

West Africa

West Africa No 2877 Week-ending 4th August, 1972

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What's left of the Commonwealth?

Even before the British Government decided to "float" sterling in June, it was difficult to see the sterling area as a compact unit like, for example, the franc zone. Now, apart from the new restrictions on British investment in the sterling area, the market rates for other sterling area currencies are, in fact, divorced from sterling. In West Africa, for example, the Nigerian Government still steadfastly refusing to devalue, has followed last December's decision to maintain the former gold parity of the Nigerian £ (thereby enhancing its value against the dollar) by now in effect revaluing the £N against sterling so that £N1 is worth some £1.24. In view of the strength of its criticism of Dr. Busia's devaluation there seemed little chance that Colonel Acheampong's Government would devalue the cedi to follow sterling, and Ghana's currency for the time being must be taken to be linked to the dollar. The Gambia's currency, however, is officially linked to sterling, and so to a point is the Leone.

Some sterling area links, therefore, remain but, although no doubt the annual ritual of the sterling area's finance ministers meeting will continue, and the problem of disposal of sterling balances in London will remain, the area has ceased to be a real factor in international economic affairs. Instead, its former members will only remember, as the President of the African Development

Bank told the annual meeting of his Governors (reported on page 1005) that African countries which kept reserves either in sterling or dollars may have lost large sums in the last year. And while West African cocoa, for example, now earns more in sterling, this is offset for primary producing countries by the uncertainties of exchange rates in the currencies in which they trade.

What is the effect on the Commonwealth of the virtual disappearance of the sterling area? The two were never identical, so that, for example, Ireland is now the only country apart from Britain herself which can be regarded as a full member of the sterling area, although she has totally rejected for many years the idea of Commonwealth membership. Canada, on the other hand, one of the Commonwealth's strongest supporters, has never been a member of the sterling area. Nevertheless, whatever the present importance of less tangible links, the Commonwealth came into being as a trading area and quite apart from the severing of the sterling link, Britain's share of the imports of other Commonwealth countries continues to decline, while the British Government, by its enthusiasm for Common Market membership, has shown that it expects this trend to continue. What then is left of the Commonwealth?

Mr. Arnold Smith, the enthusiastic Commonwealth Secretary-General whose



small Marlborough House headquarters has taken over the liaison work formerly undertaken by the Commonwealth Relations Office, still sees many functions for it to perform. But although Commonwealth countries will always be grateful for assistance from Marlborough House — the report on the implications for The



Houphouët in Guinea

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Gambia of association with the E prepared by a member of Mr. Smith's staff is one example, and the secret services performed for Commonwealth countries at UNCTAD are another - it will regard assistance as being pure "servicing".

An example of Mr. Smith's difficulty is the decision to postpone, perhaps to cancel, the meeting planned for Geneva in early September to bring together existing associates of the Common Market and 19 Commonwealth developing states. The Commonwealth Secretariat took a lead in organising the meeting together with the Secretariat serving the existing associates. Meetings of the Commonwealth states on this issue have been going on at Marlborough House; but there appears to have been some misgiving about the price behind a meeting where Commonwealth countries might meet others as a "Marlborough House" meeting, organised by an outside body. The Commonwealth Secretariat, no doubt too, the proposed meeting may have been premature, because it would have taken place before the Commonwealth countries had decided which form of association, if any, they wished to pursue. But it now seems unlikely that the Commonwealth Secretariat will be able to organise a group of Commonwealth countries in the way in which, it is thought, Marlborough House had hoped.

It is, surprisingly, to Mr. Heath that one must now turn for a valid view where the Commonwealth stands. Surprisingly because Mr. Heath has not shown himself enthusiastic about the Commonwealth. In a speech to the Royal Commonwealth Society he rightly said that the political relationship between Commonwealth Governments "is more realistically established". By this he meant that the relationship has been emptied of almost all formal political content, but that the 32 member states could and did show the world the possibility of frank and friendly discussion of international differences. And the Prime Minister, it seems, in spite of his experience at Singapore, is quite ready to participate in another Commonwealth Prime Ministers conference next year. He now pretends that Commonwealth states are linked by devotion to parliamentary democracy or even to the rule of law, even if among Commonwealth citizens there remains an attachment to these institutions. What really remains is the language which all states share in discussing public affairs, and an understanding of each others' institutions and attitudes which facilitates political discussion. But there are, too, the multiple links based on history, best exemplified in the Commonwealth Secretariat's neighbour at Marlborough House, the Commonwealth Foundation, which promotes co-operation and understanding among professional bodies in the Commonwealth. Efforts to make the Commonwealth perform functions for which it is unfitted can only reduce the value it has.

People

Africa's new poster art

Posters in Africa advertising the Olympic Games in Munich this month are the result of a special African poster competition organised by the German Olympic Committee, with the assistance of the Deutsche Afrika Gesellschaft (German Africa Society). The winner was from Kenya, with runners-up from Algeria, Mozambique and Cameroon. One of the members of the jury was Iba N'Diaye, the Senegalese painter who is now head of the department of iconography at the Musée de l'Homme in Paris. In the brochure in which the results were announced, N'Diaye has certain comments on 'poster art' in Africa, which he relates to symbolic graphic systems, such as those of the Dogon and Bambara in Mali, "modelled in banco, sculptured in wood, incorporated in fabrics", or of the geometric designs or figurines to weigh gold dust of the Ashanti, Agni and Baoule of Ghana and Ivory Coast.

He suggests that these designs, of "multiple significance in a traditional milieu", could spread new meaning in Africa. He then refers to the "signs of hardhatters, barbers, lorry drivers and other coats of arms seen in the large cities of Africa in front of stores, restaurants, or buses", some of which (principally the Ulli Beier collection from Nigeria) were shown at the Musée de l'Homme in 1970. These demonstrated the profound significance attached to posters as advertising media, both by Africans as well as others today. "But this naive imagery", he continues, "doubtless for this reason in excessive demand among foreign tourists, remains on the level of 'popular' art - by no means a derogatory term - which the African artists themselves feel the necessity of transcending". The posters will also be on show in Munich during the games, as part of the exhibition "World Cultures and Modern Art", the main purpose of which is to show the influences of Asian, African, American-Indian and Oceanic cultures in European art.

N'Diaye himself was one of the earliest francophone African artists to make the grade on the European scene, back in the fifties, when as a young architecture student at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris he had come under the influence of Zadkine who brought Iba into his school. "He showed me paintings and I said its what I've been looking for. It wasn't like the degree - a course for Zadkine was a sort of humanism". N'Diaye was born forty-four years ago in St. Louis de Senegal, into a middle class family. His father was a civil servant with a passion for

horse-racing ("they never won"), and Iba's own passion was for *la lutte* (Senegalese wrestling) and dancing. "When I was young performing dancers used to attract crowds, like a circus. Now its lost". He also used to adore the cinema. He repaired an old wind-up gramophone of his fathers and showed "films" of silhouettes with candles behind. At the age of fourteen, in the middle of the Second World War, he started drawing for the local cinema in St. Louis, for which he was given free seats. Thus his first entry to the art world was poster art. And he is thoroughly versed



Iba N'Diaye

in the old movies of the 'thirties, like *The Blue Angel*, and the Greta Garbo films, he was particularly taken with old cowboy films. He remembers he used to decorate all the covers of his exercise books "From the beginning I was very dissipated - very riotous and argumentative". His parents died in 1944 which gave him, he says, a certain early maturity, so that when he went off to Paris in the late 'forties, he was ready to devour it. He rapidly became a regular of the left bank ("one of the best dancers in St. Germain des Pres"), and a devotee of jazz clubs. Jazz, from very early on, was an important influence on his painting.

In 1959 he was called back to Senegal to found the Plastic Arts section of Ecole des Beaux Arts in Dakar, where he spent seven turbulent years until he finally dropped out of the world of Senegal's complex "cultural politics" and returned to Paris. Not before, however, he helped and participated in the organisation of

the exhibition of modern art in the First World Festival of Negro Art in Dakar in 1966. Rows surrounding this, in fact, have been one cause for his departure. Now he lives in Paris, working at the Musée de l'Homme but also doing his own work (his wife runs the Ethnography department at the Musée). He has exhibited in the town of Sarlat in the Dordogne where he has a house, and in September he will be having an exhibition in West Berlin. He has one canvas in the Museum of Modern Art in Paris, the only African artist there. His works were also on show at the Algiers Festival (but not as part of the Senegalese exhibits), and, more recently in the exhibition of Contemporary African Art in Camden in 1970.

Although, with his hats and pipe, and his talent for interminable and sweeping conversation in pavement cafes, he is something of a Parisian character, he is also very Senegalese, and still dreams of setting up an African design centre in St. Louis. He already has in Paris a number of African students who could form the nucleus of such a centre. Design, he stresses has a real social importance, because it relates to "cultural specificity". Where in an African village women use plastic bowls manufactured abroad, in the cities hawkers sell African arts and crafts to foreign tourists. "If this is cultural exchange its to our disadvantage". A design centre would make functional objects which remain aesthetically African.

The Emperor's Eightieth birthday

Nzo Ekungaki, the new Secretary-General of the OAU, has arrived in Addis Ababa to take up his duties. He is due officially to take over from Diallo Telli on August 1. Sources in Addis Ababa say that M. Telli, who has been winding up his affairs, is due to return to Guinea, despite earlier reports that he would not. In a brief statement on arrival, M. Ekungaki, who has already been in Rabat for discussions with this year's OAU Chairman, King Hassan II of Morocco, said he was particularly pleased to arrive at a moment when he could associate himself and the whole of Africa with the celebrations marking Emperor Haile Selassie's 80th birthday. He said he would try to follow a policy that was best for Africa and that had been laid down by African heads of state.

To mark the occasion a number of African countries have issued stamps, the proceeds of which will go to African liberation movements. A plaque was also unveiled in Africa Hall in Addis Ababa by Ekungaki, who said that the Emperor was a living symbol to the leaders and peoples of Africa in his self-dedication to the cause of Africa. Replying, the Emperor said that what had been achieved in furthering the aspirations of the OAU was due to the joint efforts of all African leaders.

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AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Problems of the "take-off" stage

From a correspondent.

Africa is now to have its own "soft-loan" institution, as an affiliate of the Abidjan-based African Development Bank. At the annual meeting, the eighth, of the Bank's Governors (Ministers of the member states) in Algiers, formation of an African Development Fund was approved. It is expected to have resources of over \$100m and to start operating next April. Contributions will come from member states and from 16 non-African countries: Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Finland, West Germany, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The United States, Britain, and Yugoslavia.

In contrast, strong opposition to the idea of outside contributions to the Bank's normal funds led to a postponement of a decision on the subject until the Governors' next meeting, in Lusaka next May. Some of the African states most strongly opposed to such foreign participation, which would presumably give voting rights, are either very small contributors to the Bank themselves, or are in arrears with their subscriptions. Egypt, responsible for over \$14m. of the \$21m. arrears outstanding last May, is an opponent, as are Guinea, Mali and Congo-Brazzaville. The opponents, who argue that foreign capital would destroy the Bank's African character, can block the necessary change in the Bank's constitution. Advocates of the use of outside capital are reported to have urged its need if the Bank is to be effective.

Libya and Gabon to join

The Council authorised the Bank's President, the Tunisian M. Abdel-wahab Labidi, to continue negotiations with member countries who were in arrears, but not to take any other action against them. Libya has now decided to join the Bank and to offer the maximum subscription of \$30m, and Gabon is also joining, to bring the membership to 36.

At the opening session of the Algiers assembly, Mr. Labidi stressed that any reform of the international monetary system should go beyond mere readjustments, and should safeguard the interests of African countries. The devaluation of the dollar last December and the recent floating of the pound had led to serious losses for African nations which had reserves in these currencies. He warned that other major currencies could also soon be in trouble.

The Governors called for an African Ministerial Conference to consider ways of eliminating monetary and other obstacles to trade among African countries, and to work out a common stand on matters discussed at UNCTAD.

Mr. Labidi claimed that the Bank, founded in 1964, had reached "the

take-off stage". The investment target of \$25m for 1971 had been achieved and the same target for this year might be beaten.

In fact shortage of funds is not the Bank's main problem — even the arrears of subscriptions are coming in. Mr. Labidi, an unassuming but experienced banker, who succeeded Mr. Mamoun Beberry, the Sudanese who was the Bank's first President, has proved a sound choice. But the meeting of the standing committee of the Board of Governors, held last May in preparation for the Algiers meeting, found that there were a number of problems affecting the Bank, apart from the use of foreign capital and the payment of arrears by members.

The ADB's administration has often claimed that arrears in subscription payments were one reason for the Bank's restricted lending power. In fact, in the period from its formation in 1964 (although it did not become operative until 1966) to December 31, 1971, the Bank's equity was over US \$60m. But loans committed during the same period were only about US \$25m, and disbursements were as low as US \$4m. On December 31, 1970 the sum was exactly 4,171,747 "units of account" (US dollars), on December 31, 1971, however, it stood at 10,453,840 units. Sources at the Bank have explained that this relative inactivity results from two factors — the absence of viable projects presented for the approval of loans, and the weakness of the Bank's operational department, which was incapable of processing loans quickly. So the subscription crisis can be seen really as a problem of internal politics; who should determine the Bank's policy — those who have paid in their share or those who have only promised? It is not a problem of availability of funds, although in the long run the failure of some countries to pay subscriptions could become more significant.

A resolution at last year's Board of Governors meeting concerned austerity. There was some criticism of the high administrative costs of the ADB, officially put then at 25 per cent of total operations (unofficial estimates ran even higher). The increase in the number of loans approved, committed, and disbursed during 1971-72 has substantially decreased the relative burden of this expenditure — in other words the Bank is now far more efficient. But doubts are still being expressed about the high cost of the Bank's projected new headquarters in Abidjan (the official estimate is US \$6m.). The Bank's staff also remains large in relation to the sums it handles. Unless one assumes that the Bank should be regarded also as a training ground for African bankers, some pruning might be called for.

The President has recently engaged the services of three private advisers who would be paid the "normal" rate for international experts (US \$100 per day, plus expenses and other amenities). They are Mr. Charles Sherman, the former Liberian Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Vincenzo Bolasco, former Italian Ambassador to Abidjan, and Mr. Wade, the Senegalese professor of economics and politics.

The most serious problem, however, could be internal differences between the Administration and the Board of Directors. Three bodies share responsibility for the Bank's affairs. The Board of Governors consists of Ministers appointed by the respective member-states and meets once a year. It is the supreme organ of the ADB, determining policy, and its decisions are binding. But because it meets only once a year and cannot control the Bank's daily running, a second body, the Board of Directors, has been formed. This is composed of professionals, appointed on a regional basis. Members of this Board are paid and must reside in Abidjan for at least three weeks in each month. It is the Directors who come into direct contact with the Bank's administration, the supposedly non-political "technocrats". As is to be expected, the paid staff and in particular the President and his three Vice-Presidents (Messrs. Vincent, Alamoudi and Negre, from Nigeria, Kenya and Mali, respectively), prefer to be responsible only to the Governors who meet rarely and who leave them freedom of action.

The Directors and the President

The Standing Committee has proposed that henceforth the Directors should still nominate the President, but that his appointment must be approved by the Governors. The Directors would also retain the right to suspend the President. In other words, the proposal would put the Directors in the position of auditors, rather than of active participants in policy-making. It is still not known if the Standing Committee's proposal was confirmed by the Algiers meeting.

Observers have also noted that a great deal of time and energy have been spent by Bank staff on matters which are not strictly professional. Anglophone-Francophone-Arab cleavages still persist, and appointments to the Bank's institutions are sometimes political. Governments, too, choose their representatives not only on merit but also in response to their own internal needs. Now that the ADB seems to have overcome most of its equity and capital difficulties, it is time for attention to be turned towards this sensitive area.



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MATCHET'S DIARY

Because its present name "smells Portuguese" the government has decided to set up a committee to consider alternative names for Sierra Leone and is asking for suggestions from the public. Announcing this during a visit to the Marampa iron ore mines the President said that many representations had been made to the government on the subject and that, in any case, foreigners found it difficult to pronounce the country's present name. The Portuguese named the peninsula where Freetown was later to be built, Serra Lyona: there is disagreement whether the name was chosen because the peninsula's mountains, the only ones on the West African coast until you reach Cameroon, had a rugged "leonine" look or because the thunder that the Portuguese mariners heard among the peaks sounded like the lion's roar. In *Esmeraldo de Situ Orbis*, probably written in the first decade of the 16th century, the Portuguese Pereira wrote: "Many believe that Serra Lyona is so called because there are lions here, but this is not so, for Peroda Sintra, a knight of Prince Henry's household, who discovered Serra Lyona at the prince's bidding, seeing that it was a wild, rough country, called it the Lioness, and there was no other reason; and there can be no doubt of this for he told me so himself . . ." Sierra Leone, however, is not the only West African country with a Portuguese name. Cameroon (from the Portuguese for "prawns"), Gabon, Casamance, The Gambia and others have Portuguese origins; and there are a legion of other names like Lagos and Forcados which come from the Portuguese.

In the whole hurly-burly of the Manding conference, this journal did not do justice to the remarkable exhibition "Manding: Focus on an African Civilisation" which is still on show at the British Museum Department of Ethnography in Burlington Gardens. This exhibition, which recently had a very favourable write-up in the trendy publication *Time Out*, is on until the end of August, and there is hope that it may be kept in existence a little while longer. The only criticism *Time Out* had to make was of the exhibition's cramped and uninspired setting — more justice could have been done to the wealth of material available. The exhibition is certainly strongly to be recommended to anybody in London with a few free moments. There is, for example, the famous antique map (1413) of the Mediterranean and part of Africa with a picture of Mansa Musa, Emperor of Mali (1312–1337). Known as the "Catalan" map of Mecia de Viladeste, it is one of the national treasures of France, and was lent by the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris. A number of objects have been lent, with the assistance of the Senegalese government, from the museum of IFAN (the *Institut Fondamentale de l'Afrique Noire*), and there are also a useful range from the collection of the Musée de l'Homme in Paris. There are a

number of very fine masks, especially from the Bambara, as well as musical instruments. More esoteric items include the leather-covered staff used at the installation of kings and queens of Katamina in The Gambia ("the staff itself and the brown leather covering are old, but the polychrome decoration is new"). This has been lent from the collection of Sakobaji Jadama in Katamina. There is also a trident spear, estimated to be over 500 years old, which has been lent by the Alcalo of Jataba in The Gambia. The catalogue notes "It is a battle spear. For use in battle each prong was sharpened to a fine edge and dipped in poison. The spear is venerated on account of its age. It is known as 'Dibbi'."

Announcing a national competition for "ideas on saving public expenditure" Major Roger Felli told Ghanaians of some of the ways in which their money was being wasted. "Government expenditure on water bills incurred by Ministries and Departments were ₵1m. in 1969, ₵1.2m. in 1970 and ₵1.4m. last year. On electricity, Government paid ₵2m. in 1969, ₵2.9m. in 1970 and ₵3.6m. last year. On telephones the charges paid by Government were ₵2.5m. in 1969, ₵2.6m. in 1970 and ₵2.2m. for the first three quarters of last year . . . Increases in expenditure on salaries and wages, on maintenance of buildings and roads, on running and maintenance of government vehicles and on stationery are equally alarming — particularly alarming because Government revenues and receipts are barely growing at all". Major Felli particularly noted the waste in use of government vehicles and stationery. "Pilfering of various items of stationery accounts for half the losses Government incurs in this connection". Fresh envelopes are "the favourite of some junior officials as food wrappers". Telephone calls "are not always made in furtherance of our official work . . . official telephone calls are often the shortest and the least expensive".

Although there has been a rush in Nigeria to get the new five and ten "kobo" decimal coins, one small problem has arisen. The Decimal Currency Board has noted the existence of "a misconception" held by the public concerning the value of the new coins. They are in fact the same as the old 6d. and 1s. pieces, and are not simply 5 pennies and 10 pennies. Thus if someone buys something worth 9d. in the old currency and presents a 10 kobo coin he should be given 3d. change in the old currency and not, as has happened in some cases, 1d. "The introduction of a decimal system of currency is not an attempt to cheat anybody". The misconception has arisen because for many people a kobo (a corruption of the English word "copper") is simply a penny under another name, although in Nigeria's new currency is worth 1½ pennies.



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Letters to the Editor

Writing about Nkrumah

SIR—Your review of Miss Geneveva Marais' recently published book, *Kwame Nkrumah As I Knew Him*, records the author's claims that Dr. Nkrumah, "after reading two books written about him, by Major-General Alexander and Bankole Timothy, said: 'Everyone who does not really know me is writing about me. Why don't you? At least you know more than they do!'"

I make bold to question the accuracy of the disparaging comment of the late Kwame Nkrumah since at page three of her book Miss Marais makes this confession "I first met Kwame Nkrumah at a ball in Accra when independence was gained in 1957 and he had become Ghana's first Prime Minister"

I have no intention of questioning Miss Marais' knowledge of Nkrumah; but I first met him in London in 1945 when he was relatively unknown even in Ghana. My biography of him was first published in 1955 and was read by him in manuscript before it was forwarded to my publishers, Allen & Unwin. In a letter to me which I still treasure Kwame Nkrumah asked that I should delete the following sentence: "some people say Nkrumah is a mystic, but this is not true". I flatly refused to do so after consulting Nii Amaa Ollennu, then a leading barrister in Ghana. Nkrumah sent me a second letter in which he threatened he would ban my book. I sent a copy of this to my publishers, who, in reply stated that the banning of the book would enhance sales.

But on the publication of my book I presented an autographed copy to Dr. Nkrumah, then Leader of Government Business, and after reading it he invited me to a dinner in my honour at his home.

That was in 1955 — two years before Miss Marais even met Nkrumah or even visited Ghana.

Since fifteen years elapsed between Nkrumah's suggestion about a book by Miss Marais and the actual writing of it, it is highly probable that the passing of time obliterated from her memory Nkrumah's actual comment. And for this, I forgive Miss Marais as she moves onto the road to authorship.

BANKOLE TIMOTHY
London

The Essential Nkrumah

SIR—I deeply appreciate Mr. Agbeyegbe's article on the meeting held by the Afro-Caribbean Society in London in memory of the late President (June 30). After reviewing the contributions of the different personalities at the gathering, Mr. Agbeyegbe raised one salient point that "what [Nkrumah] stood for was

paramount", not necessarily that his admirers or detractors should stand out as lords of the bench to pass judgement over the successes and failings of this African political giant.

Inevitably, the deeds and misdeeds of Nkrumah led to his undoing, politically, as a demagogic leader of his country as well as an aspirant to continental leadership. But to consider this phenomenal politician, purely on this perspective is like pursuing shadow in preference for the substance.

The essential thing is that the personality of Nkrumah stands out firmly as a symbol of political inspiration for all black Africa. He represents an inestimable contribution in awakening the spirit of national consciousness, the undaunting and militant spirit and dogged resistance among African states yet under colonial rule. That he symbolises all these are crystallised and glorified in his practical achievements — Ghana's independence which apparently became the torchlight that showed the pathway to the independence of other African countries.

That Nkrumah set blazing the unquenchable flames of nationalistic militancy which burnt to hits the empires of the African colonial masters is not over-stating the fact. No wonder his death received scanty response in the Western press. For he had the courage and dynamism to face the odds in those early days of nascent nationalism when political leadership was so apparently intractable and badly fraught with the danger of persecution and ruthless repressionism, and despite the oddity of the situation he was able to venture and bulldoze his way so creditably to translate into practical reality the aspirations of several enlightened Africans by his achievement of Ghana's independence; these considerations, among many others, should form the main basis in assessing the political personality of the Osagyefo.

The essential Nkrumah beams out on the political plane in his love for Africa, (expressed in his idea of pan-Africanism), his militant spirit and resistance to colonial domination and above all the dynamic inspiration he enkindled in the hearts of other leaders of African states which found reality in the political independence of majority of the OAU member nations today.

Herein lies the irony of his life, aspirations and achievements, the forces of colonialism which he fought to conquer in his political heyday proved the circumstantially inevitable force that wrought his Waterloo. And this same political somersault perpetrating in Ghana also grips lots of other African nations. Her lies the veracity and aptness of a line in his epitaph in Guinea:

"Herein are the remains of Mr Irony
Who once could never die"

And for the whole epitaph, the composers deserve congratulations for demonstrating a piece of genius in most of what they say of this fallen hero.

GABRIEL O. NWOSU

Kaduna



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Books and Publications

FROM BRAZZA TO CONGO-B

Brazza of The Congo by Richard West (Jonathan Cape, £3 95)

While Leopoldville and Stanleyville have lost their names, in the revolutionary Congo across the river the founder of France's equatorial African colonies is still honoured in its capital's name, and his colleague, Captain Lamy, is still commemorated in the name of Chad's capital. In this, the first biography of Brazza in English, Richard West notes the contrast and while he does not develop it, one of his main themes is the difference in attitude and approach between the aristocratic Brazza and the self-made Stanley. Brazza secured for France the north bank of the Congo, and territory which was to form the modern Congo, Gabon, Central African Republic, and Chad. The contrast between the founders, and even more the contrast between their political masters (Mr West is unexpectedly kind to Stanley, reserving his main attack for the evil régime of King Leopold) was not to last. After Brazza left the city named after him, where he had been for 12 years the Governor, the most rapacious entrepreneurs, French and Belgian, were given full rein and finally Brazza was brought out of retirement to conduct a commission of enquiry into the administration of his Congo and the conduct of the concessionaires. He died on his return journey to France and his report was never published, but sufficient was known, and had been published, to justify E. D. Morel's claim that King Leopold "induced the French Government of the day by 'scandalous, financial and political intrigues, bribery, corruption and cowardice', as a French author of repute remarks, to adopt and apply to the coterminous territory of the French Congo, the principles and the policy that he had inaugurated in the Congo Free State".

Among those who were later to write about the evils of French rule in the French Congo was Andre Gide who, after some experience of his fellow countrymen in Africa, concluded that "the less intelligent the whiteman was the more stupid the blackman seemed".

Although Brazza is, rightly, the central figure of the story, Richard West's narrative is enriched by accounts of some of the most interesting outsiders ever to have gone to Africa. He asks more than once why this part of the continent, apparently far less attractive than almost any other, should have drawn these

people there. Whether his answer is adequate or not, he has most skilfully drawn on the writings of these people to support a narrative which is interesting enough in its own right. Nor are the Africans shadowy background figures; Chief Makoko, for example, who signed the key treaty with Brazza, comes vividly to life, as does Sgt Malamine, the Senegalese who was Brazza's deputy.

As well as Gide we have Joseph Conrad, and the far less well-known novelist Celine (*Journey To The End Of The Night*), as well as Mary Kingsley, for whom the Ogowe River in particular held a fascination, we have Roger Casement; as well as du Chaillu, the first European to see alive a gorilla, we have Richard Burton; as well as Trader Horn (whose recollections Mr. West considers to be genuine if often exaggerated and fanciful), we have Stanley himself.

There is a special chapter on Dr. Schweitzer in which Mr. West, who, on other topics, can seldom be described as a "middle-of-the-roader", says that the great man's paternal attitude to Africans was exactly the attitude he would have adopted to his workers at home; so far as Mr West is concerned 'Schweitzer is not on trial.' He was exactly what he seemed to be; "a German scholar and organist of outstanding genius who felt it his duty to spend his life in service to the Africans". Mr. West also has on his side the current campaign against pollution and the evil consequences of the technology which Schweitzer rejected. There is, too, a most interesting chapter on events in equatorial Africa in the early part of the 1939-45 war, as a result of which the great Ehoué became the Gaullist Governor-General.

All this Mr. West skilfully weaves together into a most readable and informative book. His material comes from a very large number of published books rather than from archives or private papers, but his books and his quotations have been carefully selected. He has also travelled widely in the area and concludes his book very briefly - in some cases almost casually - with an account of Chad, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Gambia and the Congo today; and, surprisingly, he concludes that today in Brazzaville, with its red flags and hammers and sickles, "the spirit of Brazza, that fine and generous man, lives on."

Mr. West occasionally gets carried away to overstatement. For example, he

claims that "the exploitation of Africans by greedy European capitalists" is "greater than it ever was". In the era of Nigeria's Indigenisation Decree and of nationalisation in many African countries, is this not an exaggeration? More serious is his determination on every possible occasion to introduce as he did in his last book, *Back to Africa*, references to Biafra and to what he considers to be the evil policies of the British Government towards the secessionists. He speaks for example of "kwashiorkor" which "wiped out the Biafrans"; and claims that "a million Biafrans were starved to death for the sake of Britain's petrol and soap-flake industries". These and similar references are even more irrelevant than they were in his previous book and show that Mr. West is unable to believe that an African government can act independently, as the government of General Gowon certainly did before and during the civil war. This is an extraordinarily neo-colonialist attitude for such a radical man. But it is shown, too, in his references, also irrelevant, to The Gambia which in this book, as in *Back to Africa*, he claims to have been forced by the British to become independent separately from Senegal as though the Gambian leaders had and could have absolutely nothing to do with it. Sir Richard Burton could not improve on this.

D.W.

Problems of Indian democracy

India's Democracy by A. H. Hanson and Janet Douglas (Weidenfeld & Nicholson £2.95)

Everything in India, say the authors in their introduction, appeared to work against the success of democracy. Above all the necessary "consensus" was lacking and politics have been "poverty-inspired". Their book is a study of the 20 years of "vigorous life" which India's democracy has enjoyed during the time that democracy has disappeared in so many countries which might seem to offer at least as favourable ground as India has. Professor Hanson, unhappily, who in recent years made India his special study, died shortly after the manuscript of the book was completed, but Miss Douglas, a former pupil of his, who collaborated in writing the book, has seen it through to publication.

For West African readers one of the most interesting sections of the book is that dealing with corruption in the administration. This is difficult to document, but, say the authors, it is certainly "a persistent worry to Indian administrative reformers. How much corruption there was in British days is uncertain, but it seems to have been largely confined to the lower echelons of the administration, and to have been extremely rare in the ICS and the other superior services. That most of the members of those services remain relatively immune to improper pressures seems probable, but that at least some of them have fallen from grace is



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universally admitted. When politicians are corrupt and clerks are corrupt, it is difficult for the administrative 'anocrats' to remain immune, particularly when their opportunities for malpractice have been so greatly increased by the advent of the 'licence and permit raj' and their temptations to engage in it by the fall in their standards of living. Efforts to stamp out corruption by the establishment of Vigilance Committees and the like, both at the Centre and in the states, have not been very effective. For reasons now very well-known, administrative corruption is almost unavoidable in developing societies, where western-type bureaucratic norms have not become fully internalised, and when the social system is such that the distinction between corruption and the loyalties associated with caste, community and the extended family cannot easily be made. Nevertheless, if it goes beyond a certain point, and particularly if it is seen to be on the increase, it cannot but undermine both the efficiency of the administrator and the trust that members of the public are prepared to place in him".

One should beware of exaggeration, say Professor Hanson and Miss Douglas. "Administrative collapse has been as frequently stayed off as it has been predicted. Indian critics of administration tend to think in apocalyptic terms, and to predict disaster unless the service immediately undertakes the exercise of self-purification"

For Nigeria the discussion of the Indian Police is particularly interesting - a subject seldom dealt with in works of this kind. "Even demonstrators, in their calmer moments, are prepared to justify the repressive police actions of which they have been the victims. Nevertheless, with the growth of violent behaviour, political and otherwise, the task of the police is increasing in difficulty, and so is their exposure to improper pressures. Numerically, with one policeman to eight or nine hundred Indians, they are strong enough to cope, neither better nor worse than their counterparts in many other countries, with the more normal forms of lawbreaking, but now that, in so many areas, the abnormal has become the normal, they are subjected to strains that can quickly become intolerable".

The authors conclude, "What is certain is that, irrespective of her self-image and international status, India remains one of the most important countries in the world, if for no other reason than that of size. The effect of what happens to India, economically and politically, cannot be confined to India. If the country remains viable, it will again have a powerful influence on South Asian and world politics. If a political vacuum appears where there was once a federal democracy, a vast area of chronic political instability will have been created. Hence, although we in this book have devoted almost all our attention to the country's internal problems, we must end by asserting, yet again, that India concerns everyone".

A.M.

The Green Revolution

How Revolutionary is the green revolution? by *Ingrid Palmer* (*Voluntary Committee on Overseas Aid and Development, 15np*).

It is astonishing how quickly the exuberant optimism engendered by the success of the new wheat and rice strains has given way to pessimism as the social and economic side-effects of the "miracle seeds" have become apparent. Miss Palmer describes the main problems - finance for the farmer, technical issues, storage and marketing, cultural resistance, distribution of benefits and social unrest, employment creation versus mechanisation and land reform - and argues that, in the first phase, the new technology tends to be adopted by richer, better-educated farmers, who make large profits from the greatly increased output; and that in the second phase prices start to fall, allowing only the rich farmers to survive, thus leading to further, potentially disruptive tension between the rich and poor in society. In a sensible foreword, Mr. Guy Hunter comments that "it may be that the author's evident political views and occasionally abbreviated economics have laid some arguments open to damaging attack, but the main thesis presents a genuine challenge". His own conclusion is that, "The challenge is inescapable, and the stakes are high. But before the scientists brought the new seeds to Asia, there was not even a winning chance".

D.N.

Failure of UNCTAD 3

End of an Illusion - Verdict on UNCTAD 3 (*World Development Movement, 20np*).

Written by John Greenway and Chris Pipe in conjunction with Chris Stockwell, who represented the Movement at Santiago, this pamphlet states unequivocally that the conference was a failure, a viewpoint which is common but not universal - Mr. Robert Gardiner, the executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, for instance, has been saying recently that there were a number of achievements of which the press reports did not give a true picture. The authors put most of the blame on the rich countries on the grounds that the rich failed to grasp the nature of the problem under discussion, but they also criticise the poor "Most of their delegates were not the most expert they could have found. They were diplomats without particular experience of the politics relating to development. They did not press where they had the best chance of success. They wasted much time arguing with each other instead of with the rich".

After examining the main issues at the conference the authors ask, "Where do we go from here?" Their answer is not the fashionable one of action by the poor themselves: this cannot work, they argue, because of the hold the rich maintain

over the existing systems. Their solution is that "forces must be made to operate from within the rich countries themselves, to change the pattern of world power". It is envisaged that the impetus for change will come from pressure groups such as the World Development Movement. "By constant vigilance, much can be achieved. There is nothing wrong with a little cautious optimism about what we can do, for our battle has scarcely begun yet. What is dangerous is for us to carry on believing that genuine co-operation is taking place. We will get nowhere by pretending that this old illusion is anything more than a fantasy".

Zambia and foreign rule

Reaction to Colonialism by *Henry S. Meebela* (*Manchester University Press, £1.20*).

Sub-titled "A prelude to the politics of independence in northern Zambia 1893-1939", this work was originally prepared as a University of London thesis and carries a foreword by President Kenneth Kaunda. It is an important contribution to the growing body of work about the reaction of the people of Zambia to the advent of foreign rule, which has (and still is) seriously misrepresented by many propagandists. As President Kaunda notes, this is more than a doctoral thesis, "it is a description of the early part of the struggle to keep away foreign rule. It is a candid essay on the refusal of a people to be dominated".

P.R.

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Books and Publications

International Tin Research Council annual report 1971.

The Institute is the executive of the International Tin Research Council which was established by the major tin producers to develop tin production. The report gives details of current scientific research by which the Institute hopes to achieve this aim.

A Guide to Successful Selling by Bull (African Universities Press)

This is a straightforward guide to selling in Africa, perhaps the first published specifically for African businessmen. It is an introduction to a subject which will be of interest to school-leavers but is meant primarily as a handbook for working salesmen.

The Historical Tradition of Mukama and Kintu, by David Cohen (Oxford University Press)

An historical reconstruction of the family and state traditions of Basoga (what is now Uganda), of the town of the sixty states which made up the now designated as Busoga. The traces in these events the rise of the spirits of Mukama and Kintu, which dominate Soga religion. The book is largely based on a collection of folk stories recorded by the author.

Royal Institute of International Affairs: Annual Report of the Council 1971-72.

The report reflects the increasing concern with the policy in international relations which is to be faced after the entry of Britain into the Common Market. The accounts of the organisation ended the financial year with a deficit of £49,685.

Export Handbook: Services for Exporters 1972 (British Overseas Trade Board, Fifth edition).

This is a guide to the services available through Government offices directed by the Board (established to help businessmen a more active role in the Government's promotion effort") and to the services available from Trade Associations, Chambers of Commerce and other official organisations with which the Board collaborates.

Institute of Administration, Bello University, Zaria: Program Objectives 1972.

In view of the stages of development through which the Institute has passed since it began life as a clerical institution in 1947, this booklet sets out the services now offered and outlines the Institute's plans for the future immediately ahead.

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Is Lagos "Over-Populated" ?

The drift from the rural areas to the city of Lagos has been causing some concern. A survey carried out by the Federal Ministry of Industry showed that, out of 2,000 industrial establishments in Nigeria, Lagos alone had 1,200. As a result, the Lagos State Government, in collaboration with the Federal Government, is looking into the possibility of re-locating factories now based in Lagos. Here Mr. D.C. Obialo, a post-graduate student in the Development Planning unit of the London University College School of Environmental Studies, suggests what the planners should do.

Governor Johnson's call to curb the influx of Nigerians into Lagos, does not appear to be backed with effective practical measures. Words are not enough. Besides the military are noted for action not sentiment. Shall we hear the arguments of his physical planners, or economists and social scientists, and their action programmes in pursuit of the Governor's call?

Whatever measures planners may want, a number of facts are fundamental and because of these Lagos should not be compared with other urban centres in the country: (a) Lagos is the capital of Nigeria. (b) Lagos is the largest sea port. (c) Lagos is the largest urban centre. (d) Derived from the above three facts, Lagos provides the largest number and variety of jobs in the country.

One wonders whether anyone can by legislation prevent a Nigerian citizen from Sokoto, Maiduguri, Calabar or Brass from deciding to work and live in Lagos, the capital city of his country.

The population of Lagos is very small compared with that of other primate cities of countries of comparable sizes and population to Nigeria. In addition Nigeria is much wealthier than some developing countries. Over 6 per cent of Ghana's population live in Accra, but Lagos has only 2.5 per cent of the population of Nigeria.

Lagos planners must get to grips with its problems. They have to find the population of Lagos - Greater Lagos - and its yearly immigrants and they must accept them as facts of life and work with them as their basic data. They must plan to accommodate existing and incoming population in terms of employment, infrastructure, housing and other social services. These are the prices Lagos has to pay for its four qualities already mentioned. But are there any such plans at present - no matter how crude? If they exist and Lagos State is unable to implement them out of its own resources, the Federal Government must go to its aid, for Lagos is our national capital.

The slogan "Back to the land" is now too old and in any case unattainable. It is in fact incompatible with the industrialisation which we always talk about, little realising that increased industrialisation accelerates urban growth.

As already stated, the problem of Lagos is that of the whole country. And to tackle it we have to have a quick look at the whole country. We must project the population of Lagos, of the capitals of the other eleven States, and of other urban centres with populations of over 20,000 now to the year 1976 for instance. We must at the national level know the population movements, the

economic growth, and the natural resources of all these cities and their surrounding areas and evolve a policy of industrial location: dispersion or concentration. Our economic development plans should get out of their present "fairy tale" pattern and go into micro-level analysis of peoples' places of work and living, the infrastructure and the social services. And for each of the priority urban centres, Lagos being the first, there have to be action programmes to provide work, housing and services in relation to the projected population. These need no extensive surveys, but a team with an urgent sense of duty at the national level consisting of physical planners, economists, demographers and social scientists to carry out the suggested analysis and produce a plan. Luckily there are already voices in the Federal Government calling for a national urbanisation policy; the team should gear itself to formulation of urbanisation policy and strategies for the whole country.

My contention, however, is that Lagos is not "over-populated", whatever that means. Lagos planners have only not worked hard enough to provide employment, housing and services for a population that they knew too well long ago was growing and would ever grow at even faster rates. In my opinion, the present industrial set-ups in Lagos are not enough for its population now and in the next five years. Its present unemployment, including under- and disguised-, is well-known. Population movement is a natural phenomenon. The planners' responsibility is to provide for the urban newcomers and improve the lot of the existing inhabitants. Except South Africa and Rhodesia no country has attempted with any success to solve its rural-urban migration by legislation.

The urban newcomers are coming into Lagos and will continue to come. Development in the rural areas and in the other urban centres in the country may affect substantially rural-urban migration to urban centres of very low-grade and in fact not Lagos. Development of Brasilia together with other rural development projects in Brazil has not reduced the influx of Brazilians to Rio and San Paulo.

What then should the planners of Lagos do? Plan to accommodate the newcomers and the old residents? Or drive away one newcomer, a planner's son, to a farm settlement near Maiduguri, and another, my son, provide him a house at Surulere Estate and a job as an electrician at Ijora Power Station? No, they have to find out how many want to work and live in Lagos, and why. It is a free country. Their findings will set them thinking and looking for solutions.

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IVORY COAST

The importance of agriculture

Tamar Golan concludes her study of the prospects for and achievements so far of Ivorian agricultural policy.

The primacy of agriculture is not only responsible for the fact that the Ivorian economy is not in fact as dominated by foreign interests as those of countries with large mineral resources exploited by foreign firms, it is also responsible for a fairer distribution of wealth inside the country. In certain other countries, where large sums from royalties and export taxes pour into the Government's coffers, much money is spent on extravagant projects, or enriches the secret funds of the people in power. Only pitifully small amounts are devoted to improving the standard of living of the mass population. This is an all-too-well-known malaise. The Ivory Coast, however, was saved from some of its most flagrant manifestations, simply because the Government is not the owner, or in a position to put pressure on the owners, of such revenues.

These may be obtained from gold, oil, copper or diamond exports; but cocoa and coffee are grown by small planters, and if they are not paid for promptly the country would go bankrupt.

This simple truth has, on the whole, guided the Government's action so far. Last month, it was announced that for the third consecutive year, cocoa producers would be paid 85 CFA francs per kg., despite the fall in the world cocoa prices. It is assumed that this would be a subsidised price, unless world prices rise. This is not to say that there have not been certain abuses: the Ivorian "elite" maintains a standard of living unrivalled in Africa (except some personalities in Nigeria, Zaire and Ethiopia). In the past few years, the cost of the administration has soared so high that the Minister of Finance had to admit that it is now more than 50 per cent of the regular budget. Official salaries paid to the upper echelon of ministers, diplomats, directors, etc., are among the highest in the Continent (a minister's salary, for example, is said to be around \$2,500 a month, fringe benefits not included). President Houphouët Boigny himself devoted a long passage in his New Year address to

those "luckily a minority, who... have not only a very relative conscience of the duties involved in their official functions, but who also use, for their own benefit or of some others, the power given to them". This speech was followed by an announcement of an "austerity régime", including cuts in approved personal expenditures, first-class air travel by government officials, etc. But little concrete seems to have happened so far. This is a pity not only because the Government needs money to relieve the burden of the national debt, but also because of the important socio-psychological implications of such a failure.

The special care given to agriculture and the political importance of the "kulak class" have made Ivorian agriculture one of the most technologically advanced and efficiently planned in the Continent. The Ivory Coast has become a hotbed for important experiments in methods of cultivation, organisation of production, selection of crops, marketing and, most important, of modernising the social structure of the rural society with a minimum amount of pain. It is in this field, more than in any other, that the Ivory Coast can be seen as a successful model of development.

President Houphouët Boigny has placed two of his most capable technocrats at the head of the Agriculture and Planning Ministries: Abdoulaye Sawadogo and Mohamed Diawara, together with the President, who has taken an active part in formulating the agricultural policy, have adopted dynamic and unconventional methods.

The most interesting are the state corporations, such as the Motoragn, for the clearance of forest land and its preparation for cultivation; Sarmaci, for the encouragement, guidance, control of production and marketing of rice; Agripac, for the transport, cold-storage and marketing of products. The most interesting state enterprises is that they are created on a national, rather than regional, basis. This has been done not merely in order to centralise and facilitate control but

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mostly in order to avoid any accusations of regional or tribal favouritism. African countries have already shown interest in the Ivorian method. For example, the Liberian Minister of Culture, J. Phillips Jr., after an official visit to the Ivory Coast, has set up in Liberia a state-enterprise after the Motoragn model and with the assistance of the same Israeli firm.

The group of organisations forming the Ivorian Government is intended to cover production from the initial stages of forest clearing and choice of crops for overseas sales. There are six categories:

- i. Specialised state corporations, producing coffee, cocoa, rice, etc.
- ii. Research institutions to study soil selection, soils, climate conditions and adaptability of new crops.
- iii. Marketing Boards, to ensure the purchase of crops from the farmer at fixed prices and to regulate supply and demand.
- iv. The National Bank for Agricultural Development.
- v. The Ivorian Foreign Trade Centre to study overseas markets etc.
- vi. Agripac, the latest creation, designed to build stores and central warehouses to cold-store the produce, transport it from the producer to the market, protect it from fruit against disease, and arrange shipment to overseas markets.

To sum up: Ivory Coast's past dependence on mineral resources had had its political aspects. The heavy reliance on agricultural and small-holder production is the most important factor in its recent economic growth. The principal features of this model of development are:

1. It has given the Ivory Coast a measure of indigenous control of its economic production (though not of its economy as a whole) than it would like to believe.
2. It has guaranteed a fairer distribution of wealth and the Government has protected the peasant class.
3. It has also helped to establish a moderate, stable political system.
4. It has encouraged the search for modern and efficient methods of agricultural development which has had an immediate effect on improving the life of the man in the bush.

But world conditions are dictating a need for diversification if the country is to continue its rapid economic growth. In their effort to diversify, the Ivorians have relied heavily on short and medium-term foreign loans and on private foreign investments. Repayments are now beginning to come due, while the fruits of diversification are only just beginning to ripen. The country's leadership are also feeling increasing internal pressure to adjust the modern sectors of the economy.

The Ivorian leadership must now again find the solution to these problems. The outcome may have far-reaching implications not only for the Ivory Coast but also for the rest of Africa and for all those who believe in the "liberal model" of development.

Farmer Tsitsi and "Operation Feed Yourself"

(Life of Madam Altastes continued from West Africa, June 9, 1972)

A strange, unusual silence which had been falling over Ghana's rural world since early this year reached its climax last June, with the occasional "maa!" of sheep, "kokohakohoe!" of a cock, "ding-dong!" of the old school bell, and the roaring of a passing motor vehicle disturbing the stillness.

Madam Altastes was being brought into so close a contact with the countryside by the fact that she has to obtain her plantain supplies from there since rainfall and cultivation are limited in the barren seaboard city where she trades. Her specific supplier is the wholesaler Farmer Tsitsi who lives in the far-away village called Gazokrom.

Here at Gazokrom on that June day utter silence pervaded the men's gossip centre under the shade of the old acajou tree where only one lame man could be seen at his ease in one of the rustic stone seats having his siesta by the roadside. Him neither fire, state drums, nor military operations could rouse from the village. No one else seemed to be within sight in the lanes or houses for not a footstep was audible anywhere around. A small goat stood in the centre of the lane, its head turned to look at the approaching visitor in enquiring wonder. Beside the lane was the mud village wall across which the early morning sun was leaning, the gate and windows shut up close, not the thinnest coil of smoke rising up from the roof, all still, and neither Tsitsi nor his wife seemed to be within.

At the river crossing at the outskirts of the village birds came with great daring noise out of the coconut boughs. They flew into the air, hung on the wing for some time sunning themselves and then boldly perched on the wet telephone wires. But where were the children who used to splash about and sing and scare away the birds? Farmer Tsitsi and his men would not still be at the funeral celebrations at Nzema, moreover the importance of the funeral for the late national hero had long changed from checking the sorrow of the nation to encouraging laughter and jokes.

There must be much in the quiet that attracted the visitor's attention.

Gazokrom is romantically situated between a range of hills covered with forest and lying to the east and a savanna plain lying to the west. Glancing up casually the visitor saw smoke curling up here and there over the forest tops on War Hill, Elephant Forest, Tokploe, Dzalele, and Ram in Rock — the respectable fertile parts of the village hill. This provided the clue for there is no smoke without fire. It proclaimed beyond all doubt that the whole village populace were afield scratching, digging, hoeing, weeding in answer to prayers for food under a new national programme called Operation Feed Yourself.

June, the busiest time of the agricultural year, having arrived and nothing that the villagers could do within the houses being so profitable as working in the fields, they had gone out. It is the time of the year when the whole countryside seems to be bursting into bloom. The neighbouring stream slid along gently as a shade, the juicy leaves forming a soft cover upon it while the coconut palms around take on a solemn gorgeousness under the dark, low-hanging skies. The air is strong with the sweet light scent of wild flowers. Yam tubers start to form and the maize fields rise into mature ears. Under these influences the farmer thinks more about weeding his farm and of putting fresh soils round the yams than anything else.

Great time coming

"Half the pleasure of a feeling", wrote Thomas Hardy, "lies in being able to express it on the spur of the moment," and the Ghana Government let out theirs.

"How long is it since you have been so afflicted with strong feeling then?"

"The climax of the hunger came with the devaluation of the cedi in December. We came to power in the following month and immediately launched the programme for the people to feed themselves".

"But we have long since the time of our great, great ancestors already known how to feed ourselves?"

"Well, all are agreed that Ghana is a country endowed with good land and a good climate for agriculture. But never before have agricultural pursuits been carried on so extensively as now. Everyone is in support of the programme. Far from being a low employ, agriculture now furnishes a delightful occupation even for graduates. Schools and colleges are making large farms. Office workers in the towns and cities spend their free time doing backyard gardening. It's a war, agricultural war and the common enemy is hunger".

At Gazokrom, it had been a large company whom the village chief courteously summoned at the request of the new District Commissioner; that motley gathering of villagers — Farmer Tsitsi with a woman's headkerchief tied round his head; the rat-catcher with his implements of spear and cutlass; the red-bearded men; the chief's official messenger with his dark-brown, knee-length gown; the chief landholders who, with the coming of cocoa and coffee, had suddenly turned cruel landlords; women who hastened away from their kitchen fires.

The new official in khaki trousers and a shirt had rigid and stern features and a dry military manner, not speaking in proverbs or of morals or religion. But

there are times when villagers will tolerate a great deal of uncustomary behaviour. There is no programme that interests these villagers more than one that is related to the fight against poverty, disease, ignorance and rural development such as the provision of water and agriculture. Complaints and cries about parliamentary failure in Africa are not of much help. Farmer Tsitsi, particularly, has a constitutional preference for calling a hoe a hoe. And when he can afford to buy farm machinery, fertilisers, and insecticides with which to protect the coconuts at the outskirts of the village he felt just about as happy as any Churchill with all his acres of parliamentary crops. Happily the poster on the acajou tree at the village meeting place proclaimed that:

The needy could call for seed-grains

That the Government has decided to

waive taxes on all agricultural implements.

Farmers could obtain loans from the

Agricultural Development Bank to buy

tractors.

Tsitsi greeted the day as a technical rally while the market mammy called it "the strongest rally since independence. Great time coming!"

The hyena had longed to run, and now they say his mother-in-law's goat has cut loose. Look at Farmer Tsitsi for one day's work soon after the Operation Feed Yourself programme was launched. The quick action of his heart became all excitement. Two ropes of land cleared in a day! Occasionally he stood upright, spat into his hands, grasped the handle of his hoe again and swept it through the earth. Then as if Mrs. Tsitsi had developed a satisfactory religion concomitant with the changing hours of the day, food came, carried by a daughter, and they all gathered together under the shade of the trees by Tsitsi and ate. There was the luscious akple to eat with kontomle and palm oil.

The land on which Farmer Tsitsi worked was an exhausted and depleted one, covered with thin grass. The system of manure and irrigation had not been known. But out of this land the farmer is sure to produce enough this year to meet the demands of his family and the market mummies.

But can he competently and cheaply market and transport enough from the fields? "Peasant farmers", it has been pointed out, "even if moved by propaganda will be impeded by sheer ignorance. Distribution, transportation, processing and marketing facilities must also be built up gradually". In the meantime since full loads of the seedlings and cassava sticks supplied by the Government are impossible to be carried to the distant farms Tsitsi and his wife carry quarter loads and walk four times as a result.

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Commercial News

OVERSEAS AID . . . Britain plans increase

The British Government plans to increase official aid over the next four years by an average, in real terms, of 7½ per cent a year, the Prime Minister, Mr. Edward Heath, told a meeting of the Royal Commonwealth Society in London recently. "Indeed", he stressed, "in the last two years of this period the increase will be at a rate of nine per cent a year, considerably greater than we have achieved in the past and considerably greater than the rate that we have in mind for most of our domestic programmes. These figures for official aid are the best proof of our good will and of our acceptance of responsibility towards the developing world".

Mr. Heath pointed out that in 1970 official aid, private investment and guaranteed export credit together exceeded the one per cent target for total flows set by the second UNCTAD "and though the final figures are not yet available we have probably done so again in 1971. I have always felt sure that it was right to regard the flow of private investment as helping the economies of the developing countries. I know that some Governments have chosen to discourage such investment in their countries, but many more have welcomed it in general. They are free to accept or reject particular forms of investment which they think best for their own peoples. If they accept a particular project then they do so because they judge it would help the development of their own country. Often indeed private investment includes a package of technology as well as financial help which is particularly valuable. The proportion of official aid, as a percentage of our GNP, is rising, but we as a government will also continue to do everything we can to encourage private investment in the developing countries because we believe this to be to their benefit as well as our own".

Referring to the European Community, Mr. Heath denied that it was an inward looking group, or a rich man's club. The Community's policies on trade and aid contradicted that argument, but he believed that British entry would give a fresh impetus to this aspect of the Community's work. "When I visited Paris in May last year it was heartening to find that President Pompidou and the French Government laid particular stress on this point. Indeed it was clear that one strong

reason for the welcome which they extended to us was that they recognised that Britain shared with France a sense of responsibility for the progress of those countries with which we have traditionally been associated. As you know a large part of our negotiations with the Community were taken up with reaching agreements to protect legitimate Commonwealth interests. I believe that once we are members we can move on beyond this".

Taken together, the countries of Western Europe had impressive resources, knowledge and understanding of the developing nations, which needed to be organised in a European framework. "This does not mean disrupting existing programmes. It does mean working towards a planned use of resources on a European scale".

OECD reviews members' aid

Net disbursements of official development assistance (ODA) by the Netherlands increased from \$196m. in 1970 to \$216m. in 1971, the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD found in its annual review of the country's aid efforts and policies. As a percentage of the gross national product, however, this represented a slight decline from 0.6 per cent to 0.60 per cent, which placed the Netherlands third among DAC members for 1971. As a result of a 2.7 per cent growth of private flows, the total ODA flow expanded by about one quarter to \$590m. or 1.63 per cent of GNP, the highest percentage among DAC members.

The Committee discussed the implications of the new medium-term Plan for Development Co-operation (1972-1975) and noted that the 0.7 per cent net ODA disbursements target to which the Netherlands has subscribed in the framework of the U.N. Development Strategy would be reached by 1975 if further efforts were made to accelerate disbursements. The Netherlands continued to comply with the DAC recommendation on the financial terms of assistance by extending the major part of its aid at highly concessional terms. Most bilateral aid remained tied to procurements in the Netherlands, but an increasing share of ODA was channelled through multilateral organisations without any procurement restrictions.

The OECD Committee in its annual review of Danish "aid" notes the "continued fast growth of the official development assistance (ODA) programme of Denmark". In 1971, ODA disbursements reached \$74m and increased by about one-fourth over the preceding year. They represented 0.43 per cent of gross national product (GNP) compared with 0.38 per cent in 1970. Together with private flows which, according to the preliminary figures, expanded also very rapidly, the total net flow reached about \$138, or 0.80 per cent of GNP. The Committee welcomed the priority Denmark continues to place on official development assistance. It expressed the hope that present planning, which aims at increasing ODA to about 0.7 per cent of GNP soon after the middle of the decade, will not be affected by short term economic difficulties. All Danish loans were extended interest-free with about 25 years maturities. Consideration is given to extending even more concessional loans in the future to the poorest countries.



The corvette NNS Dorina undergoing speed trials in the English Channel with her sister ship NNS Otobo, launched at Portsmouth in May, 1971. Both ships were built by Vosper Thornycroft of Portsmouth, and the NNS Dorina is expected to arrive in Lagos at the end of December. The two ships initially cost a total of £4m. Each corvette, weighing 650 tons and 202 ft long, has accommodation for an admiral, captain, six officers, 15 senior and 46 junior ratings.

• Mr. Richard Wood, UK Minister for Overseas Development, has visited Bonn for talks with Dr. Erhard Eppler, Minister for Economic Co-operation in the German Federal Government. The meeting is one of a series which Mr. Wood is having with his opposite numbers in Europe, the first, held in London last October, was with M. Bourges, the French Minister of State responsible for aid to Africa.

• A study published in the monthly review of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York argues that "the evidence seems clear that the United States' direct investment overseas is a long-run positive factor in the balance of payments", although it stresses that the statistics necessary to give positive proof are not available. The study points out that between 1961 and 1970 the USA invested \$28,000m. overseas and spent \$1,300m. on interest payments abroad. But income from direct investments totalled \$41,800m. to which must be added royalties and fees. The net inflow of funds in this period is estimated at \$35,000m. The survey estimates that exports associated with the overseas activities of American companies amounted to about \$12,000m. in 1970 while imports to the US from affiliates overseas (potential substitutes for domestic production) were only \$3,000m.

• Brazil has unveiled a \$53m. eight-year programme to double its rubber production -- to 60,000 tons a year.

• Ghana's Department of Parks and Gardens has announced that a five-year tea-growing experiment has led to the nursing of 40,000 potted tea seedlings between one and two feet high at Aburi. Surveys are being made at Abetifi and Amedzope in Eastern Ghana, to see if they are suitable sites for similar plantations.

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Cocoa price rise explained

Recent rises in world cocoa prices are attributed by the *Cocoa Market Report* of Wilson, Smithett & Cope to the following factors: realisation that sterling had in fact been devalued, leading to an increase in the sterling price of cocoa, better than expected grindings (USA second quarter grindings down 3.1 per cent - Dutch grindings for June up 27 per cent - West German second quarter up 6.4 per cent - UK second quarter up 19.6 per cent); tightening in the Bahia minimum price; unconfirmed London report that the Cocoa Producers Alliance were considering stockpiling 50,000 tons next season; producer countries apparently not taking advantage of higher prices to further newcrop sales, with the exception of Ivory Coast; reports that Ghana's mid-crop purchases were coming in rather slowly.

Reliable crop news has been "sadly lacking", says the review, apart from some talk about heavier than usual rains in Ghana and Ivory Coast, and of Black Pod in Brazil.

- Light crop cocoa purchases have been disappointing, according to reports from Nigeria. The delay in the release of funds by the Marketing Board, which is faced with depleted resources and poor market prices, is said to be depriving the farmers of incentive to protect their trees.

- Cocoa purchases in Ghana after three weeks of the mid-crop season totalled 2,805 tons compared with 8,569 tons after the same period last season (which started much earlier).

- A company in Upper Volta has ordered 20,000 bags of cement a month, beginning in July, from the Ghana Cement Works. The project manager of the cement works, Mr. Tor Kielsaas, said that Upper Volta and other neighbouring countries had turned to Ghana for cement because it has been found more suitable to weather conditions and more quickly delivered. Since last year 10,000 bags of cement have been exported to Upper Volta. The company has decided to subsidise a bag of cement by 12 pesewas to offset transport costs by customers in Accra who buy from Takoradi, to enable them to sell at the controlled price. The Cement Works has recently suffered a shortage of clinker, but supplies have now been resumed from Norway.

It is hoped that the factories at Takoradi and Tema will produce 1m bags per month. At the moment Takoradi is producing 160,000 bags a week and Tema 90,000. Production was stopped in May because the company owed the Norwegian firm supplying clinker 10m cedis - the cost of a year's supply of raw materials.

- Ghana has banned imports of ball-point pens, nails, matchets and paper-clips.

Nigeria criticises France

A broadcast on Radio Kaduna criticised France for hindering regional co-operation in West Africa. Recalling that in the last two years, due to "increased consciousness and contacts" it looked as if some kind of economic union was in the offing. Various political and economic forces began emerging to prepare the ground. "Trade terms and falling prices for their primary products in the world market made it necessary for West African countries to come together". The overthrow of Dr. Busia in Ghana "with his erratic economic policies and his bad neighbourliness" removed one of the obstacles. Then Nigeria and Togo agreed on an economic union as the nucleus of a future West African Common Market. "Even though it didn't

carry much credibility because of a very limited initial membership and coldness of some countries, it was that further diplomatic efforts to broaden its base. Then the French African countries announced the creation of their own economic group. "This negated the Nigeria-Togo effort postponed the creation of a bigger, more positive economic grouping". France, through the back door and the aid of puppet leaders, had postponed regional co-operation. "It cannot be African leaders do not understand jeopardy they are putting their nations by collaborating with foreign exploiters. The solution lies with their African countrymen, even if it involves changing régime and power", the radio comment.

Japan to build lime plant

Hitachi Shipbuilding and Engineering and Mitsui Bussan (trading) have decided to set up a joint company with the Nigerian federal government to build a superphosphate of lime plant in Kaduna costing 2,800 million yen (about £3m.), says the Tokyo industrial daily *Nikkan Kogyo*. The Japanese firms have responded to an offer by the Nigerian government to purchase the plant and its request for their capital participation. The two companies are shortly sending a survey mission to negotiate the deal in detail.

As a result of the Hitachi and Mitsui decision, Nigeria will have its first fertilizer plant. The Nigerian government consulted the Japan Plant Association and it was decided that phosphate be purchased from Togo and sulphuric acid from Japan and that the plant in Nigeria should produce 100,000 tons of superphosphate of lime a year. Besides selling the plant to Nigeria, Hitachi and Mitsui will operate a joint venture with the Nigerian government.

- The marketing director of BP Nigeria, Mr. R. B. Lynskey, has been appointed managing director. Before Mr. Lynskey, who succeeds Mr. D. A. Johnson, went to Nigeria 18 months ago he was respon-

sible for West African countries with headquarters in London.

- Considerable difficulties are still experienced by the Nigerian Authority because of forged documents and pilferage at Apapa, reports State Bank. "The introduction of Forms 156 and 157, a substitute for the old entry when obtaining release of cargo has been carried out in conjunction with the shipping companies and should speed up the overall time taken to release cargo after submission of the customs entry".

- General Gowon, in a message to the new Japanese Prime Minister Mr. Tanaka called on Japan to match its international stature with its "economic might".

- The Electricity Corporation of Nigeria Dams Authority have now formally fused into a single organisation the National Electrical Power Authority. The chairman of the new authority is permanent secretary to the Federal Nigerian Ministry of Mines and Power.

- The £0.7m. Bagauda Lake 1 outside Kano will be officially opened in September. The £0.4m. Lake Chad 1 in Maiduguri, North-Eastern State, opened on July 31.

Trade figures promising in Nigeria

Provisional Nigerian trade figures for April show that exports and re-exports reached £N 58.2m, while imports totalled £N 41.8m. The trade surplus in the first four months of 1972 reached £N 43.8m, compared with £N 11.9m in the same period last year.

Reporting that there have been no signs of recovery in the textile trade in Nigeria, the *Standard Bank Review* for July says that there seems little likelihood of any improvement until the produce seasons opens. "Retail traders are holding large stocks which are moving very slowly indeed while the factories, many of them working on one shift only, are accumulat-

ing stocks. The larger companies, Kaduna Textiles Ltd. and United Nigeria Textiles Ltd., have continued to sell and production to reasonable levels but the smaller companies have been harder. The Northern Nigerian Textile Mills Ltd., in Kaduna has, for the moment, shelved its expansion programme. As a result of continuous losses during past months the Nigeria Textile Mills at Ikeria has declared its 4,200 workers redundant. Its output had fallen from 4m. to 2m. yards of cloth per month. Redundancies have also been announced by the Permatex Weaving Industry in Enugu.

WEST AFRICAN SHIPPING NEWS

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From N. Continent:- PATANI s/d Bremen Jul 28 for Antwerp. Rotterdam. KABALA due Lome Jul 30.

From Southampton:- AUREOL due Jul 29

NORTHBOUND - To Liverpool:- DEIDO due Aug. 3. DARU due Jul 28

To London:- FULANI due Jul. 30. FALABA s/d Apapa Jun. 30.

To Glasgow:- KOHIMA due Jun. 30.

To Avonmouth:- DUMBALA due Monrovia Jun 29

To N. Continent:- FORCADOS s/d Takoradi Jun 28

To Poole:- CLEARWAY due Aug 1

EASTBOUND - From USA/Canada:- DIGEMA s/g. New York Aug. 4. DUMURRA due Cotonou Jul 29

WESTBOUND - To USA/Canada:- AKOSOMBO due Abidjan Jul 30. FIAN due Montreal Jun. 30

EASTERN SERVICE to W.A. - TAYBANK s/d. Apapa Jul 28

BARBER LINES

OUTWARDS - FERNGATE due Abidjan Aug. 1, thence Tema, Lagos/Apapa, Douala; **FERNLAND** due sail New York Aug 15 for Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/Apapa, Douala.

HOMEWARDS - FERNLAND due New York Aug 11. **FERNGATE** due load Lagos S. Bound about Aug 4, Ghana Aug 10, Abidjan/Monrovia mid/3rd week Aug. **FERNLAND** due load Lagos S. Bound Sept 1, Ghana Sept 6, Abidjan/Monrovia 2nd week Sept

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WESTBOUND - from Japan via Hong Kong to Port Harcourt, Lagos, Tema, Abidjan, Freetown etc:- TEXAS MARU s/d. Japan Jul 13 due Port Harcourt Aug. 21

EASTBOUND - From Lagos, Tema, Abidjan, Freetown etc, via Hong Kong:- TEXAS MARU s/d. Port Harcourt Aug 25 due Japan Oct 16

WOERMANN LINE

TANGA s/g Rotterdam Aug 2 due Tema Aug. 13. Apapa Aug 15. **ABOISSO** s/g Le Havre Aug. 5 due Dakar Aug 13, Abidjan Aug. 17, Cotonou Aug. 20, Douala Aug 23.

DAFRA LINE

EASTBOUND - BELGIEN s/g Houston Aug 16. New Orleans Aug 22

WESTBOUND - FRANKRIG s/g. Angola Sept. 2, Douala Sept. 9, Calaba Sept. 10.

GOLD STAR LINE

WESTBOUND - DENGANYA Lobito Aug 10. Luanda Aug. 11, Matadi Aug 17

EASTBOUND - SAHARA Singapore Aug. 8, Hong Kong Aug. 13

BLACK STAR LINE/USNH/WEST AFRICA

WESTBOUND - HINYA RIVER Lagos Jul 13, Sapele Jul 22, Ghana Jul 31; Abidjan Aug. 3, Montreal Aug 14, Thence Gt Lakes

BLACK STAR LINE/U.K./CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA

SOUTHBOUND - OCHIN RIVER Bremen Jul 20, Hamburg Jul 22, Antwerp Jul 25; Rotterdam Jul 27, Dunkirk Jul 29, Rouen Jul 31. **SAKUMI AGOON** London Jul 28. **OICHI RIVER** Middlesbrough Jul 27

NORTHBOUND - PRA RIVER Bremen Jul 25, Hamburg Jul 27; **OICHI RIVER** Middlesbrough Jul 27

DELTA LINE

DELTA ARGENTINA due Houston Aug 16, Dakar Sept 4, Freetown Aug. 7. **DEL RIO** due Takoradi Sept. 13, Tema Sept. 15.

PALM LINE

SOUTHBOUND - From Continent:- INUGU PALM due Cotonou Aug 8

From Liverpool:- IBADAN PALM due Pointe Noire Aug 6.

NORTHBOUND - To Continent:- KATSINA PALM due Rotterdam Aug 8

To Liverpool:- KANO PALM s/g. Apapa Aug 6.

N.Y.K. LINE

WESTBOUND - SHIMANE MARU Lagos/Apapa Aug. 20/23, Abidjan Sept. 1/2, Takoradi Sept. 3/5, Tema Sept. 5/6

EASTBOUND - SHIMANE MARU Tema Sept. 5/6, Japan first Port Oct. 5.

MIITSUI OSK LINE

AKIBASAN MARU s/d Kobe Jul 28 due Lagos Sept. 3; **HOUSTON MARU** s/g Kobe Aug 4 due Lagos Sept 11

MAERSK LINE

INWARDS - From Japan via Hong Kong to Matadi, Lagos, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan:- SUSAN MAERSK s/g. Kobe Aug. 5 due Luanda Sept 1.

OUTWARDS - From Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan, Tadoradi:- MAREN MAERSK s/g Abidjan Aug 6 due Takoradi Aug 7.

FARRELL LINES

HOMEWARDS - AFRICAN PLANET s/g. Luanda Aug 2 for Lobito, Abidjan, Monrovia, U.S. ports, **AFRICAN CRESCENT** s/g. Matadi Aug. 23 for Luanda, Lobito, Abidjan, Monrovia, U.S. ports

OUTWARDS - AFRICAN CRESCENT due Monrovia Aug 7 for Abidjan, Tema Aug 13, Matadi, Luanda, Lobito, **AFRICAN STAR** due Dakar Aug 21 for Freetown, Monrovia Aug 27, Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema Sept 4, Lagos/Apapa Sept 6, Douala

NEDLLOYD - SWAL JOINT SERVICES HOGHI MELING s/g. Bordeaux Aug 4 due Boma/Matadi Aug 18, Pointe Noire Aug. 20, Luanda Aug. 23, **BALONG** s/g. Rouen Aug. 18 due Boma/Matadi Aug. 30, Pointe Noire Sept. 1, Luanda Sept. 4, Lobito Sept. 7.

NIGERIAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE

SOUTHBOUND - RIVER ELLHOPE s/g. Liverpool Aug 17 due Tema Aug 27.

NORTHBOUND - NNAMDI AZIKIWE due Glasgow Aug 5.

SCANDINAVIAN WEST AFRICA LINE

NORTHBOUND - MINNESOTA s/g. W.A. Late Aug /Sept. for discharge Scan. early Oct.;

VIKAREN s/g. W.A. Mid Sept/early Oct for discharge Scan. Mid Oct./Nov.

HOOCH LINES

HOOCH BEAVER s/g. Antwerp Aug. 4 due Dakar Aug. 16, Abidjan Aug. 20, Port Harcourt Aug. 24. **HOOCH BREEZE** Hamburg Aug. 18, Antwerp Aug. 22, Rotterdam Aug. 24 due Tema Sept 9.

ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINE

INWARDS - STRAAT FREETOWN from Japan s/d Jun. 18, due Luanda Jul 19, Monrovia Jul 24, Freetown Jul. 26, Port Harcourt Aug. 1, Lagos/Apapa Aug. 3, Takoradi Aug. 8, Abidjan Aug. 11; **STRAAT VAN DIEMEN** from Hong Kong, s/d Jun. 1, due Lagos/Apapa Jul 3, Cotonou Jul. 10, Lome Jul 12, Tema Jul 13, Abidjan Jul 14, Monrovia Jul 16, Freetown Jul. 18, Dakar Jul. 21, Takoradi Jul 24.

OUTWARDS - STRAAT FREETOWN from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt., Hong Kong and Japan early Aug. **STRAAT VAN DIEMEN** from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt., Hong Kong, Japan and Shanghai late Jul.

EAL EUROPE - AFRIKA LINE GmbH

ADOLJ VINNEN due Lome Aug 5, Cotonou Aug. 7, Douala Aug. 10, **NEDDERLAND** due Lagos/Apapa Aug 8, Douala Aug. 11, Port Gentil Aug. 13

NOPAL LINES

WESTBOUND - IVORY MOON due Luanda Aug 13, Douala Aug 18, Takoradi Aug. 20, Abidjan Aug 21, **NOPAL TELLUS** s/g. Luanda Sept. 2 due Cotonou Sept 8, Abidjan Sept 9.

WESTWIND AFRICA LINE

SOUTHWIND s/g. New Orleans Aug. 6, Houston Aug. 11 due Lagos Aug 31, Freetown Sept. 4, **NORTHWIND** s/g. New Orleans Aug. 10, Houston Aug 15 due Lagos Sept. 5.

THE E.A.C. LINES

SOUTHBOUND - PANAMA s/g. Hamburg Aug 5, Antwerp Aug. 7 Rotterdam Aug. 10 due Dakar Aug 19, Monrovia Aug. 22, Abidjan Aug. 24, Cotonou Aug. 27, **SINALOA** s/g. Scan. Aug. 15, Bremen Aug 17, Hamburg Aug. 20 due Dakar Sept. 4, Freetown Sept. 7, Monrovia Sept 8.

NORTHBOUND - SIMBA s/g. Abidjan Aug. 10, Monrovia Aug. 12 de Amsterdam Aug. 22, Scan Aug 26.

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SOME USEFUL DATES YOU SHOULD
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The above mentioned Association is
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TENTH ANNIVERSARY

taking place on the following dates:-

5th AUGUST 1972

(a) Press Conference (1 p.m.)

(b) Thanksgiving Service at 2 p.m.

Place:- Islamic Cultural Centre

6th AUGUST 1972

Symposium at 3 p.m.

Place:- Islamic Cultural Centre, 14th

Rd., London NWS

Tube - Baker St.

Buses - 2, 13, 26, 74, 111

12th AUGUST 1972

Evening Cocktail and Nigerian Auction

6 p.m.

Place:- Holborn Assembly Hall

Buses:- 17, 19, 38, 171.

Tubes:- (1) Holborn. (2) Chancery Lane

13th AUGUST 1972

Children's Day at 3 p.m.

Place:- Islamic Cultural Centre

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SITUATIONS VACANT



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Detailed applications (2 copies) including a
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later than 30th August, 1972 to the
Registrar, Fourah Bay College, Freetown, Sierra
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tenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further
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FOURAH BAY COLLEGE. University of Sierra
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in Mechanical Engineering. Appointee will be
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SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN

IBADAN

Vacancies

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the following posts in the University of Ibadan:

1. DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE 2. DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY

Reader in Medicine

The department has well-established units of Cardiology, Nephrology, Neurology, Gastroenterology, Chest, Dermatology and General Practice. It also participates actively in the inter-departmental teaching programmes in Epidemiology and Community Medicine at Igbo-Ora in Ibarapa District of Western Nigeria. In addition, new teaching and research facilities are being developed in clinical haematology, endocrinology, microbiology and virology. The Department is currently expanding its postgraduate teaching programmes and preference will be given to candidates with proved ability and considerable teaching experience, both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in any of these fields. The post carries Honorary Consultant status at the University College Hospital.

Professor of Petroleum Geology

Candidate should be Petroleum Geologist, Sedimentologists, Stratigraphers of long experience or Reservoir Engineers. Experience in oil exploration will be an advantage and preference will be given to candidate with some academic background.

Appointment is for two years in the first instance, and may be renewed for short periods each time. For an eminent scholar on sabbatical leave, appointment for shorter periods may be considered.

4. DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

(Jos Campus)

(a) Senior Lecturer/Lecturer/Assistant Lecturer (English Literature and English Language)

(b) Senior Lecturer/Lecturer/Assistant Lecturer (Use of English and Study Method/English Language)

Applicants should be prepared to teach at the Jos Campus of the University. For (a) applicants should be qualified in the fields of Literature and Language and should be able to teach the grammar of English on Modern Linguistic principles together with Remedial English as a Second Language. The appointment is to commence in January 1973.

For (b) applicants should be interested in either English Language (ability to teach the grammar of English on modern linguistic principles essential) or Use of English and Study Methods (ability to teach Remedial English as a Second Language and Reading essential).

The successful candidate will be required to teach courses offered under the Institute of Applied Science and Technology.

3. DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY PATHOLOGY

Senior Lecturer/Lecturer

Applicants should have teaching and Research experience in one or other fields of Veterinary Pathology and Veterinary Microbiology and Veterinary Parasitology and must possess postgraduate experience and qualifications of a recognised University. Graduates in Science may apply but Veterinary qualifications will be considered an advantage. The successful applicant will be expected to take an active part in the teaching and research programmes of the department.

5. INSTITUTE OF APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Senior Lecturer in Agricultural Engineering

Applicants must be holders of Ph.D. degrees with teaching and research experience in relevant fields.

SITUATIONS VACANT Cont.

UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN Cont.**6. INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN STUDIES**

- (a) Research Fellow
(b) Assistant Librarian

Candidates for (a) should possess graduate and/or post-graduate qualifications in archaeology and suitable experience of excavation and fieldwork. The successful applicant must be willing to participate in undergraduate teaching in the Department of Archaeology when requested and teaching experience will be an advantage. The successful candidate will work with the Head of Archaeology Department who will direct his research activities.

For (b) candidates must be holders of good first degrees in the Humanities or Social Sciences with recognised professional qualifications, plus considerable experience in a Research Library. Knowledge of French and/or German will be an advantage.

9. SALARIES

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Senior Lecturer	—	£2,515 x 75—£2,875
Lecturer	—	£1,380 x 75—£1,830/£1,905 x 75—£2,415
Research Fellow	—	£1,380 x 75—£1,830/£1,905 x 75—£2,415
Assistant Lecturer	—	£1,070 x 50—£1,280 (or if holding an approved higher degree £1,230 x 50—£1,330)
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10. CONDITIONS OF SERVICE:

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11. METHOD OF APPLICATION:

Detailed application (4 copies) stating age, full qualifications, experience and naming three referees by 26th August, 1972 to the Registrar, University of Ibadan from whom further particulars may be obtained.

7. NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH (NISER)**Publication Officer**

Applicants should be graduates with training and/or considerable experience in editing. The duties of the Officer will include copy-editing, promotions, sales, production, correspondence and supervision of the distribution of publications. N.I.S.E.R. staff are accorded the same privileges as staff members of the University of Ibadan.

8. WORKS, MAINTENANCE AND TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT**Clerks of Works (2 posts)**

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 - Assistant Hydrographic Surveyor;
 - Assistant to Deputy Chief Harbour Master in supervision of dredging;
 - Occasional reliefs for Senior Marine Officers;
 - Pilotage service.

Pilots will be on probation for one year in order to familiarise themselves with local conditions. In the case of all other Marine Officers on general duties, proper understanding of the English Language is essential as the duties attached to the post will necessitate the dealing of such an officer with the public and writing reports about day-to-day running of the station, etc.

Salary: A Contract Salary of EN3,090 per annum will be paid.

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General Conditions Appointment will be on contract for 2 tours each of 12/18 months in the first instance with possibility of further tours on satisfactory completion of the first tour. A gratuity at the rate of 25% of emolument is payable on satisfactory completion of contract. Children's Separate Domicile Allowance is paid for not more than two children at the rate of EN75 per annum. Leave on the basis of seven days for every completed month of service. Free passages for officer, wife and two children.

Method of Application Application forms are obtainable from:—
The London Representative, Nigerian Ports Authority, Nigeria House, 9 Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5BX

Completed application forms should be returned to the same address, by 5th August, 1972, latest.

DANCES Cont.

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The great
EL POLLOS
of Ghana (Pagadeja)

the leading band in West Africa - and the fabulous Snake
Dancer presents the dance of the year at:

Date	Place
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5.8. 72	Rotherhythe Assembly Hall, Neptune St, Rotherhythe, SE16.
11.8. 72	Wandsworth Town Hall, Wandsworth, SW18.
12.8. 72	Royal Commonwealth Society, 18 Northumberland Ave, WC2.
18.8. 72	Wandsworth Town Hall, Wandsworth, SW18.
1.9. 72	Blythe Hall, Hammersmith, W14.
2.9. 72	Lyndhurst Hall, Warden Rd, Kentish Town, NW5.

From 7 pm - Midnight
Don't miss their latest Afro-Caribbean hits
Fully Licensed Bar

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Relax with *Irresistible, Superb SNAKE DANCER* during interval
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Afro-Caribbean Association
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THE BLACK BEATS BAND

from Ghana
led by
Sammy Owusu
at

Battersea Town Hall
Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11
on

SATURDAY, 5th AUGUST 1972
from 7.00 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.
(Doors Open at 6.30 p.m.)
Admission £1.00 flat

You are invited to listen for the first and
last time to a Musical interpretation of
African Culture from High Life Soul,
Reggae and the new 'BLACK BEAT'

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS:

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Introducing the fabulous twin-dancers
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- (b) Africa's Ace Congost - Nii Apaa
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- (c) The Acrobat Singers - The Ray
brothers

Advance tickets obtainable from
The Programme Organiser: 01-370 1256
Ghana Centre, 3 Collingham Gardens, SW5.
Publicity Secretary: A. A. Ogunbunmi
(01-226 5597)

And of course at the gate
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ALL ARE WELCOME

BADAGRY DIVISIONAL UNION
of Great Britain and Ireland
Presents its
1972 GRAND SUMMER DANCE
at
ISLINGTON TOWN HALL
Upper Street N1
On Saturday 12th August 1972
From 6.30pm - 11pm
Music by
Gen. Prince Adekunle
And His
Western State Brothers
Admission: Tickets
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Obtainable at the gate and through
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ONDO UNION OF
GT. BRITAIN & IRELAND
Proudly Present their
ANNUAL
SUMMER
DANCE
on
Saturday, 12th August 1972
From 6.30 p.m. until Midnight
at
THE YORK HALL

Old Ford Road, London E2
Music by:
DR. ORLANDO OWOH
and his **OMINAH BAND**
(Author of Sisi Oyingbo, Moremi &
His Latest LPs)
Tickets: - £1.00 Flat.
Nearest Underground: - Bethnal Green
Station (Central line)
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EGBADO UNION
OF GREAT BRITAIN &
IRELAND
1972 Grand Summer Dance
Date: Saturday, 5th August 1972
Place: Islington Town Hall, Upper
Street N1.
Buses: 4, 19, 30, 43, N92, 104 & 279
Tube: Highbury and Islington -
Victoria Line
Time: 6.30 p.m. - 12 Midnight
Band: Music by
"THE MILIKI KING"
Chief Commander Ebenezer Obey
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Admission: £1. Flat
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01-340 1829

CHANGE OF NAME

I, FORMERLY known and addressed as
Sodimu Olayiwola Yekinni, of 60 Lunder-
borough Road, London, N.16, now wish to be
called and addressed as Francis Ayinde Olu
Babatunde. All documents bearing my former
name remain valid.

Dateline Africa

GHANA

Subversion decree details

The subversion decree, published after the report of an attempted *coup* on July 14, makes certain offences, including any attempt to overthrow the government, punishable by the death penalty, by shooting by firing squad. The decree says: "any person who prepares or endeavours to overthrow the government by unlawful means or prepares or endeavours to procure by force any alteration of the law or the policies of the government shall be guilty of subversion". Anyone who "incites or assists or procures any person to invade Ghana with armed force or unlawfully subjects any part of Ghana to attack by land, sea or air, or assists in the preparation of any such attack shall also be guilty of subversion". Anyone importing explosives or firearms, killing or attempting to kill or conspiring to kill any member of the NRC, the Executive Council, a regional commissioner, or anyone in an attempt to overthrow the government, is also said to be guilty of subversion. Other offences constituting subversion are robbery; smuggling of timber, diamonds or gold out of Ghana, stealing cocoa, diamonds, gold, telephone cables, telephone wire, telegraph poles, vehicles, or wilful damage to private property.

Other offences constituting subversion carry a minimum sentence of 15 and a maximum of 30 years imprisonment. These include organising or inciting anyone to go on a general strike likely to cause general suffering, stealing any fund intended for cocoa purchase and smuggling cocoa out of Ghana. "Other offences in the category are: hoarding of any goods contrary to the 1972 Price Control Decree, unlawful dealing in any foreign currency in a manner likely to damage the economy; or stealing any public fund, offering bribes to obtain any import licence, taking bribes to allocate any import licence or, as a member of the armed forces the police or public service, demanding or taking a bribe. Any person found guilty of impersonating any member of the NRC or Executive Council or a Regional Commissioner... or doing anything to sabotage the economy shall be liable to 15 to 30 years imprisonment, as will anyone knowing of but not reporting the offence".

A decision of the military tribunal appointed under the decree would be final, and there would be no appeal. "A person who is not a citizen of Ghana shall not be guilty of an offence under this

decree in respect of anything done outside Ghana. But a citizen of Ghana may be tried and punished for an offence under this decree whether inside or outside Ghana". As the decree takes effect retrospectively from January 13 "a person may be proceeded against and tried under it in respect of any act committed at any time on or after that date" if he has not already been charged under other decrees.

The military tribunal to try offences under the act can be convened by the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. It will consist of an officer not below the rank of Lt Col. and four other members not below the rank of major in the army or its equivalent in the navy or air force. The majority decision will be deemed the decision of the tribunal.

The decree banning the independent daily, *The Pioneer*, and the weekly, *The Echo*, makes it an offence for the newspapers to be published, distributed or offered for sale. It is also an offence to be in possession of such newspapers. The offence carries the maximum penalty of a 10,000 cedi fine, or five years imprisonment or both.

The Pioneer, formerly the *Ashanti Pioneer*, published by the Abura Printing Works in Kumasi, was first banned under Dr. Nkrumah in 1962. The ban was lifted by the National Liberation Council which took power in 1966. *The Echo* was established shortly after the 1966 *coup* by Echo Publications - with Mr. B. J. da Rocha, general secretary of the Progress Party, as one of its directors.

Commenting on the closure of the independent newspapers, *The Pioneer* and *The Echo*, the state-owned *Daily Graphic* said no tears would be shed over that closure.

The *Graphic* said the ban on the two papers was not "a question of trampling on the freedom of speech but a question of silencing irresponsible, reactionary, vicious and disruptive criticism which, by all indications, was aimed at turning the revolution upside down." The *Graphic* said that it had recalled a month ago that no Government - particularly a military government - could be unconcerned when its plans were unreasonably attacked and misinterpreted. Since its timely caution, the *Graphic* said, what the country saw was a steady increase in subtle criticisms which amounted to incitement against the revolution.

"The end result is that *The Echo* and

The Pioneer have been silenced and tears will be shed for them."

The ban indicated that the NRC was now on a renewed course of the ongoing revolution and therefore enforce it with all the command disposal."

The ban on *The Pioneer* and *The Echo* followed the announcement of a military overthrow the NRC.

• Mme. Fathia has returned to Ghana after the burial of Dr. Nkrumah in Accra. Before leaving she said that she and her three children hoped to attend the final funeral rites in September.

Debt. Committee set up

Ghana has named a 13-member external debt committee to analyse contracts and other documents relating to the external debt incurred before January 13. The committee will also recommend how to examine all claims by foreign contractors or other assignees against the Government of Ghana in respect of medium-term debts to establish the validity of the claims. The chairman of the committee is Godfried Agama, former leader of the opposition under Dr. Busia and now Chief Research Officer of the state-owned Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board.

Other members include Dr. S. Asante, Solicitor-General, Mr. K. A. Atta, consultant in Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning and Dr. Y. Asamoah, Senior Projects Officer of the Capital Investments Board.

An executive decree said the committee would advise on such matters relating to Ghana's external debt as the Government referred to it. The Committee will summon anyone to give evidence or produce any document in his possession or control to assist it. Any person who refuses or willfully neglects to furnish information required of him commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding 200 cedis or to imprisonment not exceeding six months, or to both.

• The government has rescinded the appointment of Mr. K. A. Gbedemah as Ghana's ambassador with effect from 28th July. Mr. Gbedemah, Finance Minister under Dr. Nkrumah, and later a critic of his government, was made a re-appointed ambassador with special responsibilities for the US in March, at the same time as Joe Appiah was made roving ambassador with special responsibility for Europe. Mr. Gbedemah led the NAL against Dr. Busia's PP in the 1969 elections, but his exclusion from the National Assembly on a technicality, has pursued his business interests.

• Over 3,000 workers in Accra demonstrated in support of the revolution after news of the unsuccessful *coup* attempt, and workers' demonstrations were held in each of the eight regional capitals. The demonstration in Accra ended at the Trades Union Congress with an address by Lt Col. B. A. Commissioner for NRC Affairs. He

them to help maintain industrial peace by using existing machinery to settle disputes, and said that those connected with the plot would be severely dealt with as an example to others.

- Commenting on the *coup* attempt (see last week's issue) the independent *Spokesman* called for a "peoples revolution". "We have had the occasion to warn the NRC against flirting with reactionaries and we repeat this warning. . . The politics of compromise cannot achieve anything worthwhile for the ordinary man. If we want to re-shape the destiny of this country, if we want to be Ghanaians, if we want real freedom and prosperity for our nation we must put our hands to the mill and start now to change the economic and social structure of this country".

- Mr. Kojo Botsio, Foreign Minister under Dr. Nkrumah, whose body he accompanied from Guinea, said that he intended to remain in Ghana after his six years in exile. He had been at the bedside in Rumantia when Dr. Nkrumah died.

- According to "local rumours" quoted in the *Mining Journal* the terms of participation in foreign mining companies being sought by the Ghana Government are a 25 per cent shareholding with no compensation, together with an additional 30 per cent payable from dividends.

SIERRA LEONE

Siaka at Delco

During a visit to Marampa, the President was told by Mr. David Dale, Chairman of Delco, that this year the company's production was satisfactory and had been completely sold. Mr. Stevens, a former employee of the company and former general secretary of the Mine Workers Union, said that he was sure that the present negotiations for the government take-over of 51 per cent of the company's capital would be resolved amicably.

Addressing the company's staff and members of the United Mine Workers Union, the President condemned wild-strikes.

Commenting on the prospects for William Baird, parent company of Delco, London's *Sunday Times* notes that Baird has spent the last eight years building up its textile engineering business to replace "what was its main trading asset, the iron ore mine of the Sierra Leone Development Company". Profits from this have fallen from £1.4m. in 1968 to only £208,000, although the investment has a book value of £12m. The take-over negotiations have been going on since April "in a resounding silence" and at this stage there is little point in guessing the outcome. But "this is a negotiation for take-over or co-operation and not an unfriendly seizure".

At the same time, "Baird is trying off its own bat to realise the sum of its parts more effectively. The textile and engineering divisions are deliberately

being built up for separate flotations." Whatever happens Baird looks an attractive earnings situation. Taking out the investments and Sierra Leone, Baird had operating profits last year of £1.17m. in textiles, £700,000 from the basically engineering side and £432,000 from mining services. "The mining services profits, which unlike the mine show steady growth, are mostly unconnected with the mine in things like a ship charter and shipbroking.

"Industrial profits have a good record in difficult sectors. With the management's own plans and the impending deal in Sierra Leone, the shares are a high income producer with great expectations."

- Eight men claiming to be Sierra Leone nationals arrived in Freetown after being deported from Uganda, where they were held in Detention for 21 days. They have been held in Sierra Leone while their claims have been investigated. Some of the men, who arrived without their families, say that they have been out of the country so long that they might find it difficult to trace their relatives in Sierra Leone.

A number of people claiming to be Sierra Leone nationals who had similarly been deported from Zaire arrived in Freetown last year. It has been alleged that the Zaire authorities attributed the title "Sierra Leonean" to any English-speaking West African thought to be concerned with illicit diamond digging or smuggling.

No explanation has been given of the Uganda expulsions, which are reported to include people from Senegal, Nigeria and Mali.

- The Minister of Finance has announced that the government will consider the suggestion for the institution of a Bankruptcy Act made by the Leader of the Opposition, as this would help commercial progress.

- A new newspaper, *Sunday Flash*, has been launched in Freetown. The Managing Editor is Mrs. Daisy Bona, who is also editor of *Leone Woman* magazine.

- An eight-man commission, headed by the Minister of Education as Chairman, and including the opposition M.P., Mr. M. S. Mustapha, has been set up to enquire into the factors contributing to rising prices, and to make recommendations to the government.

LIBERIA

News that Firestone is to construct a tyre factory in Mozambique has aroused criticism in Monrovia. According to press reports, the factory is expected to produce 1,000 tyres a day. The Government has asked the Company to construct the factory in Liberia, where it operates the world's largest rubber plantation, but the company has insisted that the market for tyres there is not large enough. In an editorial the *Liberian*

Age called Firestone's decision "more than a slap in the face". The newspaper accused the company of giving support to white tyranny in southern Africa.

- Israel and Liberia have signed an agreement giving the Israel airline El Al full stop-over rights in Monrovia. El Al wanted the stopover for links with South America. Liberia received reciprocal rights.

ZAIRE

Former Foreign Minister Losembe Batwanyele, accused of misusing public funds, has fled to Brussels, according to Zaire radio. Quoting security sources, the radio said that M. Batwanyele (formerly Mario Cardoso) had been helped in reaching the Belgian capital by Sabena Airlines. This was not the first time the Belgian airline had been involved in "acts of this type" said the radio. M. Batwanyele had left Zaire by first flying aboard a light aircraft to Rwanda and then transferring to a regular Sabena flight to Brussels. A former Ambassador in London and at the UN, M. Batwanyele was dropped from the government in a reshuffle last February.

- Eight Zairean ambassadors overseas have been sacked, accused of financial malpractices. They are Colonel Malila (Central African Republic), M. Mandi (former representative at the UN), Motondo Sakala (Sudan), Mr. Kashemwa (W. Germany), Yoka Mampunga (Togo) Mr. Watum (Chad), Mr. Mgwenza (Ivory Coast) and Sikyala Ilunga (Liberia).

- More than half of the daily and weekly newspapers in Zaire have been eliminated in a major reform of the printed press. Nine of the 13 newspapers in Kinshasa have disappeared, while in the provinces only Kisangani and Lubumbashi are to have dailies, while seven other cities are to have weeklies. A new national press delivery agency has been set up to fly daily editions throughout the country. A second national body will handle advertising business for all Zairean papers.

The dailies are to increase from six to ten pages and should rise to 32 pages per edition before the end of the year. The morning paper in Kinshasa will be called *Salongo* and the evening paper will be called *Elima*.

- Four provincial governors have been arrested on charges of corruption. They are Monguya Mbenge, of Shaba (formerly Katanga); Kaniki Shambuui, of Bandundu; Boji Ntote of Eastern Kasai; and Derikoye Tita Ngindo (formerly Jean-Pierre Dericoyard), of Lower Zaire (formerly Bas-Kongo).

They are replaced by Duga Kugbetolo, formerly Deputy Interior Minister (Shaba); M. Mulena former Political Commission Rapporteur in the National Assembly (Bandundu); M. Muzagba, former parliamentary secretary (E. Kasai); and Mme. Madimba Nzuzi, former Town Commissioner for Kinshasa (Lower Zaire).

GUINEA

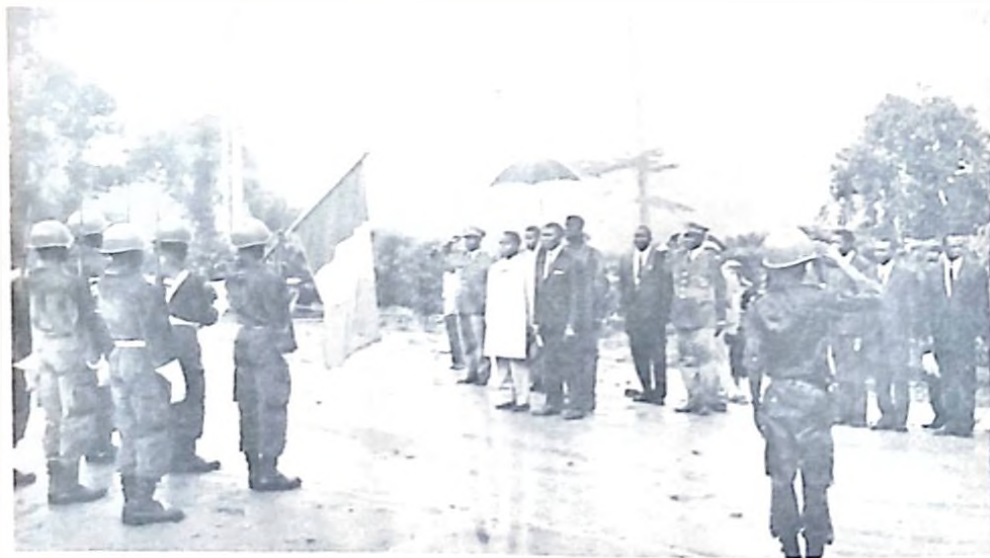
Houphouet-Boigny in Faranah

President Houphouet-Boigny has paid a surprise visit to Guinea, to Faranah, the home town of President Sekou Touré. It was the first meeting of the two Presidents for eight years. President Houphouet-Boigny last visited Guinea in 1962, but there was a meeting, together with the Presidents of Mali, Upper Volta and Niger in 1964, at Bouake, in Ivory Coast.

Receiving his Ivorian counterpart in Faranah, President Sekou Touré said that "a new sun" had risen in the development of Guinea-Ivory Coast relations. From

The Ivorian President was accompanied by the President of the National Assembly, Philippe Yace, and the President of the Economic and Social Council, M. Mamadou Coulibaly. After an initial silence, news of the meeting was put out on Ivorian radio.

A communiqué after the talks put out on Conakry radio said that they "took place in a climate of fraternity and frankness, but unfortunately did not result in agreement. The Government of the Republic of Guinea takes advantage of the occasion to solemnly reaffirm its firm intention to co-operate with all states, especially neighbouring states, in the exclusive interest of the practical promotion of Africa against imperialist, colonialist and neo-colonialist enterprises".



Ten years ago, President Houphouet-Boigny on his last official visit to Guinea, in 1962. With him under the umbrella is President Touré.

now on only "unity, fraternity, sincerity and solidarity" would exist between them, despite differences in the past. In his reply President Houphouet-Boigny also said that the time of "petty quarrels" had past, and the countries should now live in an atmosphere of good neighbourliness and friendship.

The meeting comes after some weeks of reports of improving relations. These began in 1970, but were stopped short after the invasion. Since early this year, however, contacts have been developing. Early in July a Guinean delegation led by security and internal affairs Minister Moussa Diakité was on a four-day visit to the Ivory Coast. The delegation was the first Guinean Government party to visit the Ivory Coast for 21 months and included M. Fodé Moussa Camara, Governor of the Conakry Administrative Region. President Houphouet-Boigny had talks with the delegation at his private residence at Cocody well into the night, and was handed a personal message from Guinean President Sekou Touré. M. Diakité said that he felt relations between the two countries were good and there were no problems between them.

• Minister for Scientific Research, Nenekhaly Condette Camara, has died, aged 42. Radio Conakry said members of the government gathered to pay homage to the dead minister, who was appointed in 1966, and to file past his body which was lying in state at the People's Palace in Conakry.

MALI

Attempted Coup?

The French daily *Humanité* reports that, according to information from Bamako, there was an attempted coup on the night of July 4 and 5. Around midnight troop movements were observed in the sector of the paratroop camp near Bamako civil airport. Col. Moussa Traoré has lived in this sector since the *coup* of 1968. According to the same sources the plot for the coup was unmasked by Captain Decoro Bakayoko, head of security: about fifty people have been arrested. The origins are believed to be a split in the ruling council between Captain Kissima Doukoure, Minister of the Interior and Defence, and those faithful to Col. Traoré.

CHAD

L'Humanité reports the arrest of more than a hundred people, including top civil servants and politicians, including Allahou Taher, former President of the National Assembly. A. Koulamallah, former leader of the Socialist Party, already detained from 1970, and a European, M. Bourgade, described as a friend of both President Tombalbaye and of rebel leader Froinat, Abba Siddick. The Paris daily *Monde* picking up the story says that Bourgade's relatives in Paris have complained to the French government they were not informed officially of Bourgade's arrest, even though it took place two and a half weeks before the story appeared in *L'Humanité*. French consul in Fort Lamy has confirmed the arrest, and has made an approach on M. Bourgade's behalf to the Chad government.

A French businessman, M. Nzié, President of the new Kouilou commerce company, has been expelled from Chad. Speaking of the expulsion of the members of the Women's Progressive Education Committee of the ruling Progressive Party (PPT), President Tombalbaye said that citizens should not be on guard against those who demand their liberty or who scoffed at national sovereignty, or who played the game of "French and international colonialism".

SENEGAL

The National Council of the Senegalese Progressive Union has decided to propose President Senghor as a candidate for President and Secretary-General of the party. The Council, which meets every three months, will inform the party congress at the end of the year of its candidacy. The elections will be held on January 28. The Council also declared itself happy with the normalisation of fraternal relations between Senegal and Guinea.

Lt. General Jean-Alfred Diallo, former Chief of Staff of the Senegalese Armed Forces, has been named as Ambassador to West Germany. Moustapha Cisse, Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, has been nominated to Egypt, and Latyr Camara, Ambassador to Addis Ababa, will also go to Zambia.

• The number of deputies in Senegalese National Assembly is to be increased from 80 to 100. The aim of the measure is to allow for Senegal's increasing population.

• More than 30 Senegalese teachers have been suspended following an accusation into cheating in examinations. Assessments in five centres found that papers prepared for college entry examinations had been the work of adults, although written out by the pupils themselves.

• A National Institute of the Arts will be set up to replace the Arts School. The Institute will include a Fine Arts School, a Conservatoire of Music, Dance and Dramatic Art, and a research centre.

NIGERIA Army gets pay instead of Leave

Nigerian soldiers, except officers, are to be paid two months wages in lieu of leave during the civil war years, army Chief of Staff, Maj. Gen. David Ejoor, announced. At the Nigerian Military Training College in Kaduna General Ejoor said the payments would offset leave allowances and claims which troops lost during the 30 months civil war which ended in 1970.

● France is to help train Nigerians in petroleum technology. Twenty-four geologists and engineers recruited by the Nigerian National Oil Corporation are due to leave soon for training in France.

Federal Commissioner for mines and power Shetima Ali Monguno told the recruits that although Nigeria was potentially rich with resources of all types, she still suffered from an acute shortage of high-level manpower. "This is the greatest constraint we have at present to a faster rate of development".

The commissioner said effective state control of strategic industries, particularly oil, was one of two major objectives of the government. "It must be clear that mere legal ownership and laws to control the oil industry are not enough". It was because of this that the Government established the National Oil Corporation.

The Corporation, established by decree last year, is to participate in all aspects of the oil business.

● The Permanent Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Information, Tafari Ah, has spoken about the strong determination of the Federal Military Government to improve broadcasting. He said this was why the Government has made available about £4.5m. for the technical improvement of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation. On tour of his Ministry's establishments in the northern states, Tafari Ah said in Jos that NBC development projects must be completed by 1974. He therefore appealed to the Corporation's staff to work hard and maintain the high standard of efficiency already established.

● General Gowon has inspected the ultra-modern National Stadium being built on the outskirts of Lagos for the second All-Africa Games next January. The project, estimated to cost about £N6m on completion, is Nigeria's first all-purpose stadium. It consists of a 50,000 capacity football and athletics ground, an olympic-size swimming pool a gigantic sports hall for various indoor games, several hockey, basketball and volleyball pitches and nearly a dozen lawn tennis and squash courts.

General Gowon urged workers on the site to work hard and ensure the stadium was completed well in advance of the games due to open January 7.

● Disunity among labour leaders was caused by affiliation to foreign trade union organisations, Mr. A. A. Amusu, Permanent Secretary in the Lagos State Ministry of Local Government, told a conference of municipal bus workers. Foreign affiliation, he said, had greatly impaired the chances of lasting unity in the Nigerian labour movement. Nigerian labour leaders should rededicate themselves to achieving the much-desired unity and aspire to having a say in management instead of always asking for increased wages, he added.

● The population of Lagos, currently about 1.7m. could reach 5m. in the 1980s according to an official statement. Dr. Adedeji, Commissioner for Economic Development, called for "new projects" to deal with the situation.

● A Japanese student, Mitsuru Otani, has been arrested for attempting to board an Ethiopian aircraft bound for Nairobi and Addis Ababa with a pistol and live ammunition at Ikeja. He was believed to have entered Nigeria by road from Dahomey during a tour of Africa.

Mr. Otani has been charged with unlawful possession of arms and ammunition.



India's Foreign Minister, Mr. Swaran Singh, meets General Gowon during his West African tour

● Police have warned that large numbers of counterfeit US dollars are circulating in Nigeria. An investigation was ordered after three people in Kaduna were charged with unlawful possession of four forged dollars.

● Dr. Adetoro, Commissioner for Industry, has held talks in Italy on technical and economic collaboration. Italy already has technical agreements with Nigeria in oil refining, petrochemicals and cement, and Italian experts have contributed to the construction of Lagos Harbour, road planning and houses.

● The Nigerian Ambassador in Senegal and the Senegalese Finance Minister have initiated a commercial agreement after a meeting of the Senegalo-Nigerian mixed economic commission. Set up in 1964, the commission studies preferential customs arrangements for bilateral trade.

● Nigeria has donated £1,000 towards Kotoko House, a block of flats with 50 self-contained units run by the Commonwealth Students Childrens Society in London. It was opened by the Asantehene, Otumfuo Opoku Ware II, on July 21.

● Nigeria's national swimming team have spent a week-long training session in Liverpool in preparation for the All-African Games in January.

● A research programme on rural development has been launched in nine village communities in the Western State. The research is being conducted by experts from the University of Ife and the University of Reading in England, and is being financed by the British Ministry of Overseas Development, the exercise will go on for three years.

● At least 230 enterprises in Kano State are affected by Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Decree, the Kano State Commissioner for Trade and Industry, Alhaji Aminu Dantata, has announced. The state thus came next to Lagos in terms of the magnitude of the task involved in the take-over, Alhaji Dantata said.

The commissioner, who was addressing the inaugural meeting of the "state committee" of the Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Board, charged members of the panel to identify the problems of indigenisation and evolve appropriate machinery. He appealed to the Nigerian businessmen not just to wait and expect miracles to happen, by promulgating the decree, the Federal Government had done what businessmen themselves wanted so badly for several years past. He reassured aliens, however, that there were still vast areas of profitable investment in which they were warmly welcome.

● The Chief of Staff, Maj-Gen. David Ejoor, said in Kaduna that the Army would be prepared to help in combating smuggling in the country.

● The Department of Trade and Industry in London are sponsoring an Exhibition of British machinery to be held on Victoria Island, Lagos, from 26 February to 2 March, 1973.

● Dr. Simon Haskell, tutor to the advanced diploma course in education of physically handicapped children at the University of London, Institute of Education, has visited Nigeria to advise on educational facilities for the handicapped. His visit, which has been sponsored by the British Council, was at the request of the Federal Ministry of Education.

● The Nigerian Tobacco Company has given £1,000 to the Ali Akilu Memorial fund.

● Mr. Ronald George Chisholm, Deputy British High Commissioner, Eastern Nigeria, 1963-65, has died in UK aged 62.

● Mr. Samuel Okudu has been appointed Registrar of Ibadan University. He has been acting Registrar since 1971.

● The Metal Box Company of Nigeria is set for further growth following a heavy programme of capital investment begun at the end of 1970, says an item in the *Mining Journal*. Extensions costing £100,000 to its plant at Apapa have been carried out and new plant has been installed, for a total investment of about £750,000. The news item notes that this investment has been made in anticipation of demand expansion over the next two years. "The company is now looking at longer-term development, however, and has leased a 25,000 sq. ft. factory north of Lagos to take care of space requirements until mid-1974. In addition, a 10-acre site in roughly the same area has been acquired for a second factory. The development of roads is likely to delay construction at least until early 1973 but the new factory is expected to be completed by mid-1974".

● A stricter check on aliens coming to work in Nigeria has been put into action by the federal government. More people are being sent back at points of arrival, and expatriate quota allocations to commercial companies have been drastically reviewed, says a report in *The Daily Times*.

● Inspector-General of Police Kam Selem has said that all police colleges in the federation are to be expanded to meet the demand for more policemen.

● Fourteen men, including two police constables, an army lieutenant and a 60-year-old trader, have been executed in Port Harcourt for armed robbery. This was the largest group of people to be executed since the death penalty for armed robbery was introduced in 1971. They had been tried and found guilty of different robberies, including a £25,000 bank raid 14 months ago.

● The Rivers State Government has presented an album containing photographs of 178 displaced children of East Central State origin who have already been re-united with their families, to the East Central State Government.

● Rivers State Ministry of Education has opened a new Secondary Commercial School in Port-Harcourt for students who attended illegal schools which were recently closed down by the State Government.

● The Military Governor of the Rivers State, Lt. Cdr. Dietspiff, has expressed the view that Japan's participation in oil exploration in Nigeria will help to improve the trading balance between the two countries. Speaking in Port Harcourt when a six-man team from the Japan Petroleum Co. (Nigeria) Ltd. called on him at Government House, he appealed to oil companies operating in the State to co-operate with Government efforts to provide jobs for the people. Replying, the leader of the team, announced that his company will start drilling for oil in the State in November.



The Rivers State Governor with the Chinese table tennis team who have been in Nigeria.

● The new Benue Plateau state newspaper, the *Standard*, is currently being published in Benin by the *Nigerian Observer* and the Editor, Iliya Audu, a principal information officer in Benue Plateau, resides in Benin. The state government plans to set up its own press in Jos before December.

● The *New Nigerian*, owned by the six Northern States, is soon to be published simultaneously in Lagos and Kaduna, the first Nigerian newspaper to be printed in two places at once.

● A soldier shooting indiscriminately with an automatic rifle killed two other soldiers and seriously wounded four more in Calabar before being shot dead himself. One of the wounded died later in hospital, bringing the death toll to four. The 10-minute exchange of fire came when a soldier tried to storm the armoury and

"ran amok" said the *Nigerian Observer*, the state newspaper.

● The Federal Government is to ease the shortage of funds encountered in the East Central State in implementing its four-year development plan. The Commissioner for Industry, Dr. A. O. Ojo, said during a tour of the state. He said he was satisfied with the comparative progress in implementing the plan.

● About 200 people have been killed in a joint army-police swoop in the East Central State. During the raids property worth millions of pounds and believed to be stolen was recovered. The operation is to be continued in other parts of the East Central State.

● Nigerian authorities have closed the 11pm to 5am curfew on Oyo State "security reasons" according to *Morning Post*.

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