

WEST AFRICA

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POWER AT A PRICE

In the end Sierra Leone was saved from the humiliation of a 100 per cent victory for the governing party in the general election. But the victory of an independent who has been so close to the leadership of the party and has now not only taken the party label, but has been appointed External Affairs Minister, does not alter the character of Sierra Leone as a *de facto* one-party state. Only The Gambia in the whole of West Africa now has multi-party democracy. And there the Opposition is woefully weak and can offer no challenge to a tolerant government. In Sierra Leone the opposition SLPP may have won some seats if it had contested some of those from which it withdrew its candidates, and it remains in being. But its leaders claim, and believe, that they were prevented from nominating candidates in so many seats that they would have been taking part in a charade — and exposing their candidates to danger — if they had gone through with the contests in the rest. Many may criticise them for taking this line. Few will deny that they faced a real dilemma.



Once again the question arises, are West African states doomed to one-party rule, with military rule as the alternative? Nigeria's size and diversity, and the existence of twelve states, make it unlikely that a single party can establish itself at the centre. But the former regions were usually ruled as one-party states, even if opposition to the ruling parties drew strength from other regions. President Tolbert's style of government is relaxed. But there is no sign of an opposition party arising in Liberia. President Senghor said before Senegal's recent general election that he expected, which perhaps meant hoped, that 15 per cent of the votes would be against him. His party, however, swept the board. After the bogus elections and the glorification of one-party rule of the Nkrumah regime the 1969 general election in Ghana was so admirably conducted that it seemed too good to be true. And so it proved, but Ghana's new military regime appears more tolerant than most one-party regimes.

We still believe that, for the safeguarding of individual liberty,

multi-party democracy is the only effective system. One-party rule, even when benevolent, easily becomes one-man or oligarchical rule, while at the other end of the scale the party member, or thug, feels he has a license to maltreat fellow-citizens. Only violence can express opposition when peaceful change of government is impossible.

Military rulers in West Africa have performed much service to their states. But military regimes, if they outstay their welcome, are unstable and are always liable to internal division. In any case, their leaders never claim to offer more than a temporary solution to the problems of government.

Multi-party democracy, however, is obviously not in itself a sufficient guarantee of individual liberty. The form, in particular, may be very different from the substance. Electoral arrangements may appear to be impeccable and electoral commissions to be conscientious. But this may not ensure that there is full freedom for campaigning or for nominating candidates, or even for visiting polling booths. The thug has been



too common a feature of West African elections for anybody to have complete confidence in the efficacy of electoral regulations. The voter may be misled by tribal or other appeals into supporting rascals, or be deprived of proper representation by the undue influence of groups or individuals. The government may prove indifferent to the public welfare. The police and the lower courts, even sometimes the higher — though this is happily rare in Commonwealth West African states — may serve the governing party's interest, the government may discriminate against groups or individuals.

Anybody who has lived under a multi-party regime in West Africa can list such deficiencies. Above all party divisions are taken to extreme lengths, entering every aspect of life, and permanently affecting personal relations. Where in some countries party differences may express themselves only at election times or when great issues are under debate, and may not affect personal relations at all, too often in West Africa the party man is conscious of his affiliation, and those of his opponents, twenty-four hours a day. He is always ready to deny civil rights or just opportunities to those of a different persuasion.

In a seemingly peaceful and stable one-party state it is difficult to explain the virtues of multi-party democracy as sometimes practised. And people used to seeing their chiefly rulers drawn from particular families with appropriate

experience and obeying traditional rules may find it difficult to respect party politicians with no social standing who appear to obey no rules at all.

About religious matters West Africans are among the most tolerant people in the world. To strangers from other continents they are outstandingly hospitable and friendly. These qualities appear far too seldom in the treatment of their political opponents by party enthusiasts.

The reason is clear, the remedy is not. The rewards of political power are too great. In most West African countries governments are the main employers, the main source of contracts, the dispensers of scholarships, the arbiters even of the location of private industry and certainly of the location of schools, hospitals, water supplies and institutions ranging from universities to hotels. They control radio and television, newspapers and printing presses. For many who enter politics even the immediate rewards of success, the MPs' salaries and allowances and their overseas visits are disproportionate both to the time they spend at their jobs — parliamentary sittings are so short and constituency work so sketchy — and to their prospects in any other calling.

All this means that power at any price easily becomes a party's only recognisable policy. The multi-party system is distorted, the one-party system seems tempting. West African parties are not in this way very different from others, and one of the crimes of Mr. Nixon's

henchmen is to have given politicians elsewhere a ready defence for their malpractices. But the vulnerable fabric of the new states and the weakness of their institutions too easily succumb to party pressures. The formal multi-party system easily degenerates into one-party domination, the one-party state into tyranny.

How, then, to preserve multi-party which, for all its weaknesses, alone can promise people a chance of peaceful change? Another generation will demand a higher calibre of representative and a higher standard of public behaviour. In the meantime electoral arrangements can first be improved. The Sierra Leone "marble" voting system is, for example, less open to fraud than the ballot paper system. Efforts to circumvent it by preventing nominations being presented in constituencies can be answered by allowing all a party's nominations to be presented en bloc in the capital city. Executive presidents could be limited to two terms so that after ten years there would have to be a change at the top. This might deprive some states of guidance and produce instability of another kind.

Some form of proportional representation might ensure that even a soundly beaten party retained some representation — and hope — and that its supporters were not disfranchised. The "winner-takeall" system is an unhappy British legacy, which can be tempered by appointments such as President Senghor has made or might make from among its opponents. It should be possible for heads of government to appoint some Ministers from outside Parliament — although even this is open to abuse.

The object should be to cut parties down to size. But since ruling parties are often the only agents for the task, the prospect of that is not bright.

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**Matchet's
Diary**

from Monrovia

"Rally Time" is here

Fresh from his latest inspection of the Gardnersville workers housing project on the outskirts of his capital, President William Tolbert told me that he thought the "involvement" of the people in improving their conditions was as important as the improvement itself. He wants what he calls a "participatory democracy", and on his desk in his Executive Mansion office was a big sign "Rally Time". This reminds visitors of the project dearest to the President's heart, the "National Fund Raising Rally". This is a device by which he hopes Liberia can break out of the financial straightjacket which

constrains the country in spite of the boost to its finances from the mines which make it Africa's biggest iron ore producer.

Of the \$70 million budget in 1971 debt servicing took 30 per cent and only eight per cent was available for development. Spending from the rather higher 1972 budget showed the same pattern, with defence and security, for example, taking almost ten per cent. Education, it is true, now takes over ten per cent. But with well over ten per cent of the total population now at school and the prospect of even more pupils the budget is strained to meet recurrent expenditure. Even in Monrovia some schools cram over a hundred pupils into a classroom. There is important World Bank help for capital improvement in education. But although the President is determined to maintain that part of his budget which goes to development he wants much more.

Fund-raising

Improvement in tax collection is bringing in more. But in this haven of private enterprise Mr. Tolbert has turned to the Rally. It was launched last August and already well over \$4 million has been subscribed in answer to his appeal. All the money is to be used for capital works and the accounts of the fund are kept not only separately from government accounts, but in a different bank. The target was \$10 million and the President told me that even since the announcement of the total to date, made on his sixtieth birthday, many thousands of dollars had come in. He hopes to raise a lot more on his coming visit to the United States and to interest people even further afield.

Resting and development of the now cramped University of Liberia, whose students almost quadrupled in numbers between 1960 and 1970, and are expected to treble again by 1980, is one of the schemes to which the fund will be devoted. But this will cost in all some \$35 million, and the estimated capital needed for schools is almost a hundred million dollars. So the fund won't go very far. But the President believes that it shows the readiness of people throughout the country to do a little extra although some here wonder whether it could work a second time. And he quoted to me the example of the hospital at Kakata whose cost was reduced by over a quarter because people gave labour free.

The Gatersville project, about which the President is so enthusiastic, is small, but represents a start in rehousing people from the West Point shanty area near the docks. Firms, associations and individuals made donations in kind for this, following an appeal from the President shortly after he took office. When the first houses were finished Mr. and Mrs. Tolbert, after entertaining the occupiers to dinner, spent the night in one of the houses. I asked the President whether he intended to ask Liberia's overseas creditors to make the debt repayment

easier to help his ambitious programmes.

"That's not our style", he replied. "We pay in full. We'll have to cut down further on banquets and that sort of thing. Last year I cut the allocation for my own office by \$800,000."

Through economies in other directions he has been able to raise government salaries all round by 15 per cent, the first rise in ten years. Teachers, too, have had a rise and a pension scheme for them is being established. The President also told me that he had tried to reform the system under which people doing identical work in different departments received different salaries.

Of the slogans Mr. Tolbert has launched the most expressive is "Mats to mattresses", the programme for raising rural living standards (an ingenious bar owner here has borrowed the name). As a model the village of Jorwah in Bong County has been turned in what the President calls "a modern little town". The trouble is however, as a government pamphlet puts it, "more than a thousand Jorwah towns are needed". Where is the staff whose help the villagers, however enthusiastic, will need, to be found? How can the President personally supervise each project? And if he can't, will anything much happen? For the government machine is still too weak to cope properly even with much of its routine work; a nationwide and sustained campaign is at present impossible. "I sometimes feel very frustrated", the President told me.

All the world now knows that Mr. Tolbert retired the senior and successful Minister of Education, Mr. George Flamma Sherman, who is also his friend, because the Minister was not in his office at eight in the morning when the President called. Whatever the merits of the case, it has had a considerable effect, everybody assures me. Now the President has warned senior officials in county centres that he can be in their offices any morning at eight; his new Cesna executive jet can easily do the journey from Monrovia to any centre with an airfield. It was the Cesna which enabled him to leave for Lagos at six in the morning after spending an evening "qualifying" as they still say here, a number of officials, including Liberia's first woman head of an embassy in a foreign capital. And all ministers came to see him leave.

The Lagos visit took place just before his departure for the OAU tenth anniversary celebrations in Addis Ababa. But between the two visits there was another up-country visit. It is not surprising that he has given up the habit of eating lunch except on official occasions.

I asked the President what he now considered to be the main task before the OAU. He replied at once: "to ensure the economic independence of Africa. Only pockets of political dependence remain. But how many of us are economically independent? Are not nearly all enslaved?"



President Tolbert.

Certainly Liberia is approaching this problem cautiously. There is no nationalisation even if the numerous concession agreements are being reviewed. Foreign firms have to take steps to promote Liberian "participation and ownership" in return for tax concessions. But the only industrial activity from which foreigners are now excluded is cement block making. Steps may soon be taken to limit the "flood of expatriate drivers", presumably Africans, of commercial vehicles, in favour of Liberians.

Liberia is one of the few countries which still recognises the Formosan Government. The President sees no reason to jettison an old friend whose experts have done good work here. But he denies that he is in any way hostile to Peking and I imagine that he would happily exchange embassies with both governments. He simply does not want to be told who his friends should be.

Relations with Guinea

He is an excellent terms with President Sekou Touré of Guinea — not everybody expected this when he succeeded President Tubman. He is even sympathetic with Guinea's plan to build a long railway line which might one day take iron ore from Mount Nimba on Guinea's side of the border all the way to Conakry, instead of using the much shorter, railway from Liberia's side of Mount Nimba to Liberia's Buchanan Port. In the meantime it looks as if Liberia's railway will earn substantial revenue from carrying the Guinea ore when it comes into production, since the Guinea railway, whose main object would be to open up remote parts of the country and to serve other mineral deposits, is in the distant future.

In the midst of so many problems President Tolbert remains relaxed and friendly. But in his place there is one problem I would find very irritating. Because the tax collecting machinery has improved — or so people say — there is less purchasing power around up-country where the reduced tax of ten dollars per hut is still a burden on a small farmer, if it is collected. And if the Rally fund is spent on importing equipment it, too, will reduce purchasing power in the areas where individuals have contributed. But here no solutions are simple.



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AFRICA IN ABIDJAN

Our correspondent in Ivory Coast analyses the outcome of the conference of economic finance and trade ministers of the Organisation of African Unity which took place in Abidjan from May 9 to 13.

By the time tired delegates finally broke up at almost one a.m. on the morning of Sunday May 13, it had become obvious that they had agreed to disagree on the two major principles put forward as the base for Africa's negotiations with the Common Market.

Despite energetic lobbying on the part of Anglophones, and of Togo and Zaïre (neither of whom accord reverse preferences to EEC), to persuade the Associates that non-reciprocity was now both quite acceptable to the Europeans, and a matter of African principle (as M. Kamanda of OAU said "why should we help the developed countries to develop?"), a hard core of Associates grouped around Senegal, maintained their stand in favour of reverse preferences.

During the conference this appeared curious, not to say almost incomprehensible, to many observers. After all, the EEC Commission Memorandum had expressly stated it was in favour of a less rigid application, and those advocating non-reciprocity made sure the conference rapporteur* noted in his closing speech that "the EEC itself no longer insists on reverse preferences" and went on "this may facilitate the African position in negotiations".

But after the May 14 meeting of the EEC Foreign Ministers in Brussels, to consider the Commission's memorandum (see page 702), the Senegalese view suddenly made sense. France, it was reported, intended, after all, to fight to keep reverse preferences, despite strong opposition from Britain, Belgium and the Netherlands. And also probably from a majority of GATT members who consider them to be in violation of GATT rules.

The last straw?

The French stand, only a week or so before the OAU summit where heads of state will have to reconsider the non-reciprocity question will no doubt throw into confusion those among the francophones who had supported the new principle. And it may prove the last straw that will finally divide the updaters of Yaounde from those who want to start from scratch.

Meanwhile, during the Abidjan conference, another division came over the second innovation — the separation of agreements on trade from those on aid. *Zaïre's Finance Minister, Mr. Baruti Wa Ndwalu.

Again, there are two reasons for support of the separation principle. One points out that Yaounde — where the two domains are closely united — was a pre-independence idea but that over the last decade the joint negotiation of the two had become an unpleasant kind of bargain which most Africans felt it was time to end.

On the second argument, put forward by the "Associates", the separation of trade from aid would enable non-trading associates of the future nonetheless to benefit from the European Development Fund, and thus Associates fear, get a bigger slice of the aid cake. The Senegalese Finance Minister, Babacar Ba again formed the central point of resistance to this move, but the poorer francophone countries of the interior are clearly also anxious to defend their interests as far as aid is concerned.

Gingering up

During the conference, the 19 existing Associates twice met to ginger each other up in the face of the other 32 countries. The first occasion was an official pre-conference session on May 8 which lasted from 9 a.m. until almost midnight, and again on the night of May 10. When the conference broke up on May 12, however, their position appeared not only a minority one, but there were clear renegades from their camp.

Now that France has virtually sounded the division bell in Brussels, and President Senghor's recent pronouncements appear to be coming true, many delegates must feel deep disappointment and a sense of frustration that what they had fought so hard to achieve in the way of unity last week has now been called into question.

For despite the differences, there was nonetheless an extraordinary degree of consensus on other EEC negotiating principles, which observers noted wryly may well have been due more to the traditional African desire for a united front to present to the world, than a true meeting of minds. A glance at the eight principles which all of them found their way into the final 50-page technical document despite the Associates' "reservations" shows the 40 African states present in Abidjan (only Guinea was absent) are to seek, aside from non-reciprocity and separation of trade from aid, a change in rights of establishment to avoid discrimination

against third parties and a change in regulations governing the movement of payments and capital, to take account of the aim to achieve "African monetary independence and African monetary co-operation". All these measures, if taken seriously, would presumably mean the dismantling of the present system of preferences given to the EEC and a radical alteration of franc zone regulations.

But the EEC is not the only area where the technical report and the draft declaration itself formulate consensus opinions on what are still highly controversial subjects if one is talking practical politics. Much of the monetary principles formulated — the recommendations for payments unions, and for greater control over monetary policy, for example — can be accepted as a statement of intent, but ways and means still appear out of reach, as the African central bankers who met in Banjul just prior to the conference gloomily agreed.

The chapter on reform of the international monetary system, while it contains sound ideas, is also unlikely to see itself translated into action, and M. Kamanda of the OAU had harsh words for the IMF's good faith in seeking to accommodate the interests of the developing countries. Africans have decided to press for reallocation of both voting and drawing rights to give the continent a better deal and they will also seek a "link" between the creation of special drawing rights and development finance. But all these are ideas that have been doing the rounds for some time and it is difficult to see the Group of Ten rich countries suddenly taking notice of them now.

Effect on GATT

Where the conference is likely to have the most concrete effects is at the forthcoming GATT talks in Japan in the autumn, where the forty really have reached similar negotiating positions on commodity agreements, modifying of rules of origin to take account of Africa's special position (where manufactures can rarely be entirely produced in one country), and demolition of tariff and non-tariff barriers to African exports. If the heads of state approve, a single ministerial delegation will negotiate for Africa at GATT.

Meanwhile, looking inwards, the continent has created the base for a new era of intra-African co-operation across the old colonial barriers. The recent round of regional co-operation talks has clearly encouraged the politicians — despite the differences that remain — and the immense quantity of work by experts to unearth every area of economic co-operation that will favour African development, and place it in readable and accessible form before the Ministers last week may well be at the most lasting monument to the Abidjan meeting.



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OAU 10th ANNIVERSARY

Foreign ministers' meeting

The Council of Ministers of the Organisation of African Unity opened in Addis Ababa, prior to the celebrations for the OAU's 10th anniversary and summit, was opened by Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia by recasting the mood of scepticism surrounding the creation of the OAU and adding that the experience of the first ten years of the OAU had shown that Africans were capable of uniting and shaping their destiny. The organisation was determined to "liberate our continent" and drew comfort from the fact that "the legitimacy of the struggle to liberate Africa has been universally recognised and has wide support in international forums". The Emperor added that inter-African co-operation would be an effective instrument to overcome the continent's economic difficulties. "We also look forward to this coming decade as an era when the liberation struggle in Africa will be crowned with success".

On the Middle East, the Emperor warned that the present stalemate could at any moment "erupt in sudden violence" with dire consequences for stability in the area and for international peace and security. He stressed the need to find a solution to the conflict (Libya was the only country not to send a delegation to the summit, after Col. Gaddafi's objections to Ethiopia's diplomatic ties with Israel).

After speeches of thanks from a number of foreign ministers, and the election of Dr. Okoi Arkipo, Nigerian External Affairs Commissioner, as Chairman of the conference, to replace Baba Hassane, Chad Foreign Minister, the conference considered the report of the OAU Secretary-General Nzo Ekanagaki. He too emphasised the seriousness of the Middle East situation, saying that the whole continent should apply itself to seeking a solution to the Middle East problem, if the risk of universal armed conflict was to be avoided. He recalled that in a declaration of general policy adopted by the Ministerial Council in February, "it unanimously reaffirmed its solidarity with the Arab Republic of Egypt in its fight to recover its territorial integrity".

On the liberation struggle, Mr. Ekanagaki said that the year ending had been characterised by the intensification of the liberation struggle and by "the achievement of unity of action among the main liberation movements of Angola and Zimbabwe". The liberation movement in Portuguese Guinea had not been weakened by the assassination of Amílcar Cabral, its leader, and the struggle there had been intensified with the destruction of ten Portuguese aircraft there during April. The activities of Ferlino in some areas of Mozambique also showed that "the liberation movements do not necessarily have to be backed by the

frontiers of independent countries to establish strong bases". In Rhodesia the Smith regime was now being supported militarily by South Africa, he said, referring to the "Salisbury-Lisbon-Pretoria triangle".

Mr Ekanagaki's report also condemned European powers for maintaining a presence in Africa and Indian Ocean islands, citing Britain in the Seychelles, and France in Djibouti and the Comoros. Twelve years ago, he said, France was in the vanguard in recognising the independence of African countries. "Why does it now affirm that it intends to remain in Djibouti, which is of absolutely no political or economic importance to it?", he asked.

A number of other moves related to the Middle East question occurred while the Ministers were meeting. President Amin of Uganda, who is attending the summit, sent an urgent telegram to Emperor Haile Selassie warning him of a reported Israeli threat to the Uganda delegation. He would hold the Ethiopian government responsible if any harm came to the delegation. The Israeli Ambassador in Addis Ababa is reportedly the only member of the diplomatic corps not invited to attend the OAU's Tenth Anniversary celebrations. As the Ministers started to meet, it was announced that Burundi had answered Colonel Gaddafi's call to African countries to break relations with Israel. She is the only country to have done so since the appeal was made, although a number of countries (Mali, Niger, Congo and Chad) did so in December and January. Burundi also put it in the context of an alleged recent invasion rather than in that of the Middle East situation. A senior Zaïre official, Bwengimana Rwema, Chief of President Mobutu's Cabinet, told newsmen in Paris that Zaïre would not necessarily accede to anti-Israeli moves which could be proposed at the heads of state meeting. "Such a move is a question linked to the national sovereignty of each state".

Niger has denied that she supported Colonel Gaddafi's proposal to move the OAU headquarters to Cairo. Foreign Minister Boukary Sabo said before leaving Niamey that the best way to convince African states to revise relations with Israel was to discuss the question in Addis Ababa. Criticism of the Libyan proposal has come from leaders and newspapers in a number of countries.

As we go to press the Council of Ministers has not concluded their deliberations but there are reports of a long debate on the new flare-up between Ethiopia and Somalia, in which Dr. Arkipo headed a mediation panel, and of the non-approval of a section of the Secretary-General's report dealing with the financing of the Liberation Committee



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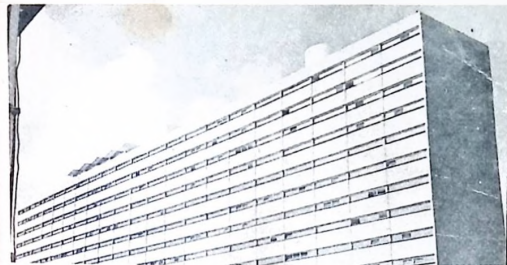
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Military simplicity and civilian extravagance

Most military leaders have said they led their countries into financial ruin. Thus results to be announced soon of a nationwide essay competition launched last July are expected to show the Ghanaian citizens' ideas on how to save public expenditure.

Ghana's Government desperately needs the practical information, for under her showboy Kwame Nkrumah the country had a £265,000m. debt when the military took over in 1966. And when the present Government took power over a year ago from the Busia Government food imports were costing about \$32 million every year as if we had not seen why things were wrong.

Since the coup in 1966 and before the essay competition was organised a number of ingenious suggestions had been put forward for reform. So popular has the suggestion for the abolition of the importation of big cars become that it now seems as if the mere ownership of a car is a crime. Some people have even suggested that all senior civil servants should declare their assets. And newspapers have found it worth publishing demands for a probe into what civil servants should do with the money they earn with their own labour. So absurd are some of the suggestions that they tend to raise fears in some minds. Thus writing in the *Daily Graphic* at the beginning of May under the title *Doesn't Can't Solve All Our Problems* a correspondent doubted whether demands such as these may not "tarnish the image of the few successful businessmen that we have in the country" and whether "we are not being made to understand that the Government must start directing people on how to use their money". And there has also been undue and unnecessary argument as to whether suggestions which even people in the remote villages have been accustomed to eat with akara is essential or extravagant. Some people fail to see anything essential about the commodity which in time of scarcity some Ghanaians would not mind travelling all the way from Accra across the international border to buy only two packets of. And some people are always the result of hoarding the market mummies.



Job 600 "We had become accustomed to extravagance"

Such suggestions for reform cannot be implemented unadvisedly, lightly, wantonly if freedom of the individual must be respected. The advantages claimed for reform have to be considered and the extent of the demand for them assessed. And the Government being in a position to consult the various bodies which could give reliable representation to views on the matter and the assistance of which would be enlisted in carrying out any changes proposed, undertook a full inquiry — an essay competition on "Ways to Avoid Waste".

More than 2,000 persons are reported to have taken part in the competition. By studying the entries carefully the Government may find ideas about how millions of cedis which are lost through waste and carelessness can be saved for other development exercises. An essay competition cannot be one of those hollow writings done to flatter the powers. Here there's no time for fooling. It will be an objective analysis in which people will point things out and no one can hide anything.

Meanwhile most objective commentators whom we have already heard put the blame for the economic difficulties on the tendency to show off and live in grand style — the style characterised by the importation of food, the reliance on foreign manufacture instead of producing enough to be self-sufficient, the fancy cars, the posh homes, the ultra-modern buildings. This is the principle which must have guided the Acheampong Government's behaviour so far.

Thus we now see a lead from the military rulers trying to lead an exemplary life of simplicity — to wear khaki-khaki, and if a coat must be worn at all to cut it according to one's cloth.

Where the previous Governments failed to declare their assets, they are content to declare theirs and live on a modest pay.

Yesterday Ghanaians built costly mansions, the economic returns on which are nil. At the same time the Head of State commanded the erection of a chain of conference halls and grounds dealing with banqueting, music, drama and other entertainments generally. But with the large reserves available at the time we had

become accustomed to extravagance rather than saving for unforeseen circumstances. Thus beyond what was essential and necessary was to be another hall, the greatest ever known, which once or twice a year he would throw open to the world. This he called State House, the builders called it Job 600. So within a short time the enormous skyscraper was completed.

Today the policy of simplicity calls for a halt to the construction of new Government offices. Increases in expenditure on maintenance of the buildings had been alarming. To reduce the high cost of maintaining Government bungalows and buildings, the present Government's first budget lay down that occupants of Government bungalows should now undertake the routine maintenance of these bungalows, Government undertaking only major repair works.

Yesterday the special "Road-Block" police car came swiftly to halt the dusty mammy trucks and make way for the Presidential Rolls-Royce and Lincolns. The Ministers' wives were also riding in the big Cadillacs, Buicks, Chevrolets, Daimears, Super Mercedes Benz, together with their children, round and round the town, slowly and ostentatiously to make people envy their husbands' wealth.

Today amusements, holidays, the buying of such simple luxuries as are all but indispensable to a Government office cannot be thought of. Today the high Government official rides in a hard landrover in complete contrast to the former American cars that moved sedately behind the military band with its shining chains and buckles.

Yesterday we celebrated with expensive imports. But now we feel that was foreign to the spirit of Africa and banned the importation of the foreign toys and biscuits and for the first time we relied more and more on made-at-home goods for the celebrations, for, as someone put it, "How many of our traditional festivals had required special imports to give the occasions the grandness and glory that always attended them?"

Yao Aduamah

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26 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT NIGERIA

Books and Publications

Casement in Africa

Roger Casement by Brian Inglis (Hodder and Stoughton, 14 50)

No external issue, Lord Grey, the Foreign Secretary, told the Houses of Commons, had so moved British public opinion for 30 years as had the revelations about the nature of King Leopold's rule in the then Congo Free State. Whether the same public opinion could be roused today is uncertain. But what is certain is that no British government now would allow, let alone encourage a consul to "pry" into the affairs of another state, and to produce a damning report on them which the Foreign Offices would publish.

Roger Casement, the consul concerned, who was stationed at Boma, the Free State capital, himself was not satisfied, it is true, with the timid approach to the report of some officials and the British Ambassador in Brussels, but it was published and did in the end produce results. The British agitation, in which John Holt played a part, and which is associated with the name of Morel, was much helped by the Belgian MPs, but the whole affair had international repercussions.

Everyone knows about the atrocities committed in a territory which was supposed to enjoy international protection — one reason why the Foreign Office was holder than it might have been.

But which became a private estate of the Belgian King. One interesting point made by Mr. Inglis in this consistently interesting biography is that the Free State recruited men in Freetown and Accra for its service, and that it was the ill-treatment of some of these reported by Casement, who obliged the Foreign Office even before his report to take a strong line with the Free State, and so persuaded Casement that it might be "opened" into taking more general action.

The outline of Casement's melodramatic life is well-known — the Ulster Protestant British diplomat (knighted and knight) who became an Irish nationalist and was executed for his part in a futile and foolish effort to smuggle arms into Ireland from Germany in 1916. Mr. Inglis traces an interesting connection between Casement's Congo experience and his conversion to Irish separatism. His Congo reputation also singled him out as the man to examine the reported atrocities in Portuguese, or Peru. Again the Foreign

Office obliged a foreign government to introduce reforms — but this time a British company, and British citizens in the shape of Barbadians, were involved, and Casement got his "VC".

Most of the book concerns Irish nationalism and Casement's part in it. But as it is very long — and very good value — the Congo episode receives full treatment. Most attention, no doubt, will be focussed on the episode of the "Black Diaries" — which Mr. Inglis believes to be authentic — in which Casement described his homosexual activities. But the unexpected side of Casement's character only makes his other achievements more remarkable.

Little space is given to Casement's time 1892-95 — in the Survey Department of the Niger Coast Protectorate. But the excellence of his reports won him his first public recognition. Earlier, like Morel, he had worked for Elder-Dempster, and it was in an Elder-Dempster ship that he first visited the Congo where later he was to become so famous. After this he joined Stanley's embryo administration in the Congo Free State. From Calabar Casement went as consul to Lourenço Marques, and from here he again could study the Congo.

Mr. Inglis describes Nigeria as being during Casement's service "an independent native state", which suggests that this part of his research has been superficial. The name Nigeria did not exist and the Protectorate covered a number of nominally independent chiefdoms and "city states". But it is true that Casement was a Foreign Office, not a Colonial Office official. The word "native" is also used excessively elsewhere. But the book is a notable achievement, beautifully produced, with excellent photographs. Its topicality is also extraordinary.

D.W.

Fearless churchman

Ambrose Reeves, by John S. Peart-Binns, (Collins, £3 90)

In South Africa the Anglican Church has in all some 1,800,000 adherents compared with the Dutch Reformed Church's 2,600,000. But over a million of the Anglicans are non-white, a much higher proportion than the Dutch

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Both Deminex (Nigeria) Ltd. and Niger Petroleum Company Ltd. acquired the exploration rights for four oil prospecting licences with a total area of 2,999 sq.km. situated in Nigeria's coastal waters on December 1st, 1971. An extensive seismic programme was carried out during the year 1972 and drilling activities were commenced on the first well in OPL 83 early November 1972 with the semi submersible rig 'Louisiana'.

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Reformed, but much lower than for the Methodists. While the Dutch Reformed Church is in many ways an expression of the Afrikaner population, and the leading protagonists of apartheid, by no means do all the white Anglicans take a fundamentally different view on current affairs from that of their Dutch Reformed Church fellow whites. So there was among them much grieving about, and some hostility to, the activities of Bishop Reeves, Bishop of Johannesburg for 11 years, from 1949 to 1960.

Reeves has been known as an outstanding Vicar of Liverpool during his ministry at St Nicholas' Church. He achieved fame for his mediation in the 1945 Liverpool dock strike, and had earlier shown an interest in social problems. But he was above all a churchman, whom many found and were to find, autocratic in his conduct of church affairs. And he was a high churchman in his practices. Not was he warm in his approach to Africans or anybody else.

He was, however, entirely honest and fearless and what he saw in South Africa led him fairly soon into direct opposition to the government. His critics maintained that he rushed into the Bay even before he knew much about the issues. That certainly was not true. In fact one of his earliest comments on the situation, to which Mr. Peart-Binns draws attention is a letter written in 1950 in which he says that he found an over-emphasis on race in comments in South Africa. He was already sure that most of the major problems in the republic would be the same if the mass of workers were white rather than black: the emphasis on race might even prevent them from dealing with the real problems which were those of an industrialised and industrialising society.

The increasing amount of discriminatory legislation led him to modify this view, and it was probably the Bantu Education Act which finally drove him to what Mr. Peart-Binns calls a "declaration of war" to the Act, which the author describes as "evil and medieval" meant transfer of control of African education directly to the Department of Native Affairs. It was regarded particularly as an attack on mission and church schools.

The rest is familiar: the Bishop's fearless and effective action at the time of Sharpeville and during the Treason Trial. His general conduct, particularly the opening of his house as a respectable place where people of all races could meet, talk and play, affronted the government. All the time, although, with decreasing optimism, he hoped that a headlong clash between the races could be avoided. He became Chairman of the joint body representing all manner of opposition organisations, which was to take up specific issues. In the end, as is well known, he was obliged to leave after making sure that the world knew the appalling truth about Sharpeville. Mr. Peart-Binns is critical of Reeves' treatment by the Anglican authorities in

Britain after his return, although he became an energetic, if unconventional Rector in Lewes, where he carried on his activities for South Africa. In 1966, too, he was one of the religious leaders who visited Hanoi as "volunteers for peace", a visit vividly described in the book.

Although two thirds of the book is devoted to the bishop's time in South Africa it does offer a full and interesting biography of a very remarkable man.

A.D. Socialisms and Development, by René Dumont and Marcel Mazoyer (Andre Deutsch, £3 50)

Professor Dumont, author of *False Start in Africa*, is now 69, but has apparently lost none of his belief that in the domain of the intellect the most important attribute is to be provocative. Only by shaking people up do you arrive at something approximating the truth. This book pursues many of his old hobby horses about development in the third world, this time especially in relation to socialism, a brand of which he professes (hence the plural in the title) Mazoyer has contributed two long and instructive sections on Algerian socialism, but the rest, on socialisms in different parts of the world, from the Russian brand, which he views dimly, to the messianic ones (China, North Vietnam and Cuba) and the African "prosocialisms" (Tanzania and Zambia), is all Dumont.

He also has a chapter on the liberal systems in the Ivory Coast, where a television interviewer asked him "M. Dumont, you criticise us for our time villas and our Mercedes, but isn't it better to excite envy than pity?" He replied, he says, by asking how many cases of kwashiorkor came to the attention of Abidjan hospitals each month. Realist enough to appreciate the economic strikes the Ivory Coast has made since independence, he still fears Latin-Americanisation, where "an intolerable social situation is perpetuated by the dictatorship of a privileged minority." He sees unequal regional development (surely the Ivorian government is trying to fight this?) He also sees the Ivory Coast economy slowing up, his remedy is inter-African trade and eventual unity.

K.W. The West African Examinations Council, the first 21 years (1952-1973), WEAC, Ghana.

The important thing about the West African Examinations Council is not so much its success or failure in 21 years of existence as the declared wish of all the component states to allow it to continue in spite of everything. It is the only inter-territorial body which has survived political independence in West Africa. There is also a consensus among the members that the Council should improve its performance and manage to keep the patronage of the public it serves. This brochure documents, among other items, important milestones in the history of the council. The registrar, in an article, looks to the future.

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The Deniau Memorandum

PART SIX

We conclude our summary of the European Commission's memorandum on future relations between the EEC and the African associated states, as well as potential associates in Africa, with details of the proposals on the financial aspects of co-operation, on the budgeting of the European Development Fund (FED), and on the institutions of the Associations.

It is difficult to estimate the amount of Community aid which will be required in the next Convention before the new Associates are known, says the memorandum. The Community must take into account the two basic principles maintaining the advantages of the present associates (in real terms, so that the nominal amount of the FED must be increased in proportion to the lowering of the purchasing power of the unit of account since 1969), and the "similar treatment of comparable situations", on the basis of needs resulting from respective socio-economic situations, level of development, special obstacles to development and resources. To respect these principles, the Community "must substantially increase the volume of its financial aid".

The EEC's financial flexibility and capacity to cope with a wide range of situations will prove of value when new countries join the association, says the memorandum. In view of the low level of development in the majority of associate or associates, and the primary necessity to reorganise their basic infrastructure and save the productivity of the traditional rural activities which occupy most of the population, it is advisable to maintain a predominance of subsidies so as not to increase the already heavy burden of debt.

To decide the type of financing required by a project, and especially the granting of repayable aid, the Yamoussoukro Convention says that consideration must be given to the financial profitability of the project in question and also the associated country's capacity to "bear the debt".

On the balancing of the FED, the Commission comments that the present system of withdrawals from member states, separate from the EEC budget, incurs disadvantages from a technical point of view, and the disadvantage of allowing member states between themselves to be "bought" because of a limited FED contribution. These two disadvantages have proved harmful to the Associates. It proposes the transfer of the FED to the EEC budget, applied on equal terms with other traditional arrangements. It claims that the Commission's proposal would solve the financial difficulties. Also, in the

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of Community development, the whole of the Community expenditure including development assistance should form part of the budget, especially as from 1975 when the full financing will be derived by its own receipts". This was proposed by the European Parliament and the Commission is of the same view.

On rules concerning the right of establishment and the promising of services, the memorandum notes that the rules set out in Yaounde II are essentially designed to define two basic principles of the Association "non discrimination between nationals of member states and the most favoured nation clause". The application of these rules, it says, has not caused any major problems. The existing arrangements should therefore be extended in the future Association. Experience shows that the three East African states have not had any difficulty in complying with similar arrangements under the Arusha agreement. The rules on external payments and capital movements are likewise an essential feature of the Association, and also hitherto have not presented problems. The enlargement of the Association "raises the question as to whether the provisions covering current transactions and investment operations under the Yaounde Convention may raise problems for the lesser developed countries wishing to become associated members. In these countries there are in fact various degrees of exchange restrictions and their membership of the sterling area raises, in principle, the problem of a possible discrimination among member states. If discrimination of this kind exists it ought to be eliminated".

As regards the guaranteeing of private investments, the Commission has submitted to the Council a proposal for a regulation instituting a guarantee system for investment in all third countries. This regulation reserves more favourable conditions for the developing countries. "In order to benefit from these preferential conditions, the 'host' countries must have concluded protection agreements or measures of equivalent effect with the Community. These provisions are designed to ensure a certain reciprocity of commitments". The future Convention might include an offer from the Community, under the Community guarantee system for investments, to guarantee certain investments in the Associates under more advantageous conditions that are normally applicable. If no real progress was being made on the Community guarantee before the completion of the new Association, or if the "protection agreements" raised difficulties for a large number of associates, "it would be appropriate to insert a general clause" guaranteeing on a reciprocal basis to treat investments "in a not too non-discriminatory manner".

The institutions, the memorandum says, under the Yaounde Convention gave them two basic tasks. In the first place they administer the association on a basis of parity. The dialogue within the institutions gives the Association its own

particular "style", in that "the application of the provisions of the Convention takes place in a flexible manner by common accord". Secondly, certain institutions (Council and Association Committee, Parliamentary Conference) undertake more general tasks going beyond a simple managerial function. All things considered the institutions have "fulfilled their tasks".

Nevertheless, internal decision making procedure within the Community proved relatively cumbersome due to the voting quorum adopted on the application of Yaounde, which requires a "sizeable ministerial presence". Within the Council and the Association Committee, the Quorum has also been the cause of problems, due to a certain ministerial absenteeism on the part of both Associates and EEC.

The Association Council, to maintain its prestige should be kept at ministerial level, and ordinary sessions should continue to be held annually. The quorum rule should not be changed, but procedure could be made more flexible. The EEC should also adopt a positive attitude as to whether regional organisations should be represented, as it did in the Arusha Agreement.

As in the past, says the memorandum, the task of all the institutions is to administer the Association. In this respect the system in operation at present ("the power of decision and of consultation of the Association Council, the power of control of the parliamentary conference operating on the basis of the report submitted by the Association Council on its activities, and the legal power of the court of Arbitration") should be maintained. But the memorandum adds that it is essential for the consultations to have a real significance, and a stricter nature when important interests of the Associated States are in question. Thus if the measures envisaged by the EEC are not viewed favourably by the Associates, the EEC would have to undertake a re-examination. Ministers of more states might attend if views could be exchanged on questions of economic interest on a wider basis than that of the Association. Therefore, in addition to the items prepared in advance by the two parties, the agenda could make provision for items on which members of the Association could exchange views without exhaustive formal prior consultation. Meetings could also be organised on subjects of regional or sectoral interest, without quorum rules, as no decisions would have to be reached.

The memorandum concludes by saying there is no reason why provision should not be made for a period of application of a new Association Convention longer than that of the present Yaounde or Arusha. However, due to the likely new size of the Association and the changes this might make necessary, it seems the adoption of a five year period would be wise. Past examples show, says the memorandum, that experience over five years is both necessary and sufficient to reveal some essential adjustments.

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Letters to the Editor

The real Africa

SIR, I wish to congratulate the Senegalese on their efforts to project the African culture to the outside world (Matchet's Diary, March 12). It is to them that Africa owes a Léopold Sédar Senghor Cheikh Hamidou Kane's *L'Étranger* *Touba* considered as a work of art as distinct from a socio-anthropological statement, stands well above most of its African counterparts. In spite of some obvious gaudieries, Ousmane Sembène's *Le Mandat* is a landmark in the production of films about Africa. It is a departure from the early "African" films in which men and women posed and danced before an inquisitive camera which panned, dolled, and tilted to focus the spectator's eyes on exposed breasts and genitals above dirty feet infested with jiggers.

There is no doubt that their present willingness to provide the sequel of the American *Superfly* with a setting is one more step in the commendable direction. Nevertheless, some caution is necessary in this particular case. People who are familiar with recent Black films in the United States know that their emphasis is more and more on those things which are generally regarded as the attributes of the Black man in America: drugs, sex and violence. In other words, to please at the box-office, several Black movie directors and actors are more and more willing to accept, and disseminate stereotyped concepts of their self, concepts which, in many cases, are as external to their real Black

self as the sun is to the moon.

Personally, I have nothing against this practice. I like "sex-sation". I enjoy pornography wherever it can be found. I like to see people shot in movies since I am sure that the screen before me is bullet-proof. Yet I should be cautious in supporting the shooting of the sequel of a *Superfly*, a *Shaft*, or even a *Book Of Numbers*, in an African country.

It is a known fact that we have two types of primitivism. One is barbaric *tout court*; the other is civilized. The latter is artistic, and, therefore, *à la mode*; the former is real, and, therefore, despicable. Unfortunately, and perhaps justifiably, Africa has been (and still is) associated with the despicable type. Consequently, even if Africans try to practise the civilized artistic primitivism, their output is often interpreted as authentic, real, natural. For the interpreters, there is nothing like friction as far as Africa is concerned. Every art is documentary, and, therefore, authentic. And no one should blame them. Didn't Mr. Hamidou Sani of the "Ensemble Artistique et Culturel de la République de Guinée" tell some American newsmen the other day, that his athletic strip-tease is a true African way of life?

We do not believe in interfering with the freedom of artistic expression. We are happy to hear that "there is no inclination on the part of the Senegalese to examine the scripts of the films being made." We are only asking for one thing: Let every Senegalese who has the honour to be associated with the American film, try to be as African as possible. And by "African" we do not mean the old text book version of the African, not even that of René Maran's *Vertigineux Roman Nègre*, not even a literal interpretation of the *jeune me, femme noire*. We mean something very close to the Africans depicted by André Gide in his *Fortunio au Congo*. Yes, those who refused to appear nude, and possibly make love in the water for

Maré's movie camera. Those who refused to do all this not because nudity and incest were bad, but because they were civilized, that in real life they could not have been so at that particular time and place. Civilized primitivism presupposes civilized men and women. It can therefore wait until the African is recognized as civilized.

CHIDIKOV

University of Chicago

"Pagan" and "Christian"

SIR, It is rather unfortunate that Dr. Apter in his letter (April 30) quoted the last paragraph of Mr. Adumali's article without referring to the paragraph preceding it. For the benefit of readers who must have missed Mr. Adumali's article, I quote the last but one paragraph in full.

"The cult of the ancestors" is stated in *Christianity in Tropical Africa* edited by Professor C. G. Baeta, "could not be completely rejected since it contained positive values as filial love, gratitude, respect towards one's forebears, and the desire to remain united with them. It ought rather to be Christianised by being purified of elements that were unacceptable to Christians."

Mr. Adumali then went on to make a poignant assessment: "The fetish, the Bible, provides disciplinary training to the mind. But while worldly theories and theories have become synonymous with Christianity, continuing with their downward thrust." He continues: "The many priests observe a strict moral code, teaches them to shun all things fetich, fetich places are holy and on approaching, social forms of humility frequently require a ritual removal of shirts, hats and shoes."

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Dr. Apeji's main objection is that Mr. Aduamah has used "emotional words such as 'pagan', 'fetish' in connection with the religious observances of some of his compatriots". But does Dr. Apeji not think that the original sense of falsehood associated with paganism, etc. has long died and that most people including Mr. Aduamah now use the words simply to mean non-Christians and their traditional religions, or that Aduamah's deliberate and repeated use of the words in a calculated attempt to ridicule the former ridiculous meanings associated with them in relation to the African traditional religions?

I have read Mr. Aduamah's article carefully, and through it, I see him as a dedicated African, keenly in love of the African culture, anxious to draw attention to the best in it and to help promote it, and has no desire to reject it. In the article he compares the pagan and Christian religious institutions together, using words which are popular usages.

It anything at all, one would rather accuse Mr. Aduamah of making his comparisons at the expense of the European culture. Dr. Apeji failed sadly to see the point of Mr. Aduamah.

KWADWO DUA

Don's and the "elite"

SIR, Permit me to comment on the recent strike action organised by University teachers in Nigeria. In fact, before your correspondent's report (May 7) one of the dons had had the courtesy of mailing to me almost all the releases connected with the industrial dispute including that of the students which offered unequivocal support to their teachers action.

It is rather unfortunate that Nigerian intellectuals have had to go to this extent to demand better conditions of service. Hence on the face of it all, it is not improper to dismiss their demands as frivolous on the grounds that the rate of inflation in Nigeria is incredible today. In a country where more than ninety per cent of the people live at or below subsistence level and where social amenities are grossly inadequate, the demands of the intellectuals can hardly be entertained.

However, on a larger perspective, one could argue that the present labour dispute emanating from the intellectuals is consequent on inter as well as intra elite conflict which seem to be the order of the day in Nigeria. In a society where a segment of the corporate elite seems to be having more than its own share of the national resources, it is not inconceivable for economically disadvantaged segments to demand their share as a right. After all, it is often claimed that a large number of the Nigerian "elite" have carefully tucked substantial sums of money away in foreign bank accounts. This being the case, it is not unreasonable to support the intellectuals in their righteous demand for more cake!

LAVIERINOSSIO

University of Toronto, Canada

Gowon's visit

SIR, Perhaps so-called British traditional pragmatism can explain the brutality of the British Foreign Secretary's threat to African countries, announced by the BBC on May 1, that they would be faced with a situation similar to Arabs in the Middle East if they prefer revolution to evolution as the solution to the problem of freeing enslaved South Africans and Zimbabwe people. But one wonders if the same thing can be said of the mockery the BBC made of the Nigerian Head of State's visit to Britain, starting on June 12, by announcing it immediately before that threat.

One hopes that neither the ominous linking of the two things, nor the visit itself will be interpreted by Africans as a sign that Nigeria is already yielding to British and South African threats and pressures on African liberation.

The implications of the proposed visit can hardly be anything else. And the BBC has inadvertently, if not intentionally, raised the question. If the Nigerian Government honours the British Government with a State Visit at this stage in black people's suffering the two things cannot but be linked. The man who messes our compound with faeces may pretend to forget his dirty action or even actually do, but we who do the cleaning up cannot, nor is it in our interest to do so.

We shall like to know if the reason behind the Nigerian Government's decision to honour the invitation to wine, dine and dance with British Ministers and other Royal personalities is this preoccupation with African liberation? If so, we are unhappy and, if not, we call for a public explanation.

We are unhappy because we know that African liberation cannot be effectively handled at pre-luncheon or after-dinner discussions, at least not when the other party in the discussion is the oppressor or his protector.

We think that, although a school of modern political realists now seem to favour the continuation of political relationships that would have been unthinkable to proud nations even if they were in slavery, a state visit to Britain by a Nigerian Head of State at this time, unless it can be shown to be able to further the interest of African freedom fighters, is not as important as it may look.

OLUSOLA OKI.

University of Bordeaux.

Nigerian Sugar Company

SIR, The article entitled "Behind the Boom" (February 26) has just come to my knowledge.

Under paragraph one of column two of the supplement page 273, you mentioned that Bookers grow our sugar. I would be grateful if you can correct the impression contained in that sentence.

While it is true, that Booker Bros., McConnell and its subsidiary, Bookers (Nigeria) Ltd., are shareholders in our Company and until October 31, 1972 the Managing Agent, the Nigerian Sugar Company is not a subsidiary of either Company.

D.B. ALOBA

Company Secretary
The Nigerian Sugar Company Limited

Fine doggers and death duties

SIR, Members of the Nigerian High Commission have been shown to top the list of "fine doggers" in parking violations. Much as I would hope to hold any brief in Nigerian diplomats, there is another set of figures I would like the Foreign Office to release.

How much is paid or has been paid in death duties by ex-Nigerian diplomats or other Nigerian personages to the British Exchequer? For instance, we know Brigadier Gwandip paid about £30,000 in death duties in Britain. This is surely more than £22,000 parking fines, which the Nigerian diplomats are alleged to have evaded.

It is a pity that those who get inconvenienced by the traffic snarl-up contributed to by the Nigerian diplomats are not necessarily those who benefit from this large accretion of Nigerian capital to the British Treasury.

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Lonrho and the press

The attempt to sack Mr. "Tiny" Rowland from his position as chief executive and managing director of Lonrho continues to make the headlines in British newspapers. But the decision remains with the shareholders who will be asked to vote at an Extraordinary General Meeting on May 31. Below we print newspaper comments and other reactions to the disclosures of Lonrho's affairs.

A statement issued by the Zambian High Commissioner, Mr. Amock Phiri, after the High Court had dismissed Mr. Rowland's case, appeared to represent a slight shift of position. "The attempt to remove him represents to us a probable drastic change in policy in Africa, such a far-reaching change that Lonrho would cease to be welcome in Zambia as an independent company if they were carried through". Mr. Phiri stressed that his government would not become involved in Lonrho's affairs and specifically denied suggestions that Mr. Bitwell Kuwani, Governor of the Bank of Zambia, had been involved in talks on possible backing for Mr. Rowland.

A leader in the *Guardian* points out ways in which Lonrho could be "sanctions busting" in dealings with Rhodesia.

"The Lonrho affair, like Watergate, has ramifications. The latest concern the evasion of sanctions in Rhodesia. It is an aspect at which the inspectors appointed by the Department of Trade and Industry ought to look. Or, alternatively, the Government itself ought to examine the

ease with which its own sanctions measures can be bypassed.

"The implication of Lonrho evidence is that South African subsidiary or associate companies can be used to maintain contact and control over Rhodesian companies."

An article in London's *Sunday Times*, discussing management styles and Mr. Rowland's claims to a special relationship with Black Africa remarks "Might not an able executive recruited from Unilever's United Africa Company run all but the most politically sensitive of Lonrho's Black African interests more efficiently than Rowland?"

In its city comment the *Daily Telegraph* pointed out "Realists will however admit that many European companies operate in Africa on much the same lines as Lonrho, without being exposed to criticism. Britain's trading role in Africa may well suffer as Lonrho strives to re-establish its position in the City."

And the *Times* recalls "The case against Mr. Rowland, which he conspicuously failed to answer during last week's

hearings, does not however relate to his talents as a businessman in Africa. The nub is whether he may be allowed to do what has become a major British company as if it was still a personal fief or whether, on the contrary, he is required to run at least the British end of its operations in conformity with the spirit as well as the letter of the Companies Acts."

Ghana speaks on Ashanti profits

The state-owned *Ghanaian Times* said in an editorial that it suspects an "unhappy conspiracy" in Lonrho's past activities in Ghana.

The newspaper said that the tax interference to be drawn from the best dividends declared by Ashanti Goldfields Corporation was that there probably had been an unhappy conspiracy all along in London against the true state of earnings of the mines.

It said it is suspected that earnings declared by the London directors before the Ghana Government's majority participation last December perhaps might have far exceeded actual declarations.

The second inference was that productivity might have doubled as a result of Government participation. "In other words, Ghanaian workers in the mines have worked harder than before as a gesture of the appreciation of Government's move." The editorial said both inferences might have some basis of truth in them.

It declined "Beginning, therefore, from here the question that crops up immediately is: Could there have ever been an attempt to evade legitimate taxation by the former controlling board of the mines by declaring low dividends? We are forced by the facts as they are presented now to conclude that this must have been the case."

An official statement said that Ashanti Goldfields made a net profit of 3,912,232 cedis (about £1,305,274) for the six-months ending March 31, 1973.

The statement said the Corporation in which the Ghana Government and Lonrho are joint shareholders, made a profit of 1,962,057 cedis (about £684,019) during the previous six months of operation.

The *Daily Graphic* in an editorial said the improvement shown by Ashanti Goldfields might be due to the increase in the world price of gold. "But the important point is that had not the Government adopted the new economic policy of participation and taken shares in the AGC, our part of this profit would have been less. We hope that those people who were initially opposed to the policy of participation and worked to frustrate efforts of the negotiators will now see wisdom and sanity in this policy."



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Commercial News

THE GAMBIA

Timber from Liberia?

Following the visit to Monrovia of Alban Garba Jahumpa, Gambian Minister of Finance, it is expected that trade between Liberia and The Gambia, at present almost nil, will expand. The Gambia is suffering from a shortage of timber and cement, which is holding up the construction programme. Liberia can supply both, price being the main problem. The Gambia's efforts to import timber from Ghana are believed to have been abandoned because of the rise in Ghanaian prices following tough action against exporters there by the Marketing Board. The Gambia's negotiations with Sierra Leone on a variety of commodities appear to have

come to nothing. Liberia could also export to Bathurst beer, stout, soft drinks and perhaps some other industrial products.

In return, Liberia's chief import from The Gambia would be cattle on the hoof, which Liberia prefers to meat. Liberia also wants small quantities of vegetable oils.

The main problem is sea transport but it is understood that Liberia is confident of arranging two-way traffic.

• Purchases of groundnuts by The Gambia Produce Marketing Board up to April 27 totalled 101,111 tons as compared with 124,034 tons for the same period last year. Deliveries up to April 27 amounted to 94,517 tons. The crop season ended March 28.

It was anticipated that The Gambia River Transport Company Ltd would have completed its carriage of nuts by the end of April, as compared with the end of May last year. This is due to greater efficiency on the part of GRT, which has recently acquired four new barges, and to a smaller crop this year, owing to drought.

• The 1972-73 Nigerian groundnut crop has turned out better than some of the earlier forecasts suggested, with the latest figure being 500,000 long tons, shelled basis, says Gill and Duffus' *Edible Nut Market Report*. (Some unofficial reports suggest it might outturn as high as 550,000 tons). "Informed sources are indicating the possibility of increased production next season through the medium of higher producer prices. Since our last report there has been a substantial increase in prices with today's level for July/August shipment 55/65s at £217 per long ton c.i.f., nett delivered weights. Some parcels in the UK for the earlier positions, such as May/June, are rather lower priced at £212 Spot H.P.S.

ex store are quoted at £220 landed terms.

"The quality this year has been mixed and in general poorer than last year. Some speculative offers of new crop have been made and limited business has taken place with today's price for new crop at £193.

"In Senegal, the 1972/73 commercial crop is poor and should reach about 425,000 metric tons, unshelled basis, which compares with last year's estimated outturn of 830,000 tons. As far as is known, there are no sellers."

Drought affects coffee crop

The severe drought is having an effect on this year's Ivory Coast coffee crop. Ministry of Agriculture officials forecast a drop of 20-25 per cent.

Pointing out that the Brazil crop is also expected to be smaller this year the Ivorian Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Abdoulaye Sawadogo, is reported to have said that the drought may "be another reason why producers should consolidate their positions, in 1974".

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• Otto Kersten, General Secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, has requested all member organisations to approach their governments so that maximum aid be given to the Sahelian zone struck by severe drought. The countries most affected are Mauritania, Senegal, Niger, Mali, Upper Volta and Chad. The Food and Agriculture Organisation reports that the prevailing conditions may lead to the death of 6m. people through famine.

• The Ivory Coast wants a new International Coffee Agreement, embracing a far wider field than the 1968 Agreement. Agriculture Minister Abdoulaye Sawadogo has stated in an interview with the party newspaper, *Fraternité Mattin*.

The Minister explained: "The present phrase, characterised by a relative slump in coffee production in Latin America, gives African producers arguments for negotiation that they will not perhaps have in another five or six years time. Our aim is therefore to ensure that the interim period does not last indefinitely, so that a new

period of overproduction starts, before we begin to negotiate". That was why African producers had insisted on a fixed timetable for negotiations, and set December 31, 1974, as the deadline for drawing up a new agreement.

Mr. Sawadogo said that the present economic and monetary atmosphere did not facilitate the renegotiation of the agreement. "We absolutely need a stable monetary situation. We must also know the prospects for the development of international trade as they will emerge after the GATT (General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs) talks next September."

The Minister also said that, while coffee consumers, particularly Europe and the US, had different problems, so too did the producer countries. "The Africans are essentially anxious to improve their share of the market in slack years. This is the famous problem of basic quotas."

The Ivory Coast, third largest coffee producer in the world, is a member of the "Bogota Club", which includes Brazil, Colombia and Angola.

Ghana cocoa figures

Britain was the major importer of Ghana's cocoa during the 1972-73 main crop season, the Ghana cocoa marketing board (GCMB) has announced. According to the Board, of the 145,356 tons exported to overseas and local deliveries, Britain took 23,268 tons representing 16.01 per cent of the total tonnage.

Holland was second with 17,675 tons representing 12.16 per cent while West Germany was third with 15,957 tons, which was 10.98 per cent.

The US imported 15,450 tons amounting to 10.63 per cent, the Soviet Union had 12,500 tons (8.60 per cent) and Japan 11,200 tons (7.71 per cent).

Various allocations ranging between 10,000 and 200 tons were delivered to Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Eire, Australia, Norway, Italy, Sweden, Spain, New Zealand, Fasmania, Singapore, Belgium, Denmark, France, Israel and Finland.

• Purchases for the 1978 mid crop cocoa season will commence on June 8, the Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board has announced. The producer price to be paid at all centres will be 10 cedis per load of 60 lbs.

• Cocoa prices on the London terminal market were fully established at all-time highs on May 17 when for the third time during that week they passed the "limit" of £20 a ton.

• Because the International Cocoa Agreement is regarded by under-developed countries as a test of the goodwill of richer countries, the EEC has thrown "all its weight" to make the agreement valid, according to an information paper from EEC headquarters. The agreement, based on the paper, should come into force next October in spite of American abstention. The paper points out that the EEC has, through the European Development Fund, been assisting the national cocoa price stabilisation funds in an African country, Cameroon. "In the International Cocoa Agreement is fulfilling its ambition to contribute to setting up steady international markets."

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• Non-Communist world production of tin rose sharply in 1972, but consumption was only marginally higher than the 1971 record total, according to the latest statistics of the International Tin Council.

Mine output in 1972 climbed to 197,100 tons against 186,200 tons previously. Primary tin consumption showed only a small rise to 190,400 tons from 189,500 tons the previous year.

Export controls by the seven major producing countries were introduced during January, and subsequently extended for the second quarter of the year. These controls should bring cutbacks in production, but any reduction in supplies may be more than made up by the proposed sales from the US stock-pile.

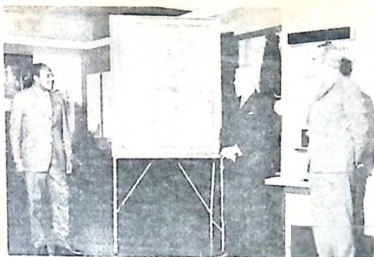
New soap plant

The National Investment Bank is to set up a plant to produce various kinds of soap to meet the increasing demand.

The venture is being undertaken jointly with the Government and would earn for the country over 800,000 cedis in foreign currency annually, although the cost has not yet been assessed, said Mr. F. P. L. Gyampoh, the outgoing chairman of the board of directors of the bank, at the tenth annual general meeting. Mr. Gyampoh said the bank made a net profit of 567,196.97 cedis in the last financial year. He emphasised the role the bank had played as a major instrument of economic development.

The bank would also establish a 350t cedis rice project in the Northern Region this year, said Mr. Gyampoh. The project, which includes a 20,000-acre farm and a mill, would produce 10,800 tons and save the country 1.9m cedis in foreign exchange yearly.

Mr. Gyampoh said the Santa Rita Project executed in conjunction with the Agricultural Development Bank and Barclays Bank of Ghana Limited, was based



At the presentation of the picture "Gobon Devil Dancer" to the Commonwealth Institute by the Diamond Corporation of West Africa are, from left, F. B. Timothy, representing the Diamond Corporation, Sir Evelyn Howe, Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Institute, and Mr. J. K. Thompson, its Director. The picture is by the Sierra Leonean artist, Maranda (Olvinika Barley) Awele. Also presented, for inclusion in the Institute's Sierra Leone exhibition, was a replica of the "Star of Sierra Leone" the world's third largest diamond discovered last year. Mr. Timothy, in his speech, said that the presentation was in keeping with his company's avowed policy of assisting in "the overall development and projection of the countries in which it operates."

upon the participation by selected farmers with experience in mechanised paddy rice production who wished to expand their farms.

He announced plans to establish a dairy company which would raise 600 milking cows on the Accra plains to produce fresh milk.

The project will be financed by the government with 4.4m. cedis assistance from the Canadian Government.

• First quarter combined pre-tax profits of Unilever, the parent company of UAC, improved from £51.1m. to £63.9m. on third party sales up from £869m. to £952m.

But the directors warn that escalating costs of almost all raw materials, coupled with intensified price controls in many of the major markets, will make it difficult to maintain margins for the rest of the year.

On a 11 per cent increase in sales last quarter, operating profit rose 20 per cent to £63.8m. Profit accruing to the Ordinary capital expanded by 29 per cent to £32.7m.

UAC International recovered from its slight 1972 setback.

• The preparatory committee for the GATT talks on liberalisation of trade has completed the groundwork for its preparatory session in July. Seventy-nine countries and

the European economic community attended the meeting at which the developing countries made it clear that the results of the July meeting would determine whether or not they would take part in the trade negotiations in Japan next autumn.

A spokesman for GATT said the meeting agreed that the meeting agreed that the three-week session from July 2 to 25 should produce two documents: a report of the issues to be reviewed in the negotiations and the decisions to be reached, and a draft of a political declaration to be made by the ministers of the negotiating countries when they meet to launch the talks in Tokyo next September.

• A joint commission will be set up to work out details to implement the trade agreement signed in Lagos between Nigeria and Algeria. The leader of an Algerian 11-man trade mission, Mr. Layache Yaker, has said. He said the commission will harmonise co-operation between the two countries in technical and scientific matters.

Mr. Yaker, who is Algerian Minister for Commerce, said under the agreement Algeria will buy palm oil, timber, cocoa and industrial goods from Nigeria in exchange for agro-industrial products including citrus fruits and wine from Algeria.

To facilitate trade between

the two countries, he said, Algeria's maritime service will open a route to Lagos in addition to direct air transport service.

• The first Commonwealth seminar on export promotion has taken place in Bridgetown, Barbados. The seminar was organised by the Commonwealth Secretariat, under the Export Market Development Programme of the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC).

More tourists

Tourist traffic in Africa increased by 24 per cent in 1971, according to a publication by the UN Economic Commission for Africa. Arrivals of foreign visitors rose from 4,270,695 in 1970 to 5,278,988 in 1972, comparing favourably with the world increase of seven per cent. North Africa accounts for 43 per cent of the total, while East Africa accounts for 21 per cent. West and Central Africa account for just seven per cent. The balance is accounted for by other African countries.

In West Africa, Senegal tops the list with 75,000 visitors in 1971 followed by Ivory Coast whose 48,820 visitors are based on arrivals at the Abidjan hotel. Nigeria comes third with 40,000 for same period. Figures for Guinea, Liberia and Equatorial Guinea were not available.

• The International Development Research Centre, a Canadian agency, is to give Ghana \$67,000 for research on new building materials, to develop a product suitable for a tropical climate and made from materials available in West Africa. The grant will finance research on slabs made of wood, wool and excelsior.

• FAO will offer ten Andre Mayer Fellowships in 1973-74. The awards, normally for a period of up to two years, will be made for experienced research scientists. Subjects presented must be within the framework of FAO's current programme. Not more than two applications may be submitted by each Member Government.

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NASHBOUND From USA/Canada **DARDU** due Douala May 25 **DEBDO** due Port Harcourt May 25 **DUBHAI** due Dakar May 28 **DUMURBA** due Port Harcourt May 25
WESTBOUND To USA/Canada **DONGA** due Lake Charles May 28
 Fastest Service to W.A. **ISBANK** due Freetown May 28 **ISWEDBANK** due Douala Jun 1
BARBER LINES
OUTWARDS **BAERBERHOEK** slg New York May 28 for Mauritania **Abidjan**, Tema, Lagos, Apapa, Douala, **BAERBERGATE** slg New York Jun 8 for Mauritania **Abidjan**, Tema, Lagos, Apapa, Douala
OUTWARDS **BARBERGATE** due Freetown Jun 1, thence New York Jun 9
K LINE
WESTBOUND From Japan via Hong Kong to Lobito **LUANDA** (Matsui), Port Harcourt, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Abidjan **TENNESSEE** (Mitsui) slg Japan May 9 due Lagos Jun 21
EASTBOUND From Lagos, Abidjan, Freetown, Tema, **BAHAMA** (Mitsui) slg Lagos May 29, Tema May 30, Freetown Jun 9, Abidjan Jun 8 due Hong Kong Jul 6 **Abidjan** Jun 14
AFRICAN STAR LINES/ESNE
WEST AFRICA
WESTBOUND **AFRAN RIVER** Ghana Jun 25, Abidjan Jul 2, Philadelphia Jul 11
BUALIC STAR **LESTER** (Esne) **WEST AFRICA**
SOUTHBOUND **NALWA RIVER** Southampton May 23, Rotterdam May 26, **OFIN RIVER** London Jun 8, **KORLE LAGOON** London Jun 8
NORLHOUND **CAT** **BROTHWAL** Bremen May 29, Hamburg May 23, **NASSIA RIVER** Accra/Jun 7, Medley, Cangoth Jun 28, **OFIN RIVER** London May 17
ITALIA LINES
WESTBOUND **FRANKRI** slg, **LUANDA** Jun 15 due Matsui Jun 20, **DOUGLA** Jun 7, **Catbar** Jun 20
CASABON **DALPA** slg, **Abidjan** Jun 25 due Casabon Jun 27, **Monrovia** Jul 1

PALM LINE
SOUTHBOUND **ILORIN** **PALM** slg Abidjan May 30
NORLHOUND **INUGU** **PALM** due Abidjan May 30, **LADOS** (Mitsui) slg Takoradi May 31, **LOBITO PALM** due Sapele May 31
NYK LINE
WESTBOUND **SHIMANE** **MARU** Douala May 6/9, **Lokoradi** May 11/13, **Abidjan** May 13/15
EASTBOUND **SHIMANE** **MARU** Abidjan May 13/15, **Lobito** May 19/22, **Japan First** **Port Jun 16**
MITSUBISHI LINE
HAWAI **MARU** slg Kobe May 19 due Lagos Jun 7, **LACOMA** slg Kobe May 7 due Lagos Jun 10, **ARIZONA** **MARU** slg Kobe Jun 8 due Lagos Jul 17
MAERSK LINE
INWARDS From Japan via Hong Kong to Matsui, Lagos, Abidjan **JOHANN'S** **MAERSK** slg Kobe Jun 5 due Luanda Jul 2
OUTWARDS From Matsui, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Abidjan **SUSAN** **MAERSK** slg Freetown May 30 due Tema Jun 1
SCAN - LLOYD **AM** **BANBA** due Hong Kong Jul 22, **Lobito** Jun 27, **LUANDA** Jul 1, **CUMBERLAND** slg Oyo Jun 11, **Hamburg** Jun 15, **Antwerp** Jun 18
SCANDINAVIAN **WEST AFRICA LINE**
NORLHOUND **ALICONA** slg W.A. Jun early Jul for discharge **Scan Jul** for discharge **Scan July early Aug**
ROYAL ESTERELIAN LINES
INWARDS **SIRAAI** **FORCADOS** slg Japan Apr 18 due Port Harcourt May 29, Lagos, Apapa Jun 1, Tema, Jun 10, **Lobito** Jun 11, **Abidjan** Jun 15, **SIRAAI VAN DIEMEN** slg Hong Kong Apr 8 due Monrovia May 28, **Freetown** May 30, **Dakar** Jun 2, **LUANDA** Jun 16
OUTWARDS **SIRAAI** **FORCADOS** from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt, **Hong Kong**, **Japan** early Jun, **SIRAAI VAN DIEMEN** Nigeria/Ghana to Hong Kong, **Dhahran**, **Japan** mid/end May
ARCEL LINES
OUTWARDS **AFRICA** **MARU** slg Lagos, Apapa Jun 5 for Port Harcourt, **Matsui**, **LUANDA** Jun 15, **Lobito**, **Abidjan**, **Monrovia**, **US ports**, **MRO VAN MERUE** slg Lagos, Apapa Jun 15 for Douala, **Matsui**, **Abidjan**, **Monrovia**, **US ports**
OUTWARDS **AFRICA** **MARU** (Freetown) **MONROVIA** May 21, **Bahaman**, **Abidjan**, **Lagos**, **May 28**, **Lagos**, **Apapa**, **May 30**, **Port Harcourt**, **Matsui**, **Lobito**, **Dobro**, **AFRICA** **MEROU** due Dakar May 26 for Freetown **Monrovia** Jun 2, **Abidjan**, **Lagos**, **Lagos**, **Apapa** Jun 11, **Douala**, **Matsui**
WEST AFRICA LINE
SOUTHBOUND slg New Orleans **WEST AFRICA** slg New Orleans **WEST AFRICA** slg New Orleans **WEST AFRICA** slg New Orleans **WEST AFRICA** slg New Orleans
THE EAST LINES
SOUTHBOUND **SARGO** **SOEHA** slg Hamburg Jun 1, **Merwer** Jun 3, **Rotterdam** Jun 6, **Rozen** Jun 9, due Freetown Jun 17, **Abidjan** Jun 20, **Lagos** Jun 24, **Luanda** Jun 27, **Douala** Jun 30
NORLHOUND **STELLA** slg, **Lagos** May 29, **Douala** Jun 2, **Abidjan** Jun 4 due Freetown Jun 6, **Cotonou** Jun 7, **Luanda** Jun 24, **Oyo** Jun 27, **Port Harcourt** Jun 30

NOTICES

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SITUATIONS VACANT

VACANCY

for the post of

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (001)

with the

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE



QUALIFICATION DESIRED

M.Sc. Civil Engineering or B.Sc. Agricultural Engineering

DUTIES

1. conduct and participate in orientation research
2. conduct and participate in hydrology research
3. conduct and participate in Soil and Water Conservation research
4. design and do the testing of unconventional irrigation materials

EXPERIENCE DESIRED: Two years relevant experience that includes the job description is essential.

PERSONAL QUALIFICATION: Ability to conduct an original and independent research.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF JOB: Willingness to work outside the regular working hours.

SALARY: The salary attached to this position is attractive and competitive.

METHOD OF APPLICATION: All applications should be in writing, giving full details of qualifications, experience, present salary status and home details. Being received from post-paid envelopes. All enquiries should be directed to the RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (001) and addressed to:

The Personnel Officer,
 International Institute of Tropical Agriculture,
 P.O. Box 5020,
 IBADAN, Nigeria.

NOTE: Only applications which show the requisite qualifications and experience stated for this position will be acknowledged.

CLOSING DATE: 25th June 1973

NOTICES Cont.

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DEAD WEIGHT: 207 tons

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SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

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- (b) Quantity Surveyors with ARICS, AIQS or equivalent. 4 Vacancies
- (c) Assistant Quantity Surveyors with RICS, IQS final standards. 4 Vacancies

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SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

Nigeria

Lagos State of Nigeria

Ministry of Education and Community Development

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following categories of vacancies:

SENIOR INSPECTORS OF EDUCATION

£2,457 - £2,608 (N3 900 - N4 140)

Qualifications: Candidates should possess a good honours degree (not lower than second class honours) from a recognised university plus a post graduate Diploma or Certificate in Education. They should also have a minimum of five years post diploma teaching experience.

Duties: Senior Inspectors of Education will be responsible to the Principal Inspector in charge of the School zone to which they are posted for organising the inspection of Secondary Schools of the Teacher Training Colleges in the area or responsible to a Principal Inspector for such organisations and inspection duties that may be assigned to them. They will also be responsible for supervising the work of the teachers and special administration in the schools within their zones, attending teacher in-service workshops and organising training courses for teachers and conducting regular teacher meetings.

INSPECTORS OF EDUCATION

£1 950 - £2 222 (N3 096 - N3 528)

Qualifications: Same as for Senior Inspectors of Education except that a minimum of two years post diploma teaching experience is essential.

Duties: Inspectors of Education will be responsible for conducting inspections of Secondary Schools as well as a Teacher Training College under supervision and in co-operation with the Principal Inspector. They will also conduct in-service workshops.

SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICERS

£2,457 - £2,608 (N3 900 - N4 140)

Qualifications: Candidates should possess a good honours degree and must have received work experience from a recognised degree plus a post graduate Diploma Certificate in Education in any one of the following: Teachers, Professional or Associateship Certificate in the United Kingdom Ministry of Education Teaching Certificate, or N.C.E. and a minimum of five years post diploma teaching experience.

Duties: Senior Education Officers will head groups of subject departments and be responsible to a Senior Principal for the coordination of the curriculum and general administration of various subject departments. They will be required to teach their subjects at any time throughout the course to substitute external subject teachers who are an essential part of the College life, to take part in the various in-service training and seminar work of the school and to perform any other duties assigned to them.

EDUCATION OFFICERS (GRADES I AND II)

Scale A: £1 164 - £2 222 (N1 848 - N3 528)

Scale AU: £1 950 - £2 222 (N2 096 - N3 528)

Qualifications:

Grade I: Same as for Senior Education Officers except that a post graduate diploma or certificate in Education is not essential. Grade II: Same as for Education Officers except that a post graduate diploma or certificate in Education is not essential.

Duties: Education Officers will head subject departments and

required by the Principal and perform or other duties such as setting and marking papers at examinations conducted under the auspices of the Ministry or acting as members of an Education Committee in concerning any educational administrative and professional duties that may be assigned to them.

ASSISTANT EDUCATION OFFICER (GRADE II)

£935 - £1 632 (N1 482 - N2 592)

Qualifications: Candidates should possess one of the following qualifications: a Grade I Teachers' Certificate plus an approved teaching Diploma plus five years post qualification experience in the United Kingdom Ministry of Education Certificate obtained after three year course of two year teacher training in 1958 - N.C.E. Education Officers - Teachers. Associateship Certificate or its equivalent obtained after Grade I Teachers' Certificate plus five years experience since obtaining the Associateship Certificate. A general degree of a recognised university with teaching qualification not higher than Teachers' Grade I Certificate in Teaching Certificate in Education.

Duties: This is a post of a training grade to gain experience and to assist in the performance of specific duties without close supervision. The duties are to be performed under the direct supervision of the Education Officer in charge of subject and professional duties.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR (EDUCATION)

£933 - £1 632 (N1 482 - N2 592)

Qualifications: Candidates should possess one of the following qualifications: a Grade I Teachers' Certificate plus London University Certificate in Education or its equivalent plus five years post qualification experience in the United Kingdom Ministry of Education Certificate in Education followed by a two year course of two year teacher training in 1958 - N.C.E. Education Officers - Teachers. Associateship Certificate or its equivalent plus three years post qualification experience since obtaining the Associateship Certificate in Education. A general degree of a recognised university with teaching qualification not higher than N.C.E. course with Certificate in Education.

Duties: This is a post of a training and inspection of primary schools in a post of a training grade in the State. Candidates are assisting in teaching, supervising and administrative duties and teachers, short courses, in-service training duties connected with inspections and teaching methods.

OTHER CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

Applicants will be required to give details in one or more of the following subjects: English, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Agriculture, Science, Home Science, Physical and Health Education, Economics, Fine Art, Music, Artwork, Woodwork and Metal Work, Technical Drawing, Technical Subjects, Foreign Education, Educational Philosophy.

1. The successful candidate's appointment will be on probation for a period of two years with a 30-day probationary period, but contract term will be for an indefinite period.

2. The successful candidate will be provided with quarters and a public utility allowance (P.U.A.) which will be the lower of the maximum of N4,000 per annum or 10% of the gross salary to be paid to persons in the same grade as a condition of employment fixed by the Ministry.

METHOD OF APPLICATION:

1. Applications should be made in the form attached to be made of the Ministry of Education, Lagos State, P.O. Box 100, Lagos. Applications should be sent to the Ministry of Education, Lagos State, P.O. Box 100, Lagos. Applications should be sent to the Ministry of Education, Lagos State, P.O. Box 100, Lagos.

Help build the new Nigeria

SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

GOVERNMENT OF MIDWESTERN NIGERIA

Vacancies for

CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARIES

and

STENOGRAPHERS

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for appointment to the posts of Stenographer and Confidential Secretary, Grades II and III.

2. Salaries:

Stenographer: The salary scale for Stenographer is Scale D2, 3. N644-N1016.

Confidential Secretary, Grade III: The salary scale is C(E)1, 2. N1036-N1884

Confidential Secretary, Grade II: The salary scale is C(E)2, 3. N1482-N2,160.

3. QUALIFICATIONS

Stenographers: Candidates should possess the R.S.A. or any other recognised Certificate at 80/35 w.p.m. in Shorthand and Typewriting respectively in addition to a good educational background. Knowledge of English, Secretarial Practice and Office Routine would be an advantage.

Confidential Secretary, Grade III: Candidates should possess the R.S.A. or any other recognised Certificate in Shorthand and Typewriting at 100/50 w.p.m. respectively plus a recognised certificate in English Language, Secretarial Practice and Office Routine. Candidates who are at present undergoing Secretarial Course in an approved institution and will qualify in June, 1973, may also apply.

Confidential Secretary, Grade II: Candidates should possess a very sound knowledge and experience of secretarial duties. In addition, they should possess an R.S.A. or other recognised certificate in Shorthand and Typewriting at the speeds of 120/50 w.p.m. respectively and a recognised certificate in English language, Secretarial Practice and Office Routine.

4. DUTIES:

Stenographer: To work as a pool Stenographer, primarily on stenographic and typing duties, but performing where necessary, clerical and junior secretarial work.

Confidential Secretary, Grade III: To work as Personal Assistant to a senior officer whose post is graded not below Group 7 and whose duties necessitate full-time secretarial and stenographic assistance.

Confidential Secretary, Grade II: To work as Personal Secretary to a Deputy Permanent Secretary or any other officer whose post is graded not below Group 5.

5. CONDITIONS OF SERVICE:

Appointment is permanent and pensionable and in the case of new entrants into the Public Service, appointment will be on probation for 3 years.

6. METHOD OF APPLICATION:

Applications should be submitted in duplicate on form No. M.N.P.S.C.1 which is obtainable from the Secretary, Public Service Commission, Midwestern Nigeria, Benin City. Applications from candidates in Government Service should be submitted through the normal departmental channels. An applicant in a Public Service other than that of Mid-Western Nigeria, should route his or her application through the Secretary of the appropriate Public Service Commission who should forward it with copies of the applicant's Confidential Reports for the past three years.

7. CLOSING DATE:

Applications should reach the Secretary, Public Service Commission, Mid-Western Nigeria, Benin City, not later than 15th June, 1973.

J.A. AGWAE,
Secretary,
Public Service Commission

SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

THE NIGERIAN COUNCIL FOR MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING VACANCIES

The Centre for Management Development, the operating arm of the Nigerian Council for Management Education and Training, invites suitably qualified Nigerians to apply for the following positions. These openings represent an unusual opportunity for personal growth, advancement, and service to the country for results-oriented Nigerians who are willing to work hard to achieve vitally important objectives. Successful candidates will work, initially, as counterparts to a team of international experts, and will be given appropriate training here and/or abroad.

1. **3 MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS** (1 Senior Consultant) to work primarily with indigenous and small business entrepreneurs, guiding them in establishing, maintaining and nurturing the enterprise. Focusing especially on Nigerian businessmen who are taking over expatriate companies under the indigenisation programme, and with emphasis on the training and development of the entrepreneurs, the consultants will help them assess business opportunities, prepare financial information and projections; organise the enterprise, marketing, designing and implementing simple budget planning and control systems.
Qualifications: The major prerequisite for these positions is successful experience as a small business owner-manager, senior level general management experience, or previous consulting experiences. A university degree would be desirable, though not absolutely essential.
2. **1 RESEARCH OFFICER** to design and implement a wide variety of research projects on all aspects of management theory and practice in Nigeria. He will be responsible for identifying research needs; designing, directing and monitoring research projects, and guiding the work of his assistants.
Qualifications: An advanced degree from a recognised university and practical research experience; a lively curiosity coupled with a high tolerance for detail work; ability to teach and guide others and to see a job through to completion and within deadlines; willingness to travel when necessary; some practical business experience would be a definite asset.
3. **1 STATISTICIAN** to work with researchers in the original design of research projects and in the handling and processing of raw data.
Qualifications: A university degree with substantial concentration in mathematics and statistics; ability to work independently and with others; ability to work under pressure and against time deadlines.
4. **1 MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (Education and Training)** to identify management training needs and design, implement and evaluate formal management training programmes. Initial emphasis will be on the design and conduct of a one-two week programme for Trustees which is to be offered on a regularly scheduled basis. Subsequently, the officer will be expected to design and conduct formal programmes on a variety of management subjects as the need for these is established.
Qualifications: An appropriate university degree and substantial practical business experience — including training work.
CONDITIONS OF SERVICE: Attractive.
SALARY: Negotiable according to qualifications and experience — but fully competitive.
METHOD OF APPLYING: Each application should include the candidate's curriculum vitae stating age, marital status, institutions attended, examinations passed with grades, employment experience and salaries earned, and three references. Applications should be addressed to:

The Director, CENTRE FOR MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT, P.O. Box 7648, LAGOS to reach him not later than June 5, 1973.

NOTICES Cont.

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SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

Nigeria
Federal Public ServiceSenior Scientific
Officers/
Scientific Officers,
Grade I

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the posts of Senior Scientific Officers, Scientific Officers, Grade I, in the Secretariat of the Nigerian Council for Science and Technology, Cabinet Office, Lagos.

Qualifications: A good honours degree in pure or applied science, including agriculture and engineering, with at least five years post-graduate experience for Senior Scientific Officers, and with at least three years post-graduate experience for Scientific Officers, Grade I. A higher degree will be an advantage.

Candidates should be familiar with or possess demonstrable interest in the development of national science policy and in particular have interest in one or more of the following:—

- formulation and evaluation of large-scale research projects;
 - transfer of science and technology to development;
 - supply and utilization of scientific and technological personnel;
 - Scientific surveys, statistics, documentation and application of statistical methods to science policy problems;
 - collation and publication of scientific information.
- Duties:** Senior Scientific Officers/Scientific Officers, Grade I, will be required to collect materials and prepare

working papers and reports in one or more of the areas listed in paragraph two under the general supervision of Principal Scientific Officers.

Salary Scale

(i) Senior Scientific Officers, Group B
£2,457 (N3,900) - £2,608 (N4,140);

(ii) Scientific Officers, Grade I Scale A(U)
£1,950 (N3,096) - £2,232 (N3,528).

Conditions of Service: Conditions of service will be as prescribed for Officers of equivalent grade in the Federal Public Service.

Method of Application: Applicants in the UK only should write with brief details for application forms (quoting ref. SO) to the Recruitment Attaché, Nigeria High Commission, 9 Northumberland Avenue, London WC2.

Applicants resident elsewhere should obtain forms from the Secretary, Federal Public Service Commission, PMB 12586 Lagos.

Applications from candidates in Government Service should be accompanied by two copies of their latest Confidential Reports, and forwarded through the Head of Ministries/Departments.

Closing Date: All completed application forms should reach the Secretary, Federal Public Service Commission, or the Recruitment Attaché, Nigeria High Commission not later than June 20, 1973.

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SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

Nigeria

Ministry of Finance and
Economic Development
Lagos State:
Internal Revenue Division

Deputy Commissioner for Internal Revenue/ Deputy Chairman, Lagos State Internal Revenue Board

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Nigerians for appointment to the vacant post of Deputy Commissioner for Internal Revenue in the Internal Revenue Division, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (Lagos State).

Qualifications

(a) A good University Degree in either Science, Mathematics, Business Administration or Law with a minimum of 8 years post-graduate experience in the administration and interpretation of tax laws; or

(b) ACA or ACCA or CIMA with a minimum of 6 years post-qualification experience in the administration and interpretation of tax laws; or

(c) Candidates who are not in possession of the qualifications prescribed in (a) and (b) above will also be considered provided they have had a minimum of 10 years experience at the Tax Inspector level and have attained salary Grade 9.

Duties: To assist the Commissioner generally in the administration of tax laws and to preside over Board meetings in the absence of the Commissioner.

Salary Scale: Group 6 — (£3,442 — £5,472).

Conditions of Service: The post is responsible and in the case of new entrants into the Service, applicants must normally be on contract for three years.

Other conditions of service will be considered for the shortlisting of officers of equivalent grade in the Public Service of the Lagos State of Nigeria. Contract

appointment may be arranged on mutual terms.

Method of Application

(a) Applications should be made in the prescribed forms obtainable from the under-signed to whom completed application forms should be returned. Applicants in the United Kingdom can obtain the forms from the Recruitment Attaché, Nigerian High Commission, 9 Northumberland Avenue, London WC2, quoting reference DCIR.

(b) Applications from candidates in government service or in Statutory Corporations should be submitted in letter form through the Heads of applicant's authorities. Applicants who are in Public Service other than that of the Lagos State should submit their applications through the Secretary of the appropriate Public Service Commission or the Secretary of the appropriate Statutory Corporation. The Commission who should be approached by the applicant is the one which is responsible for the recruitment of the post for which the applicant is applying. The last date for the receipt of applications is 11th June 1979.

Closing Date: Applications from individuals in Nigeria should be made to the Secretary, Public Service Commission, Lagos State, 276 Kinfares Gardens Street Lagos, before 11.00 a.m. on June 20, 1979, while the candidates in the United Kingdom should submit their applications to reach the Recruitment Attaché not later than June 20, 1979.

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Dateline Africa

SIERRA LEONE

New ministers named

President Stevens has announced his new government. There are 24 ministers and 15 deputy ministers. The new External Affairs Minister, Mr. Desmond Luke, led Sierra Leone's delegation to the OAU ministerial conference that preceded the 10th anniversary celebrations. The Ministerial list is as follows: Mr. S. I. Koroma, Prime Minister and Vice President, Mr. C. A. Kamara-Taylor, Minister of Finance, Mr. L. A. M. Brewah, Attorney General, Mr. Desmond Luke, External Affairs, Mr. S. A. J. Pratt, Development and Economic Planning, Mr. Bangali Mansaray, Interior, Mr. F. M. Minah, Trade and Industry, Mr. E. J. Kaigbo, Transport and Communications, Mr. S. A. T. Koroma, Agriculture, Mr. S. B. Kawusu-Konte, Mines, Mr. A. J. Sandy, Education, Mr. A. B. M. Kamara, Information and Broadcasting, Mr. F. B. Tutay, Lands, Mr. N. A. P. Buck, Works, Mr. A. G. Sembu-Forna, Health, Mr. A. B. S. Janneh, Social Welfare, Mr. D. F. Shears, Housing and Country Planning, Mr. J. C. O. Hadson Taylor, Labour, Mr. J. Barthes Wilson, Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Mr. S. D. Koroma, State and Leader of the House. There are also four Ministers of State.

A correspondent writes:

There are fewer changes than many expected or hoped. Vice President S. I. Koroma seemed certain to retain his post after his part in the election victory, and Finance Minister C. A. Kamara-Taylor who is Secretary General of the APC, also seemed unlikely to be moved. Mr. Koroma also remains Prime Minister, but Mr. Bangali Mansaray, former Resident Minister in the North, takes over the Minister of the Interior. Reports that the President and the Vice

President were upset neither by Desmond Luke's, standing as an independent against their official APC candidate in his Freetown constituency nor by his victory are confirmed by his appointment to the important post of External Affairs. It is presumed that the threat that he would be expelled from the party if he stood against the official candidate was not carried out and that he is again regarded as an APC man if he wasn't he might have to resign his seat and contest another election under the law against "carpet-crossing" unless the lawyers ruled that an Independent had no party and therefore was not changing his party when he joined one. His experience in Bonn, Brussels and other capitals is good preparation for his new job. Mr. Solomon Pratt may be happier with the new Ministry of Development since he has always wanted to deploy his gifts as economist. Both Solomon Pratt and Desmond Luke are lawyers but L. A. M. Brewah is retained as Attorney General, always likely to be a controversial post. Mr. Barthes-Wilson hands over the Ministry of Education to Mr. A. J. Sandy, a Njala University College lecturer. It is a relatively junior education and political hierarchy but presumably will guarantee that education in general and Njala in particular will not lack a voice. Mr. Barthes Wilson is in a new and as yet fully undefined ministry. One other new Minister, Mr. F. M. Minah, is a former SLPP man. There is relief that the rumoured change at the Ministry of Mines was not carried out. Mr. N. A. P. Buck, who beat Nancy Steele after losing nomination in his previous constituency, gets a more important job at the Ministry of Works. Two chiefs will

serve as ministers in the Presidents Office as before but the office is now strengthened with new young junior ministers.

There is a considerable increase in the total number of ministers of all ranks to over forty in a house of ninety seven or excluding chiefs, forty out of eighty five. But total membership is greater than in the last House and government supporters are now a hundred per cent in the house.

Political interest now turns on whether there will be formal legislation making the APC the only party. This is important in view of the forthcoming Greater Freetown City Council elections although it is uncertain if the SLPP which finally withdrew even candidates who had secured nomination would stand even in this area where hopes might be high. There is interest too as to whether the unity of the governing party is unshakeable in the absence of parliamentary opposition. The President's term still has nearly three years to run.



Desmond Luke, an Independent at External Affairs.

President Stevens has advised new MPs to return to their constituencies, live with their people, study their development needs and inform the government. Any MP who felt that he could serve his constituency by remaining in Freetown may have to be thrown out of the party.

In his statement in the 1972 Annual Report (see April 30 issue) the Chairman of William Baird, parent company of Sierra Leone Development Company, says that production by the company at 2.51m. tons of iron ore concentrates

maintained the level of 1971, with a slight reduction in shipments at 2.54m. tons. "Cost effectiveness improved during the year but the benefit was overshadowed by the substantial fall in world demand for iron ore which began in 1971 and had a severely adverse effect on the level of 1972 prices. This situation resulted in a loss on the year's operations, which would have been more severe if the mine had not been successful in selling its whole production capacity."

During the third quarter of 1972 there was a marked improvement in world steel markets, says Mr. Field, with consequent benefit to iron ore prices. "In 1973 this will help the mine to offset the sharp increase in the cost of all materials and spares and the recent very substantial rise in the price of fuel charged by the Sierra Leone Refinery from which the Company, the largest consumer in Sierra Leone, is required to purchase its supplies".

The new headquarters of the Sierra Leone Labour Congress which is being built in Freetown is being financed by the US African American Labour Centre. It costs Le32,000.

Mr. J. Galba-Bright, a founder member of the Sierra Leone Chamber of Commerce, has died aged 75. He has held many public appointments, and served as an elected member of the NRC.

Mr. Sahr Songbandi Foday, former Deputy Secretary General of the Sierra Leone Labour Congress has been appointed Liaison Officer for Africa by the Mines International Federation. He is the first African to hold this post in the MIF, which is an organisation for mine workers all over the world.

The Sierra Leone Dance Troupe is expected to give a special performance in London during the 21st anniversary celebrations of the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

Mr. S. A. Fofanah, Minister of Trade and Industry, has visited Argentina to promote trade between the two countries.

GHANA

Warning to politicians

Col. Acheampong has called for an end to "sterile debate" on the future government of Ghana. "We appreciate the concern of genuine Ghanaians to widen the scope for participation in the government... but we are not going to be pressured into opening channels for political machinations which will detract us from the tremendous job that must be done", he said when formally opening the Ghana Commercial Bank. The NRC was not adverse to using all the talent that could be useful "but we do not intend to be used by politicians and would-be politicians as a springboard to impose themselves on this nation".

Col. Acheampong urged Ghanaians to focus attention on the grave issues that lay ahead. "We must seek a government which involves the people at the grass roots in government. It is to this that we are focusing our attention in evolving a local government structure which will make the people, at the grass roots, responsible for the decisions which affect their daily lives. If we can erect such an efficient system, we can ensure the unity of the people and the National Redemption Council in the government of the country. The days when a few intellectuals could claim the divine right to decide for the people are gone and the NRC will not permit its

return, no matter the pressure".

There has been some public debate in recent months on the value of a consultative assembly.

• Unless the US changed its attitude towards the 1972 International Cocoa Agreement, relations between the two countries might be seriously damaged, Ghana's Ambassador in Washington, Mr. H.R. Amonoo, told a meeting of the US Chocolate Manufacturers Association. "Cocoa is the life blood of Ghana and therefore any country which claims to be a good friend of Ghana cannot take the Agreement lightly", he said.

Mr. Amonoo pointed out that it was not enough for the US to only express her co-operation with the Cocoa Council when it was established, she should join hands with all well wishing countries in an international effort to stabilise the cocoa price.

VC10 money for poultry farms

The State Farms Corporation is using part of Israel's compensation fund to rehabilitate its 12 poultry farms at Ordakor, Pokoase, Asuanst, Bunso, Inchaban, Apremdo, Kentinkrono, Kwadaso, Kpeve, Afife, Ohawu and Wenchit. The Director, Mr. J.G. Amofo, said that under the fund Israel would supply parent stocks, concentrates and poultry equipment needed to raise the bird population to about 320,000.

The Israeli Compensation fund represents the cost of Ghana's VC10 aircraft which Israel destroyed in Beirut in 1967 when the aircraft, which was not insured, was on loan to Middle East Airlines.

• Communal labour is to be organised in July for the commencement of work on a 50 mile irrigation canal from the Volta lake to the Accra plains. Col. Bernasko, Commissioner for Agriculture said that the communal labour was being planned to coincide with school vacations to enable students to participate.

China has agreed to send a team of experts to Ghana to help in the canal's

construction. They have been invited by the Ministry of Agriculture to provide organisational and technical knowledge. Meanwhile Chinese agricultural experts are assisting in the groundwork of the project while the irrigation division of the Ministry of Agriculture is taking care of the initial planning.

In 1965 the US firm, Kaisers Engineers, prepared a feasibility study for the irrigation of the Accra plains from the lake.

• An Association of Industrialists, importers, exporters, wholesalers and retailers has been formed to help promote trade abroad especially with African countries. Known as the Ghana Merchants Association, it hopes to help members to get goods direct from manufacturers and also provide them with up-to-date information on trade.

The Association's Acting Secretary, Mr. J.K. Acheampong, has said the Association would regularly send its views on matters concerning trade, commerce and industry to the government.

• The immigrant quota, which allows foreigners into Ghana to advise in fields like construction and engineering, will soon end, says the Commissioner for Works, Lt. Col. Victor Coker Appiah. He advised members of the Association of Contractors to prepare for this eventuality, which accorded with the NRC philosophy of self-reliance.

• Ursula Amponsah, a 27 year old Ghanaian, has been arrested at Rome airport on drug charges. Miss Amponsah was travelling from Accra to London with six kilos of hashish worth some £15,000, police allege.

Rice from China

Ghana is to import rice and other commodities from China, under a trade agreement recently concluded in Peking. The agreement was signed during a 16-day trade exploration tour of China by a Ghanaian delegation last month. Under the agreement, China will also import certain commodities from Ghana.

• Mr. Donald Chilton, Senior Keeper of London's Science Museum, is visiting Ghana until May 30 to advise on the planning and design of the Accra science museum building now at the planning stage. His visit has been sponsored by the British Council.

• The Central Bureau of Statistics is to conduct a household budget survey to compile information on income and expenditure. A statement by the Bureau said the information obtained would be used by the government for planning and economic development.

• A 30,000 cedi brick and tile factory established by the Building and Road Research Institute near Obuasi to produce low cost bricks for rural housing schemes is expected to start production by the end of June.

The bricks will sell at 3 pesewas each instead of the current 5 pesewas.

• Mr. Imoru Lafia, Deputy Commissioner of Police in the Eastern Region has become Director of Sports. Mr. Lafia has been associated with sports in Ghana for many years, and is a member of the board of directors of the Sports Council. He replaces Col. Yaw Boakye.

• Col. Bernasko has announced that the Ministry of Agriculture will soon produce a five year agricultural plan from which yearly targets would be set for Operation Feed Yourself.

• The Ivory Coast - Ghana Games, held alternatively in Accra and Abidjan since 1967, will not take place this year.

Ghana is reported to have told the Ivory Coast that for financial reasons it could not send its athletes to Abidjan for the Games this year.

• Accra-Tema City Council is to invite private participation in the development of the old Fadama area into a town and recreational area.

• The State Farms Corporation plans to purchase a new milling plant to enable it to step up palm oil production at the Asakr mill near Takoradi.

• The gatekeeper at the Ambassador Shoe Factory was injured as a crowd rushed to apply for only 10 vacancies.

SEMINAR FOR GHANAIS

The Ghana High Commission invites all Ghanaians and the general public to a seminar on current affairs in Ghana to be held at the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, WC1 (Nearest Tube Station Holborn) on Saturday, June 2nd at 6 p.m. The principal speaker will be His Excellency Mr. H.V.H. Sekou, Ghana's High Commissioner in London.

The seminar will be rounded off with a film show.

LIBERIA Tolbert in Lagos

President Tolbert of Liberia has paid a two-day visit to Lagos.

Asked if he supported the use of force to end colonialism in Africa, President Tolbert replied: "force would not solve the problem. Other means should be explored with force as a last resort".

Nigeria and Liberia are to take appropriate measures to explore and develop areas of co-operation in trade, shipping and aviation and industry. This agreement is contained in a communique issued at the end of talks between General Gowon and President Tolbert. The two Heads of State reviewed the efforts in the past five years towards closer economic ties and co-operation in West Africa.

They also agreed that Nigeria and Liberia should work together for the early attainment of a West African economic community.

Among newly sworn-in senators is Mr Charles Sherman, former Secretary to the Treasury, now a leading businessman.

Mr "Shad" Tubman, son of the late President, has also been re-elected to the Senate.

• Jackson F. Doe, Deputy Minister of Education, has been appointed Minister of Education in place of Mr George Flamma Sherman, who had to resign after President William Tolbert failed to find him at work in his office at eight o'clock in the morning last April 24.

• Mrs Eugenia Stevenson, former Consul General in New York, has been appointed Liberia's first woman ambassador. She will be accredited to West Germany.

• A concession agreement has been signed between the Government and a Dutch Company W. H. Muller, for the extraction of heavy minerals including rutile and ilmenite in a 233 sq. mile area the south east of the country.

• Mr John Reiss, a senior career diplomat, will be Britain's new ambassador to Liberia and will take up his appointment on July 7.

He will succeed Mr Martin Moynihan, who will be taking up another appointment in the diplomatic service to be announced later.

Mr. Reiss, 55, has until recently been the British Government's deputy representative to the British Associated States in the Caribbean of Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla.

• Nina Simone and Miriam Makeba were scheduled to appear in a week of entertainments climaxing Rally Time in Liberia.

DAHOMEY

Plotters jailed

Former head of state Col. Alphonse Alley has been sentenced to 20 years solitary confinement with hard labour by a Court Martial in Cotonou. He was found guilty of plotting against the security of the State, inciting others against the government and having an illegal arms cache. Also given the same sentence were Majors Jean-Baptiste Hache and Ibrahim Chabi. Paul Kponou, an official of the Port of Cotonou, in whose house the plotters were said to have assembled, was given 10 years forced labour, a sentence also given to Sergeant Joseph Hounou Boco, Economist Louis Feliho, Customs Administrator Alexis Agbo



Colonel Alley

and Regimental Sergeant-Major Marc Soglo were each given five years in prison. A number of other accused, including a French businessman, Marcel Lalitte, were released under "benefit of the doubt". The plotters were alleged to have held a series of meetings between October 1972 and February 1973 preparatory to a coup attempt, using the Army Support group at Ouidah.

who would have physically liquidated the group's senior officers, Ministers Major Michel Aikpe and Major Janvier Assorgba. Simultaneously, plotters in Cotonou were to arrest President Kerekou, who was to be killed if he resisted arrest.

• A government statement has condemned the wrongful dismissal of Dahomeyans working in certain African countries. "In the name of having their own nationals as cadres, these paternal countries have even brought pressure to bear upon private enterprises employing our compatriots". These measures aim at creating problems for the Revolutionary Military Government "in order to hinder the normal progress of the revolution of the Dahomeyan people". Those who had been dismissed "because of their nationality" were ordered to register without delay at the Ministry of Labour and Social Service.

• The new ambassadors of Dahomey in France (Wilfrid de Souza), US (Tiamou djibade) and Nigeria (Jacques Adande) have all presented their credentials to the respective heads of state.

MAURITANIA

Central bank

The government has approved a bill establishing and detailing the statutes of the new Mauritanian Central Bank. This will be entrusted with creating favourable conditions for productivity within the monetary credit and currency exchange spheres, as well as having the sole right of issuing the new currency. The Bank will also have to protect Mauritania's monetary stability at home and abroad within the framework of general policy laid down by the government. Details of the name and value of the new currency and the date of its launching, have not yet been given. Mauritania is due to leave the Central Bank of West African States (CBEAO) on June 30, which will mark her official departure from the franc zone. The new money, however, will not go into circulation until November, and the CBEAO's discount rate will remain in force until then.

SPANISH SAHARA

Morehob moves its headquarters

The Morehob (Mouvement de Resistances des Hommes Bleus) Spanish Sahara's liberation movement has moved its headquarters from Morocco to Algeria. The movement's president and founder Edouard Moha told newsmen in Algiers that Spain is planning a referendum in the territory to legalise its "colonial status". He denounced the Assembly General of the Sahara Peoples which passed a resolution in February calling simply for increased part in administering internal affairs as a "democratic masquerade". Although he would not say why he moved from Rabat, the opposition press in Morocco have blamed the privations of the Morocco government vis a vis the Spanish.

The Foreign Ministers of Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania have met in Nouakchott to discuss the Spanish Sahara question. They said their respective heads of state would meet soon.

The government newspaper in Rabat, *Le Matin*, says the Spanish Sahara is "incontestably Moroccan", and the Rabat government expects Mauritania and Algeria to support this stand. The paper said that considerable concessions had been made to normalise relations with the other two countries, but was forced to admit that Morocco had been the only country to make concessions.

IN BRIEF

Sihanouk's African tour

Prince Sihanouk, exiled Cambodian head of state has been visiting a number of African countries which recognise his government-in-exile, including Algeria, Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Guinea. In Dakar, he was received with full head of state treatment, and held talks with President Senghor.

DROUGHT EEC aid

Common Market authorities have approved plan to send 13,000 tons of milk powder costing £3.5m. to six drought-stricken African nations. The emergency Community aid, approved by the EEC Council of Ministers, will go to Mali (2,100 tons), Mauritania (1,800), Niger (2,500 tons), Senegal (2,400 tons), Chad (2,400 tons) and Upper Volta (1,800 tons). The aid will be in addition to community financial assistance totalling £1.5m. and some 91,000 tons of cereals and foodstuffs.

The decision to send the extra aid follows an appeal for community action by the European parliament. M. Claude Cheysson, the new French member of the EEC Commission responsible for community relations with the developing countries, appealed to the Ministers to do all they could to make sure aid got through on time. The Commission's proposal envisages using military aircraft to transport food aid to interior regions hardest hit by the drought.

GABON Railway pledge

The Gabon National Assembly has pledged "firm and total" support for President Bongo's efforts towards the construction of the Trans-Gabon Railway. A motion was adopted saying the assembly considered that economic and social development depended on the extension of its infrastructure, and particularly on the success of the railway project. In the fact of the "hesitant attitude" of the World Bank over financing the railway, the assembly affirmed its confidence in the viability of the project, assured by the "immense forestry, mineral and human resources" of the region it would serve. It called on President Bongo to "redouble his efforts" to have the railway built as soon as possible.

● Following the visit of Dr. Zvi Dinstein, Israel's Deputy Finance Minister to Gabon,

he said that there would be an expansion of cooperation in training cadres and in agriculture. A mission is to be sent soon to reactivate certain projects, and relations are to be raised to ambassadorial level.

● President Bongo has announced an amnesty for common law prisoners and commuted executions and life sentences to 25 years. Among those who will benefit is M. Albert Toundou, sentenced to five years prison in 1972 for withholding letters and insulting President Bongo.

● Gabon has received a \$19m loan from the US Export Import Bank for the purchase of a Grumman Gulfstream executive jet.

President Bongo has presented his former "presidential" aircraft, a DC-3 equipped in executive style, to Dahomey.

CHAD Frolinat on Arabs

The Chad National Liberation Front (Frolinat), likened President Tombalbaye's recent Middle East tour to that of a beggar.

In a communique in Algiers, Frolinat said that "to understand the recent moves of Tombalbaye towards all international organisms and the countries capable of giving him aid, especially the Arab countries, following the break of diplomatic relations between Chad and Israel, one has to know that the state's coffers have been empty for over a year".

"We are convinced that no peace-loving people, no anti-imperialist government, no revolutionary will take seriously 'the anti-colonialism, anti-imperialism and anti-Zionism' of a government which has delivered the country to the French colonialist troops", Frolinat said.

The movement pledged to continue its "armed struggle" against President Tombalbaye's administration.

Chad has signed two agreements with Peoples China providing for a long term loan of 11,250m. CFA francs (£20m.) for economic development.

MALI Government reshuffle

In a government reshuffle six ministers have entered the cabinet and three have left. Tioulou Konaté, Governor of the Mali Bank and Chairman of the Development Bank since 1964, becomes Finance Minister replacing Captain Baba Diarra, who becomes Vice-Chairman of the Military Committee. Two top-ranking civil servants, Sekou Sangare and Aly Cisse become Minister for State Enterprises and Minister of Health respectively. Dr. Benitiemi Fofana, Health Minister since 1968 leaves the government, as does Robert Ndaw, Minister for Industrial Development, who is replaced by Mamadou Keita, formerly technical adviser to the President. Hassim Diawara, a civil servant in the Finance Ministry takes the Trade portfolio and Moustapha Soumaré, Director of the National Engineering College becomes Education Minister.

● President Moussa Traoré has been on a five-day visit to Libya.

SENEGAL The Diop Blondin affair

All is reported quiet again in Dakar after two days of demonstrations following the death in Goree prison of Oumar Diop Blondin, 26 year old student son of a Dakar doctor. Dr. Daouda Sow, Information Minister, told newsmen that the reason for Diop's reported suicide was unknown, and the prisoner "took his secret with him to the grave". He also said that the student's father, Dr. Diop Blondin, had been present at the autopsy at which the verdict of suicide was confirmed. According to government files, said Dr. Sow, the dead student had been lieutenant to the left-wing student leader in Europe, Danny Cohn-Bendit, and had supported the election campaign of French Trotskyist candidate Alain Krivine. At the end of 1971 he went to Bamako in Mali to "raise an expedition" to free his younger brother, gaoled in Senegal following the arson at

the French cultural centre in January of that year. But he was arrested by the Malian authorities and extradited to Senegal, where in March 1972 he was sentenced to three years for subversion. Two other brothers are still in gaol, and another two are currently being questioned. (Last week's report *West Africa* confused the identity of the two brothers.)

● Education Minister Doudou Ngom has announced a series of measures following the demonstrations and student strikes. They range from cancellation of scholarships to permanent expulsion from Senegalese educational institutions. Henceforth any student found guilty of organising or encouraging a strike or voting or distributing seditious articles or of engaging in acts of violence will be expelled.

Left and right

The Central Committee of the Senegal Progressive Union (UPS) accused both left and right-wing elements of fermenting student agitation. The elements were directed "from France and elsewhere" by radio. The Committee said it was mobilising 800,000 militants of the UPS and youth movements, women's organisations and workers to "unmask and punish" those who were misleading the country's youth and upsetting public order.

● Ninety teachers and 220 students at French Ecoles Normales Supérieures have sent a cable of protest to President Senghor after the death of Diop Blondin, a former student at the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Saint-Cloud. They described his death after a long period in detention as "suspect" and also protested at governmental repression of political militants, trade unionists, teachers, students and schoolchildren. Another group of left-wing personalities, including Dominique Desanti, Yves Lacoste, Michael Rocard and Pierre Vidal-Naquet have signed a statement claiming that the most plausible cause of death was murder, either in cold blood or from the conditions of detention, and putting the responsibility on the Senegalese government.

NIGERIA

Oil talks with Libyans

General Gowon has received Libyan Minister of Petroleum, Mr. Izz ad-Din Al-Mabruk, who brought him a personal message from President Gaddafi. The Commissioner for Mines and Power, Shettima Ali Monguno, was at the meeting. Speaking to newsmen on his arrival Mr. Al-Mabruk had said that apart from securing fair and adequate prices for their crude oil, members of the OPEC now aim at full control and ownership of their own oil wealth.

The Libyan News Agency reported Mr. Al-Mabruk as having said that "his talks in Lagos are aimed at co-ordinating the policy whereby the oil producing countries would be one united front in their negotiations with the world companies. He stressed that there is no room for compromise on the right of the oil producing countries in their talks with the companies for higher prices, and that the companies should abandon their dreams and face reality".

A special mission despatched by Col. Gaddafi spent two hours at Lagos Airport waiting in vain to meet Nigerian officials. Libyan Charge d'Affaires Sulaiman El Feiturg said later that the mission had made an appointment to meet General Gowon but he had been told on the telephone that the General had to cancel the appointment because of an "overcrowded" programme.

The Libyan mission, led by Dr. Ali Triki, Director of European and American Affairs at the Libyan Foreign Ministry, is touring African countries to explain Col. Gaddafi's recent call to have the headquarters of the OAU moved from Addis Ababa to Cairo.

The Libyan proposal has met with a mixed reception in Nigerian newspapers.

Nigeria will not support demands for the removal from Addis Ababa of the headquarters of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), Dr. Okoi Arinko, External Affairs Commissioner has said.

Ivory Coast Foreign Minister, M. Arsene Usher Assouan, has delivered a special message from President Houphouet-Boigny to General Gowon.

An official announcement said General Gowon during their discussions stressed the importance of a West African economic community that would be all-embracing.

General Gowon said Nigeria would like to see all West African countries grouped into one single community.

He was optimistic about an early realisation of the proposed West African Economic Community. He said that for any community to be worthwhile it must embrace all West African countries.

The Federal Commissioner for Finance, Alhaji Shehu Shagari, has toured customs and excise establishments in the Mid-West State. He told officials to co-operate with the Ministry of Mines to ensure accurate recording of the exact quantity of crude oil produced in the area. He urged them to co-ordinate their efforts with the Ministry of Mines and Power. Alhaji Shehu emphasised that the officials must co-operate because of the vital role of oil in the Nigerian economy. He had earlier visited oil installations in the Burutu area.

Trade surplus

Nigeria recorded a trade balance of over 462m. naira last year; about 333m. naira over the trade surplus recorded in 1971. These facts, based on a seasonally adjusted basis, are contained in a report by the Central Bank of Nigeria. The report also showed that exports in December 1972 stood at nearly 129m. naira, which is 4m. naira more than the figure for the preceding month. The report reveals that, while non-oil exports rose 7.7m. naira, crude petroleum exports declined by 3.8m. naira. Nigeria's official gold and convertible currency reserves at the end of December 1972 stood at nearly 273m. naira, an increase of about 43m. naira over the previous month.

Nigerian police will no longer take part in tax collection exercises. This was announced by the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Theophilus Fagbola, on arrival in Jos to tour Benue-Plateau State. He explained that the collection of taxes is a civil responsibility and he pointed out that past police involvement in the exercise had led to the loss of life of many policemen.

The Federal Commissioner for Education, Chief Abdul Y. Eke, has begun a two-week official tour of the United States.

He is scheduled to hold talks in Philadelphia with educationists on the possible establishment of American educational projects in Nigeria.

China has presented a variety of sports equipment to the Nigerian National Sports Commission.

Nigeria has formally established a 50m. naira commercial bank to aid indigenous businessmen. A decree said the Nigerian Bank for Commerce and Industry will provide local entrepreneurs with capital and loans for medium and long-term investments.

The Federal Government will subscribe 60 per cent of the bank's share capital while the Central Bank will own the remaining 40 per cent.

The ban on travelling outside the country by university lecturers has now been lifted, the independent *Nigerian Tribune* has reported. The ban was imposed during last month's strike action by lecturers in all six universities over inadequate pay and poor conditions of service.

Kainji power station is being reinforced with an additional 200 megawatts at a cost of about 14m. naira. This was announced by the National Electric Power Authority, which says that a number of other projects are being undertaken to improve power supply including a second transmission line to Lagos at a cost of 7m. naira as well as a distribution scheme to major cities and the reinforcement of isolated generating stations.

A four-man Government delegation from the Mongolian People's Republic has visited Lagos at the invitation of the Federal Government.

Negotiations are going on between Nigeria and Zambia for the purchase of Zambian copper. The Zambian High Commissioner said Zambia would be happy to have its copper processed in Nigeria.

Prof. Ishaya Auda, Vice-Chancellor of Ahmadu Bello University, has called for a review of the tax collection system to maximise tax revenue to governments.

Nigeria's role in Africa

Commenting on the role of Nigeria in Africa, *Journal de Geneve*, a Geneva newspaper, said Nigeria's survival of a 30-month civil war without serious damage to its economy underscored its capacity to assume the role of "a veritable citadel of Black Africa". The newspaper noted that the Nigeria-led opposition to association of African countries with the EEC was not negative because those countries would prefer a commercial agreement compatible with current conditions of international life.

Nigeria's attitude, the newspaper said, was dictated by its enormous economic and political potential. With 60m. consumers whose economic life was based on oil extraction - and soon also an exploitation of natural gas - Nigeria was in the position to undertake wide action for national development and achieve true decolonisation.

The journal noted that Nigeria should be able to assure itself a key role in forming a powerful market necessary for regional and inter-regional development of commercial exchange and co-operation in Africa. The newspaper added that Nigeria was not alone in turning its back on all "neo-colonial" forms of association with the EEC. Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Ghana were not enthusiastic about submitting their development to an association with the EEC.

From the States

The South Eastern State based Mercantile Bank of Nigeria made a net profit of £77,600 during the first 18 months of its operation.

The bank's deposits increased from N3.4m. in 1971 to N6.9m. in 1972 while paid-up share capital rose from N1.1m. to N2m.

These facts were contained in the bank's first annual report and statement of accounts for the first 18 months which ended on December 31, 1972.

The report showed that loans and advances increased to N372,000 in 1971 to N3.4m. in 1972.

The report said that during the period under review, the bank opened a total of six branches in different parts of the State. It explained that it was not the bank's intention to confine operations to the South-Eastern State but that plans were on hand to expand to other cities and to seek areas of co-operation with

other states.

The report attributed the success of the bank to "the popularity of the bank in all parts of the state and to the hardwork and efficient service of the entire staff, especially the pioneer staff".

- The South-Eastern State is to expand the improve facilities in all its secondary schools.

This is part of the Government's efforts to raise the enrolment ratio in the secondary school level to 25 per cent which is the target set for the Federation as a whole.

- Brig Udo Esuene has warned Nigerians against expecting everything to be smooth-sailing after hand-over of power by the military. Speaking in a television in Ibadan, he said "We must naturally expect our ups and downs and it would be unrealistic to discountenance such a possibility". The governor noted that however lenient the present regime might be it was still a military one.

- The North Central State Government has banned pregnant women and those

aged below 15 from going on annual pilgrimage to Mecca in future. The state's Pilgrims Advisory Welfare Board said that investigation had shown that most of those who died during last pilgrimage were children, the aged, pregnant and nursing mothers. The ban will reduce chances of such deaths.

- A powerful transmitting station is to be sited at a central point in Nigeria so that NBC programmes can be easily heard all over the Federation, the Director General, Christopher Kolade, said in Maiduguri while exchanging views with the North-Eastern State Commissioner for Information. He explained that two powerful transmitters would be purchased for the new national network.

- The Rivers State Commissioner for Finance, Dr. Lawrence Ekpebu, has urged the National Provident Fund to extend its scheme to cover individuals and establishments with less than five employees. He said this was necessary because there was no national social insurance scheme.

- The Federal Government is to build a branch of the National Library in each of the twelve states and provide school libraries in the states. The East Central State and the Benue-Plateau State will be the first to benefit from the scheme.

- Retired Anglican Judge of Niger Delta Diocese, Rt. Rev. Ebenezer Tamunolaja Dimicari has died, aged 83. Born in Bonny, Bight, Dimicari was ordained priest in 1922 and consecrated bishop by the Archbishop of Canterbury in London in 1949. He retired as bishop in 1961.

- It is envisaged that the Nigerian Refining Company at Alesa-Eleme near Port Harcourt will be fully Nigerianised by 1976. The Company's Personnel Manager, Mr. C.C. Koko, said.

- Eagle Island, near Port Harcourt, is to be developed into a tourist centre housing a hotel, a residential area, a sports centre and a yacht club, Governor Diere Salami has announced. He said that construction plan had reached an advanced stage.

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