORTHBOUND - SARCODIA slg Abidjan May 1, Antwerp May 10, Amsterdam May 12, Hamburg May 14, Copenhagen May 16, Aarhus May 24, Oslo May 26, Rotterdam Jun. 24

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Detailed applications (two copies) stating age, full qualifications and experience and naming three referees should be addressed to the Registrar, University of Ife, Ile-Ife, not later than 14th May, 1973. Further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar.

REGISTRAR

NIGERIAN AUTOMOBILE ENGINEERS AND STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Members are hereby reminded of our next General Meeting.
Place: Crown Hotel, Cricklewood Broadway, London, NW2.
Date: Saturday 5th May, 1973.

Time: 5 p.m. prompt.
Buses: 16, 32, 260, 266, 616.

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**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
PORT HARCOURT**
COLLEGE LIBRARY
Vacancies

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following posts in the College Library:

- (i) Senior Sub-Librarian
(ii) Assistant Librarian

QUALIFICATIONS:

(i) **Senior Sub-Librarian:** Candidates should possess good university degrees and/or professional qualifications e.g. Dip. Lib., A.L.A. or equivalent qualifications, plus at least 7 years post qualification experience in an approved Public Library or University Library. In addition, candidates are expected to have a good knowledge of at least one modern foreign language.

(ii) **Assistant Librarian:** Candidates should possess good university degrees and/or professional qualifications e.g. Dip. Lib., A.L.A. or equivalent qualifications. In addition, candidates are expected to have a good knowledge of at least one modern foreign language.

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(ii) Assistant Librarian: N2,140 x 100 - N2,240 (or if over 28 years at the date of graduation or obtaining qualification, N2,460 x 100 - N2,660).

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE: The successful candidate would be on probation for three years before the appointment can be confirmed. There is provision for superannuation, free passage, free medical attention, children's and car allowances and subsidised rent or part furnished accommodation.

METHOD OF APPLICATION: Applications, which should be forwarded to the Registrar, College of Science and Technology, Private Mail Bag 5080, Port Harcourt, to reach him not later than May 15, 1973, should include:

- (1) 10 copies of Curriculum Vitae;
- (2) Names and addresses of three referees (not relations);
- (3) Photostat copies of credentials.

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**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS STUDIES
Vacancies

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- A. **Head of Department (Professorial Level)**
(1) Department of Business Administration
(2) Department of Accountancy
- B. **Lecturers/Assistant Lecturers in the following subjects:—**
(1) English
(2) French
(3) Economics
(4) Accountancy
(5) Secretarial Studies

QUALIFICATIONS:

(A) **Head of Department (Professorial Level):** Candidates should possess good honours degrees in Business Administration or Accountancy from recognised universities and higher degrees preferably the Ph.D. degree plus at least 10 years teaching experience in institutions of higher learning.
(B) **Lecturers/Assistant Lecturers:** Candidates should possess good honours degrees from recognised universities plus adequate teaching experience in institutions of higher learning. Possession of higher degrees would be an advantage.

SALARIES:

(A) **Head of Department (Professorial Level):** N6,600 per annum (consolidated)
(B) **Lecturers:** N2,760 x 150 - N3,660 (bar), N3,810 x 150 - N4,260; N4,530 x 150 - N4,830
Assistant Lecturer: N2,140 x 100 - N2,240 (or if over 28 years at the date of graduation or obtaining qualifications, N2,460 x 100 - N2,660).

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE: The successful candidate would be on probation for three years before the appointment can be confirmed. There is provision for superannuation, free passage, free medical attention, children's and car allowances, subsidised rent or part furnished accommodation.

METHOD OF APPLICATION: Applications, which should be forwarded to the Registrar, College of Science and Technology, Private Mail Bag 5080, Port Harcourt, to reach him not later than May 15, 1973, should include:

- (1) 10 copies of Curriculum Vitae;
- (2) Names and addresses of three referees (not relations);
- (3) Photostat copies of credentials.

REGISTRAR

SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

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National Bank of Nigeria Ltd.,
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London, EC2**

to reach him not later than 11th May, 1973.

Appointments in Nigeria

A State Government in Nigeria is to establish a Unit, within the Office of The Military Governor, to supervise and monitor the performances of Statutory Corporations, State owned companies and Projects and report to Government on the extent to which performance is in accord with prescribed targets or budgets. The Unit will also be required to examine proposals for new projects to ensure that these are soundly conceived. To launch the new Unit, applications are invited from Nigerian Nationals for the following posts:

AGRICULTURAL ANALYSIS Ref. SCU 2 Agric

INDUSTRIAL ANALYST Ref. SCU 2 Ind

Candidates for these posts should have considerable experience of the analysis of industrial/agricultural operations on a regional or national scale. In particular the person appointed will have experience of the collection, analysis and presentation of data designed to show how individual enterprises are performing. They will also be expected to prepare inter-company comparisons. Experience of Project Evaluation is also a requirement. Salary range N8,000 to N9,000.

FINANCIAL ANALYST Ref. SCU 2 Fin

The requirement is for an accountant having considerable experience of performance analysis and measurement in a multiple-activity environment. This should have included responsibility for the preparation and consolidation of budgets. Experience of Project Evaluation is also required. Salary range: N8,000 to N9,000.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

Candidates for this appointment should have considerable experience of cost and management accounting in commerce and industry. A major feature of the job will be the consolidation of operating statements for individual enterprises and the analysis of variances. Experience of Project Evaluation is also required. Salary range: N6,000 to N7,000.

Appointments will be on contract for an initial period of three years, renewable by agreement.

Candidates for the above appointments should possess an appropriate university degree and/or be professionally qualified. Applications (six copies) giving the position applied for and reference number, with the names of three referees should be sent to:

**Ref. JGH/WA
The Economist Intelligence
Unit Ltd.**

27 St. James's Place, London SW1A 1NT
who are assisting with these appointments.



SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN

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The greatest needs of the Department are in the following fields of Pure Mathematics:

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Fields in which research is being actively carried out in Pure Mathematics include Algebra and Number Theory, Algebraic Topology, Differential Equations and Functional Analysis.

2. Department of Zoology:

Lecturer

Applicants should possess higher degree in any recognised field of Zoology or should have obtained the degree before taking up the appointment.

3. Department of Veterinary Pathology:

Lecturer

Candidates must be Veterinary graduates. Preferably, applicants should have had teaching and research experience in Veterinary Microbiology, Pathology or Parasitology. The successful applicant will be expected to take active part in the teaching and research programme of the Department.

4. Department of Radiology:

Locum Radiologist

The appointee will fill the post as Lecturer (Consultant or otherwise), for one year beginning June 1973.

5. Department of Sociology:

Senior Lecturer/Lecturer

Applicants should have teaching experience in the special areas of Demographic Techniques and Analysis, the Population of Africa, Socio-economic Aspects of Population in the Third World. Successful applicant will also participate in the International Research Project on Changing African Family Structure, and will be involved in postgraduate training in Sociology. Appointment, which is to commence in September 1973, is for three years although the programme may last longer.

6. Registry:

Industrial Relations Officer

The successful candidate will be responsible to the Registrar for all aspects of Industrial Relations in the University. This position calls for initiative, adequate knowledge of current industrial legislation and modern techniques in joint consultation and negotiation. Candidates should have had at least five years' relevant practical experience in a large private or public concern. The University at the

moment has a staff of about 900 senior and 7000 intermediate and junior staff. Candidates should be holders of at least a Second Class Honours degree. Preference will be given to candidates with postgraduate qualifications in Industrial Relations and related fields.

Appointment may be made at the Assistant Registrar or at the Senior Assistant Registrar grade depending on qualifications and experience. The post is to be filled immediately.

7. Department of Medical Microbiology:

Senior Technologist

Applicants must possess the A.I.M.L.T. or equivalent qualification registrable with the Nigerian Institute of Medical Laboratory Technologists, with Finals in either Bacteriology or Parasitology, and should possess suitable experience in the other subject.

8. Salary Scales:

Lecturer (Non-Medical) - N2760 x 150 - N3660/N3810 - N4830

Senior Lecturer (Medical) - N5030 x 150 - N5750

Lecturer (Vet. Pathology) - N2760 x 100 - N3760/N3960 - N4830

Lecturer (Radiology) Consultant - N4880 x 200 - N5800

Lecturer (Radiology) Non-Consultant - N3960 x 200 - N4830

Senior Assistant Registrar - N5030 x 150 - N5480 x 270 - N5750

Assistant Registrar - N3810 x 150 - N4260 x 270 - N4530 x 150 - N4830

Senior Technologist - N2760 x 100 - N3360

(Applicable salary scale and placement within the scale will depend on qualification and experience)

9. Conditions of Service:

Except where it is otherwise stated, appointments are to commence as soon as possible and for three years initially subject to review thereafter. Passages are paid for family on appointment approved overseas leave and termination where applicable. F.S.S.U./N.U.J.S.S. children and car allowance. Part-furnished accommodation or housing allowance is provided.

10. Method of Application

Detailed application (4 copies) stating age, full qualifications, experience and naming three referees by 12th May, 1973 to the Registrar, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

Dateline Africa

SIERRA LEONE

Elections and emergency

Parliament has been dissolved and a state of emergency declared. The President announced this in a broadcast marking the second anniversary of the declaration of a republic. He said that a state of emergency was "inevitable" for the safeguarding of life and property and for the maintenance of peace. He promised that it would not prejudice a legitimate election campaign, including the holding of meetings. In his broadcast, the President recalled his government's achievements since it assumed office five years ago and said they had tried to lay the foundations for economic expansion and prosperity.

Later the electoral commission announced that polling day for electing chiefs is members of Parliament would be May 9 and for ordinary members May 11. Nomination day was to be April 24.

One policeman was wounded and five demonstrators seriously injured in Freetown in clashes as nominations closed.

Several APC candidates have been returned unopposed. They include the vice-president, Mr. S. I. Koroma, the Finance Minister, Mr. Christian Kamara-Taylor, who is also Secretary-General of the APC, six other cabinet ministers and four deputy ministers. Six paramount chiefs have also been returned unopposed.

The electoral commission declared nominations in four areas of Freetown null and void. In some areas leading APC members were standing against official APC candidates.

The ruling All Peoples Congress and the opposition SLP had intended to put up candidates in all 85 constituencies for ordinary members.

On the eve of the anniversary celebrations the President ordered the release from detention of Mr. M. S. Mustapha, leader of the Parliamentary Opposition. Mr. Mustapha was detained in February, together with the Editor of the new Opposition bi-weekly newspaper, *Unity* and Mr. Dwight Neale, correspondent of the BBC.

Sierra Leone Development Company's iron ore mine at Marampa "operated efficiently" in 1972, according to the report of William Baird of Glasgow, the parent company, but it "could not overcome the adverse effect of low iron ore prices". The subsequent recovery in the world steel industry "has led in 1973 to better ore prices, which will be needed to offset renewed upward pressure on mining costs". The new agreement concluded in February 1973 with the government and since ratified by Parliament, "reflects the good relations that have always existed between Sierra Leone Development Company and the Government of Sierra Leone". The agreement, providing for higher taxes and government representation on the board, replaces the proposed take-over of 51 per cent of Deleco's shares by the government.

Baird made a profit of £2,303,000 before tax in 1972, almost the same as the 1971 profit. But Deleco made a loss of £104,000 against a profit in 1971 of £208,000. Textiles are now the main profit-maker for the group.

The principal of a secondary school in Jawe district has ordered its closure following two days of incidents "leading to the breakdown of law and order". No pupil was hurt.

Mr. Mathew Yao Tuan, Ivory Coast Charge d'Affaires, told a gathering of Ivorians and other French-speaking West African nationals that there were ways of earning a living besides dealing in diamonds. Mr. Tuan, who was touring the provinces, warned Ivorians against illicit diamond mining and smuggling.

Opening the 36 mile road linking Yombana and Buaya the Minister of Development said that this was the first of the feeder roads which the government was building. The road was financed by Sierra Leone and Britain. The road is one of those replacing the services of the railway, which is being phased out.

Concern over the increasing number of cases of false affidavits sworn for applications for Sierra Leonean citizenships and passports has been expressed by the President's Office. The statement urges Justices of the Peace to exercise more vigilance when signing affidavits.

An agreement has been signed with the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) for food to be provided for students of Fourah Bay and Njala University Colleges.



Pupils of the Anne Walsh Memorial School, the oldest girls secondary school in Sierra Leone, march past the Minister for Education, Mr. J. Bartholomew, to mark the second anniversary of the Republic of Sierra Leone.

GHANA

Education reforms

Ghana will have a new education system, soon Col. Acheampong told a conference of the Ghana National Association of Teachers. He said that a White Paper on the new system would be published shortly.

Col. Acheampong said that the new structure would emphasise the acquisition of "those skills that can transform our environment so that we can enjoy a more satisfying life". He told the conference that education must be related to Ghana's needs. "Mere academic, elitist education cannot meet our needs for rapid socio-economic development.

The new type of education should effect a psychological orientation that will make the individual feel the need for change so that he will remain unsatisfied until he has brought about or helped to realise that change himself". Teachers would have to implement the new programme satisfactorily. "This is an important national responsibility, the fulfilment of which requires new professional attitudes and orientation, flexible response and adaptation".

The government is to mobilise all available public and private transport in the country at least once a week to cart foodstuffs from the rural areas to the urban areas. In this connection, the Northern Regional Commissioner, Lt-Col Iddisah, has directed the heads of ministries, government departments and corporations, and the co-operatives in the region, to release the vehicles they control to the area manager of the Food Distribution Corporation.

A three-man mission of the Sanyo Electric Company of Japan has visited Ghana for talks with the government on the future of the Ghana-Sanyo Electrical Manufacturing Corporation.

The mission, led by the company's President, Mr. Kaoru Iue, is also visiting Kenya and Nigeria as part of a tour of Sanyo's subsidiaries overseas.

Work on the first phase of the \$200m. Kibi bauxite project has been completed said Mr. H. Kabotsky, project manager of BASCOL (Bauxite Alumina Study Company Ltd.)

Ghana will accept external aid offered without strings and which will contribute towards the peoples well-being. Commander J. Amedume, Central Regional Commissioner, has said.

He was commissioning a 35,000 cedis water project provided by voluntary donations from Canada, for Mpeseduae village.

Cdr Amedume said the assistance given to the village presupposed that the donors supported the government's rural development policy. He expressed gratitude to the Canadians "who though they had no idea about the location of the village, were moved by the spirit of love and brotherhood to assist needy friends".

The Prices and Incomes Board plans to force down the prices of made-in-Ghana goods which are found to be overpriced during a current cost survey.

On the recent one pesewa (seven per cent) increase in

the price of minerals and soft drinks, a Board official said that with the withdrawal of the subsidy the price of sugar had risen by 83 per cent, and this had caused the increase. If there had been no Prices and Incomes Board, continued the official, the whole increase would have been passed onto the consumer.

Limestone survey

Ghana could become a major cement exporter if the Geological Survey Department was given the opportunity to build a cement factory, said the Director, Mr. J. E. Cudjoe, in an interview with the *Daily Graphic*. Work on the feasibility survey should be complete by the end of the year, he said and full scale mining of the Nauli limestone deposits should begin early next year after the report had been drawn up.

The survey will also estimate the exact tonnage and the number of years it will last when mined commercially. First reports have indicated about 400m. tons of limestone, which could meet Ghana's cement requirements for 200 years.

Tenders have been invited for exploitation of the Nauli deposits, and among those who have made a bid so far are a West German firm and the Ghanaian based Iran Group.

New taxi rates charged within specific areas of Accra have been abolished and the former rates re-introduced. The Ministry of Transport said that it had taken this decision because of the confusion and inconvenience the new rates had caused the public and the unco-operative attitude of drivers. The Ministry introduced the new rate of 20 pesewas several months ago to cut the high cost of travelling by taxi in Accra.

An Accra barrister, Mr. S. K. Amofa, has been banned from practising as a lawyer in Ghana for a year. This follows investigations by the Disciplinary Committee of the Ghana Legal Council into an allegation of professional misconduct made against him during last year's subversion trial.

The Public Works department is spending 2.5m. cedis to construct 105 miles of road in the Central Region during the current and next

financial year.

The British High Commissioner, Mr. Henry Stanley, has toured its regions. In Brong Ahafo he promised Britain's readiness to help Ghana: "Britain is ever-prepared to help those who help themselves".

Col. Acheampong has presented the Grand Medal, honorary division, to Mr. Valerie Bailey, a British housewife. The award was in appreciation of her contribution to voluntary associations in Ghana, especially the Accra day nursery care centre. Mr. Bailey has lived in Ghana for 26 years.

The Cocoa Products Factory, a subsidiary of the Cocoa Marketing Board, earned 15,858,010 cedis in foreign exchange through exports, which include cocoa liquor, cocoa powder and cocoa butter last year, the General Manager, Mr. Francis A. Mensah, told *Ghana News Agency*. He said that this showed a 50 per cent increase over the previous year's earnings.

Work on an 8.8m. water project for the Upper Region is to begin soon.

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• A committee has been set up under the Commissioner for Works, Col. Victor Coker-Appiah to formulate a plan for the introduction of military training in the universities.

• The Ministry of Works and Housing hopes to launch a new lotto scheme in which prizes will be specially built houses in selected areas.

The lottery is to start next August but tickets are on sale this month.

• The government is to provide 100,000 cedis for the construction of dams and wells in the Northern Region during the current financial year.

• Work is to begin this year on a 500,000 cedis bus terminus for the State Transport Corporation at Kumasi.

• Mr. F. K. Buah, Headmaster of Tema Secondary School was elected Vice-Chairman for 1973-74 at the annual meeting of the West African Examinations Council in Accra. By tradition the host country nominates the Vice Chairman.

• The Association of Civil Servants has called for an improvement in salary structure and service conditions of all civil servants because of the high cost of living.

• A three-man committee has been appointed to probe alleged trade malpractices of the Ashkar Group of Companies.

• The Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board has voted 2.1m cedis for the rehabilitation of feeder roads.

efficiency and drew attention to his announcement threatening dismissal if ministers could not fully justify their absence when he visited their offices. The President said that even after Mr. Sherman notified him five hours later that he was indisposed, Mr. Sherman refused to submit to an examination by the President's personal physician.

Mr. Sherman, a former Consul-General in London, was Ambassador to Ghana before returning to Monrovia to join President Tubman's cabinet.

IVORY COAST

Economic Community pact signed

Heads of state of six West African French-speaking countries (Senegal, Ivory Coast, Niger, Mali, Upper Volta and Mauritania) have officially set up the West African Economic Community (CEAO) at a meeting in Abidjan. Dahomey, represented by its Foreign Minister Major Alladaye, has been granted official observer status. Togo also sent an observer to the meeting. The process of establishing the community was completed by the signing of protocols supplementing the Treaty which was signed at Bamako in June 1972. The Treaty will come into force in January 1974, subject to ratification.

The President of Niger, El Hadj Hamani Diori, has been appointed as CEAO's first Chairman, its headquarters are to be in Ouagadougou, and a Senegalese, Cheikh Ibrahima Fall, is to be Secretary-General (CEAO will be the subject of an article in next week's issue).

The meeting was preceded by a six-day Council of Ministers' meeting. Among guests invited to attend the meeting an observer capacity was the new French Secretary for Cooperation, M. Jean-Francois Denuau. General Gowon sent a message to the meeting reaffirming Nigeria's ardent desire to establish even closer links of cooperation with all West African states: "I hope our common efforts will lead

to the creation of the West African Community which will transcend all barriers".

DAHOMY

President in Lagos

President Kerekou has been on a one-day official visit to Nigeria. He was accompanied by a 20-man party, including Foreign Minister Michel Alladaye, who had just returned from observing the CEAO meeting in Abidjan. President Kerekou had discussions with General Gowon which touched on West African economic unity, and bilateral relations, especially free movement of goods and peoples over the common frontier. It was President Kerekou's first visit to Nigeria since he took power last October.

In Cotonou before the visit, Major Alladaye said that Dahomey could not become a full member of CEAO because it must respect commitments to neighbouring countries like Nigeria. Dahomey's opting for observer status should surprise nobody, he said, as it was justified by Dahomey's economic position, surrounded as it was by Ghana, Togo and Nigeria, its principal trading partners, all non-CEAO members. Dahomey could not see itself in a community in which its closest neighbours were absent and Nigeria, with its 60m. citizens with "just a makeshift seat on the sidelines". This in no way lowered Dahomey's conviction that there should be economic integration in the region.

OCAM

Relations with France

Foreign Ministers of the Afro-Malagasy Common Organisation (OCAM) have started meeting in Mauritius. Heads of state met on May 3-5. In a news conference, the Secretary-General Fallou Kane said that OCAM could not take a stand on all the Cooperation agreements with France as some related directly to the sovereignty of individual states, but revision of cooperation agreements would be discussed in the hope of formulating a broad

LIBERIA

President meets Touré, Stevens



President Tolbert bids farewell to President Sekou Toure at Conakry.

Following a meeting in the Peoples Palace in Conakry of the heads of State of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, Conakry Radio broadcast a communique saying, "faced by the subversive manoeuvres of the imperialist powers and their agents, the three heads of state have reaffirmed their unshakable solidarity and their wish for unity of action. They have decided to put everything they have in common in the economic, social and administrative fields so as to guarantee the sovereignty of their peoples, the independence of their nations, and the security of their states, and to concretise the bases of a rational organisation of unity of action of the peoples of Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea".

The Liberian government spokesman said the conference was called on the initiative of President

Stevens. The purpose was to discuss matters of mutual concern and common interest, and to "forge strategy for cooperative action". The three leaders agreed that their ministers would meet shortly in Monrovia.

• President Tolbert has dismissed the Education Minister, Mr. George Flamma Sherman, because of his absence from his ministry. In a letter to Mr. Sherman, the President said that during his first visit to the ministry last year, Mr. Sherman was absent, as he was when Mr. Tolbert visited the ministry a second time. "Under these circumstances, it is very regrettable to me that I am compelled to relieve you of your portfolio".

President Tolbert recalled his policy of demanding from public servants high

joint approach. Relations with the EEC in view of the impending renegotiation of the Yaoundé Convention would also be discussed. He said that OCAM was open to all states, including English-speaking ones. "If they ask us we are ready to begin negotiations, and we would not hesitate to remodel our organisation to satisfy them". Although Congo-Brazzaville withdrew from OCAM last September, it will have representatives in Mauritius, and has asked to stay in the organisation's technical bodies. He was hopeful that the Congo would return to full membership.

CONGO Rebel leaders shot

Ange Diawara, the former army lieutenant who took to the bush against the government of President N'Gouabi, has been shot near Boko, on the border with Zaïre. Also killed was his principal lieutenant, Jean-Baptiste Bokou. Their bodies were brought on the morning of April 24 to the army headquarters in Brazzaville, and were subsequently put on display at a rally addressed by President N'Gouabi at the Stadium of the Revolution. Diawara has been in flight since February 23, 1972, when he participated in an abortive putsch. In February this year he was accused of fomenting a new plot against the government, and there was an army campaign, personally directed by the President, in the region of Goma Tse-Tse, which resulted in the death or capture of a number of his guerrillas.

The news broke the day after the revolutionary court, under the chairmanship of former Foreign Minister Henri Lopes, delivered its verdicts in the trial of the February plotters. Four were sentenced to death (although their names were not immediately available). Thirty-six others were given sentences varying from one year's prison to 30 year's forced labour. Eight others were acquitted, including former Premier Pascal Lessouba, Diawara's mother, Madame Moutombo, and the wife of Bokou, Sylvain Bemba,

the writer who had been Minister of Information for only one month before his arrest in February, was given a three year suspended sentence. Five students, who admitted contact with Diawara, were directed to voluntary work "in agriculture". Four French teachers, two of them women, were judged separately from the other accused, and were released because they were Marxists who had come to work voluntarily in the Congo under a French technical assistance agreement and had "courageously admitted their guilt". They were accused of having contacts with Diawara and his group, and were defended by the French woman lawyer, Maitre Gisele Halimi, lawyer for Ben Barka



Wife Diawara

and Diamila Boupacha. The court had 20 judges including Supreme Court President Charles Assémekang, and Pierre Nze, member of the Political Bureau of the Congolese Labour Party.

M. Bemba told the court that he had received telephone calls from Kinshasa from Lt. Diawara, and had been in permanent contact through intermediaries. Diawara had planned to contact the Belgian Communist League and members of the French Communist Party. He said: "The President of the Republic showed confidence in me and named me a minister. He greatly guided and encouraged me. I recognise my ingratitude and I am aware of the gravity of my error".

● President N'Gouabi had a brief meeting in April 17 in Kinshasa with President Mobutu Sese Seko, to discuss mutual problems. President N'Gouabi told newsmen it had been about "essentials". He said that the Revolutionary Court had been enlarged to

include members of the Political Bureau of the ruling party because there were foreigners among the accused who called themselves Marxists. This had placed the trial on an ideological plane, and the Congolese government had wished to meet the ideological arguments, so that the people might learn the lesson not to receive "any kind of Marxist from anywhere".

President Mobutu said that the charge that he had been helping Diawara was "simply provocation", and that he could not be the friend of "anyone who, when I visited Brazzaville, would not even shake my hand". He added: "You don't mount a plot or overthrow a government as firmly based as that of Brazzaville with 6,000 dollars". One of the problems was that the Franceville Charter which settled the Zaïre-Congo dispute did not take into account certain individuals in both countries. President Mobutu asked his colleague that the Brazzaville accused who accompanied Diawara to Kinshasa in January should reveal the names and addresses of the official Zaïrean personalities they met. "We are not plotters in Zaïre", he said, asking what would have been gained by aiding Diawara, who believed in Marxism "an ideology I don't know about, which I don't practice. In Zaïre we have other fish to fry".

THE GAMBIA Bathurst is Banjul

Bathurst's name was officially changed to Banjul on April 24. The House of Representatives approved the measure in February. Banjul is the traditional name of the town, which was called Bathurst after the 19th century Earl of Bathurst, by whose authority a fort, barracks and town were built.

● Commenting on the Gambia Central Bank announcement about revaluation of the Dalasi from D5 to £1 to D4, the Standard Bank Review says that it was clear that the Gambia authorities had been worried by the inflationary pressures resulting from downward floating of sterling, to which

the Dalasi had always been pegged. This had resulted in increases in the price of many consumer goods imported from Japan, West Germany and other countries whose currencies had remained at a higher level than sterling. The adjustment would be to "restore the position of the Dalasi relative to other foreign currencies".

The Central Bank announcement stated that the revaluation was necessary to remove the adverse effects, notably on domestic price and national income, of the depreciation of sterling. Sterling would continue to serve as an "intervention currency" for The Gambia with the Central Bank continuing to buy and sell sterling without limit at the commercial banks' request.

However, the Review continues, the magnitude of the revaluation would conceivably affect the return from exports as expressed in local currency as well as make The Gambia a more expensive country for tourists and possibly reduce trade with Senegal. "It is to be hoped therefore that competition between importers, and in the retail sector, will be sufficient to pass on to consumers the benefits of lower import prices resulting from the exchange readjustment".

● About 100 officers and men from communications sections of the British Army, Navy and Air Force have been in The Gambia for an exercise designed to find out what communications would be required in a disaster relief operation if the British services were asked to help. The Ministry of Defence in London said the exercise was carried out "in close collaboration" with the Gambia police. The operation was training for a contingency "anywhere in the world, particularly in a country environmentally similar to The Gambia". It was an aspect of the use of military personnel consistent with the theme of the UN "Disaster Relief Year".

● A 37-year-old Swedish tourist, Mr. Olle Ketola, has embraced Islam at a special ceremony at Hal-Bu Mosque. Bathurst Protestant who had become a free-thinker, Mr. Ketola had adopted the name of Mohamed Jagne.

NIGERIA University strike ends

Following General Gowon's ultimatum, members of the 2,000-strong association of Nigerian university teachers have resolved to end their week-long strike. In an emergency broadcast, General Gowon described the strike as illegal and gave the teachers five days to end their action or face dismissal. He also announced that the two "federal" universities of Ibadan and Lagos would remain closed until further notice.

General Gowon regretted that his confidence in the sense of responsibility of the teachers had been unshaken.

"Considering what has happened in our universities in the past three months, I saw wonder whether the trust I have in our university teachers and students is not misplaced."

The strike, over fringe benefits, followed failure of moves by the Federal Government and the teachers' association to stave it off. There is in force a decree which makes strikes illegal, and a pay freeze pending outcome of the Udon Public Service Review Commission.

Lectures are expected to resume soon, but a spokesman for the teachers noted that the decision to call off the strike would not affect their demands.

Commenting on the strike, the *Daily Times* said "the nasty side of it crops in when trained minds of a very high order for that matter resort to flexing their muscles when they should be using their minds. And they are in little dress not for more salaries which they deserve and which the Udon Commission is looking into, but for fringe benefits (privileges) which they consider inadequate".

• The National Union of Nigerian Students has advocated inclusion in the proposed National Youth Service Corps of young people in the civil services and the armed forces. It has also suggested raising the age limit of corps members from 30 to 45 years for men and 35 years for women.

Speaking at the end of a meeting in Benin, the NUNS president, Mr Chukwuzie Maduka, noted that "the promulgation of any decree on the NYSC without prior discussion with us as promised and without the acceptance of our recommendations shall not be binding on us".

Details of the NYSC were announced by General Gowon in his budget broadcast.

• The Commissioner for External Affairs, Dr Okoi Arokpo, has arrived in Peking to begin a two-week tour of China, India and Pakistan. He will discuss bilateral relations and international matters with leaders of those countries.

• Ghana's Commissioner for Justice, Mr E. N. Moore, has called for the revival of the West African Court of Appeal. He told newsmen at Ikeja airport that with an economic community being contemplated in the region such a court would be necessary. "People of the region will realise that they can take their cases to a higher court devoid of political interference where justice would be dispensed without fear or favour", he said.

No nationalisation call

The president of the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industries and Mines, Chief Henry Eiemrokan, has said his association would not support nationalisation of foreign businesses but would favour full participation by Nigerians in these concerns. "We owe it as a duty to our nation to do everything to enhance our economy and not to ruin it", he said.

He added that government should participate only in capital intensive spheres.

• The former Chief Justice, Sir Adetokunbo Ademola, has ceased to be chairman of the Council of Legal Education. A decree published in Lagos names the Federal Chief Justice as chairman by office instead of by name. The Federal Attorney-General is also named as vice-chairman.



Mr D. O. Ogun, director of the Nigerian Standards Organisation, with Mr G. Bowen, director of the British Metrication Board, during the Commonwealth conference on metrication in London.

• The director of the Military Public Relations Corps, Brig. E. F. Sotomi, has said that one of the greatest achievements of the Federal Government was instilling in Nigerians an unprecedented sense of belonging. Addressing a conference of the Nigerian Society of International Affairs at Enugu, he said "Never before have Nigerians been able to accommodate one another as at present".

Brig Sotomi noted however that the achievement would not have been possible without the loyalty and support of the people.

• Nigeria has bought its first kenaf fibre from Thailand, a shipment of 2,187 tons, during the last week of March, according to the Thai Board of Trade. Ghana and Dahomey, have so far imported 1,512 and 1,522 tons respectively, since the beginning of the year, the Board said.

• A three-man Somali delegation led by vice-president Ismail Abokor has handed a note from President Mohammed Siad Barre to General Gowon.

• Messrs. Clarke, Chapman and John Thompson Co. Ltd., Engineers, of Leeds have received a contract to build four 60 ton diesel breakdown cranes for the Nigerian Railway Corporation. It is understood that the British Government is making a special grant of £500,000 to Nigeria in connection with Nigeria's development plans and the introduction of diesel trains for the NRC.

• Two executives of the Northern States Marketing Board have been

dismissed. They are the Kaduna-based Operations Manager, Mr M. O. Titiloye, and the Kano area manager, Mallam M. E. Abdulkadir. No reason was given for the dismissals.

• The National Provident Fund (NPF) will furnish statements of account to over 700,000 contributors covering up to December 31, 1970, it has announced. The last statements were issued in 1966.

• The Military Training College, Jaji, is to be modernised, the commandant, Col. P. A. Frombor, has told the acting GOC of the first infantry division, Col. A. Abubakar. A library is among features to be provided.

• General Gowon will officially open the University of Benin Teaching Hospital on May 12, while Mrs. Victoria Gowon will unveil a statue in honour of those who minister to the sick.

• A 79-year-old pensioner, Mr Michael Olatunde Sawah, of Glover Street, Lagos, has won the second prize of 3,000 naira in the 15th draw of the Lagos State Government Lottery.

• A Chinese cultural group has arrived on a week's tour.

• A press workshop has been held for student journalists at the University of Ife.

• The Chief Justice of the Federation, Dr. Taslim Elias, has called for establishment in Lagos of a centre to document international law

● In an attempt to reduce corrupt practices, several commissioners have been forced to resign for improper conduct, while senior civil servants and members of the armed forces have been similarly treated, the permanent secretary in the Federal Ministry of Finance, Mr. Allison Ayida, told a meeting of the Nigerian Economic Society in Enugu.

● Reception of NBC programmes throughout the country will soon be improved, the director-general, Mr. Christopher Kolade, has stated. Replying to public complaints he said: "You will soon see signs that we are already doing something about this complaint, the new transmitters we are installing will be five times more powerful than the present ones".

● A development centre for small-scale industries in each state is to be established by the Federal Government, the head of the division for small-scale industries in the Federal Ministry of Industry, Mr. D. O. Dede, has announced. The Federal Government has assumed responsibility for developing industrial centres at Owerri, Zaria and Osogbo, he said.

FROM THE STATES

50m Lagos budget

Governor Mobolaji Johnson has announced a budget of 50.8m. naira for 1973-74 financial year, with an estimated revenue of 51.7m. naira leaving a surplus of about 900,000 naira. 50 per cent of the budget, which showed an increase of about 17 per cent over last year's, will be spent on social services, while education will absorb 24 per cent.

₦26m is voted for agriculture, trade and industry because most of the people still depended on agriculture, said the Governor. He announced that work would begin soon on the proposed 12m naira 500-room Eko Hotel. Grants to local authorities will be increased from 3.5m. naira to five million.

● General Gowon has earned out a four-day tour of Lagos State, his first since 1967. During the tour which took him to all five divisions, the head of state inspected roads, housing and agricultural and industrial projects.

● Brig. Mobolaji Johnson has explained that the Lagos rent edict was not directed against any group of people but was meant for everybody's good. He told federal administrative officers that his government had a duty to protect the interests of all sections of the public.

● The appointment of Mr. James Ilaoye Oyewole as the Ejigbo of Ejigbo has been nullified by the Western State Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Dr. Adegbite, for alleged irregularities. The Commissioner has ordered the appointment process, to begin again.

● Dr. Adegbite said, while opening the law firm of Messrs. Adefulu and Odujirin in Lagos, that the future of the legal profession in Nigeria lay in partnerships.

● Train services between northern states and the south have been interrupted following derailment of a goods train near Kaduna. No casualties were reported.

● The South Eastern State Commissioner for Education, Mr. E. A. Essien, has announced the take-over of primary, secondary, and trades schools and teacher

training colleges by the government from April 2. He said the take-over was meant among other reasons to finance and administer control teaching services.

● The Midwestern State Commissioner for Finance, Mr. Edwin Clark, has warned commercial banks consequences of their refusal to grant loans to Nigerians to implement the indigenisation decree. "It will be a pity if banks allow the government to force them to grant loans".

● Beggars in Nigeria are to hold a conference in Lagos to organise a protest demonstration on May 1 to demand rehabilitation by the government. A spokesman said beggars from all over the country have been invited.

● Students found with dangerous drugs at Government College, Sokoto, have been expelled, the State Commissioner for Education, Alhaji Ibrahim Gusau, has announced. This followed an analysis of the drugs at the General Hospital.

● Mallam Sokyara Gata, believed to be the oldest man in Bida, North Western State, has died at the age of 107 years.

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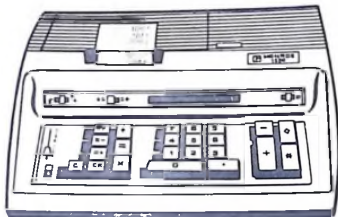
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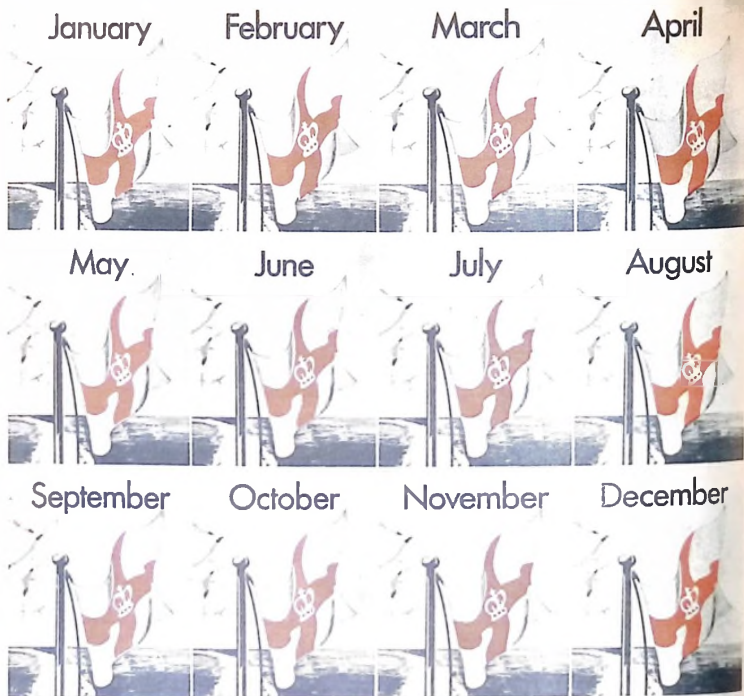
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