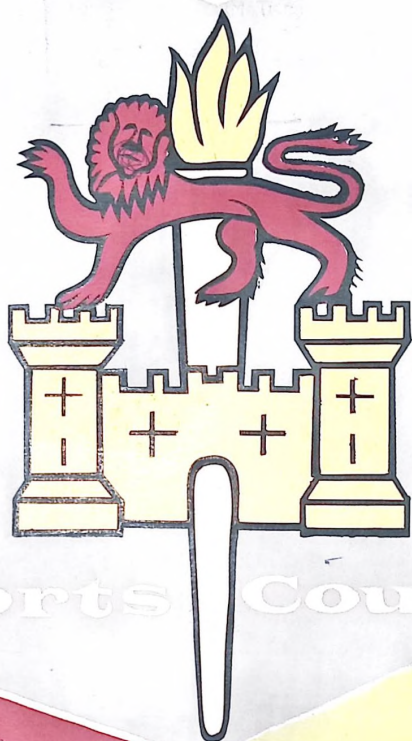


**Western Region**



Sports Council

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1961-62

**Third  
Annual Report**

**1961-62**

*Cover by Akin Thompson. Typography Ola Akande*

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THIRD  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
WESTERN REGION  
SPORTS COUNCIL  
TO  
THE COMMISSIONER FOR HEALTH  
AND SOCIAL WELFARE

1961-62

**MEMBERS AND OFFICERS  
OF THE  
WESTERN REGION  
SPORTS COUNCIL  
1961—62**

**MEMBERS**

J. O. LANIYONU  
(CHAIRMAN)

CHIEF E. N. A. BEGHO

D. O. IYANU to 23/9/61

DR. T. O. ORUWARIYE

MRS. I. FATAYI-WILLIAMS

R. A. OGUNLADE

CHIEF J. M. BECKLEY

**OFFICERS**

ADVISER

V. B. V. POWELL, M.B.E.

SECRETARY

O. A. ALAKIJA

STADIUM MANAGER

J. A. OGUNYEMI

GROUND MAINTENANCE ADVISER

A. C. BUTLER

**NON-COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

H. J. EKPERIGIN

DR. A. ADENIYI-JONES

CHIEF E. A. OLUWOLE

A. A. ADEPEJU



By Day

LIBERTY STADIUM

and

By Night

3



LETTER OF PRESENTATION TO THE COMMISSIONER  
FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE

LIBERTY STADIUM,  
P.M. BAG 5106,  
IBADAN.  
SEPTEMBER 30th, 1962.

The Hon. Chief S. L. Edu.  
Commissioner for Health & Social Welfare,  
Western Nigeria.  
Ibadan.

Sir,

In accordance with Section 22 (1) of the Western Region Sports Council Law, 1959, I have the honour to present to you the Third Annual Report of the Western Region Sports Council including a certified copy of the accounts covering the period from April 1st, 1961 to 31st March, 1962.

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My Council's achievements during the year, though not inconsiderable, fall far short of both its desires and its potential. In my Council's defence, I can but point out once more that it can act only "within the limit of its resources". Until such time as it is possible for Government to finance the capital development required by the policies it has already approved, it is impossible for the Council to fulfil the duties imposed on it by Law in the way it would wish and the general public expects.

At the same time may I assure you, Sir, that my Council will continue, because of its implicit belief in the goodness and greatness of the task entrusted to it, to give Government the fullest return for the resources invested in it that thought, energy and determination can produce.

From our experience we are convinced that, given adequate facilities, the youth of Western Nigeria can attain World Standards in all sports. The million pounds required to implement the Council's development schemes will provide these facilities in the Provinces and on the Liberty Stadium Site. I therefore appeal to the Government to find the money by loan or otherwise and reap the rich dividends that will surely follow in the improvement of the physical well-being of our young people, their development in character and sportsmanship and the steadily rising standard of their performances.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

J. O. LANIYONU  
Chairman,  
Western Region Sports Council.

On April 1st, 1961. Mr J. O. Laniyonu, succeeded Mr T. O. Ejiwunmi. I. S. O., as Chairman of the Council and Chief J. M. Beckley was appointed by the Governor-in-Council to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Ejiwunmi's resignation.

The Council wishes to place on record its indebtedness to its first Chairman and to pay tribute to those qualities so marked in him that guided its first hesitant footsteps to the firm security of an established policy. Mr. Ejiwunmi brought to his task: experience, knowledge and enthusiasm that were invaluable. During the past year, evidence of Mr. Ejiwunmi's continued sympathetic interest in the affairs of the Council has given pleasure and encouragement to the Members.

In December 1961, the Chairman and the Secretary attended a meeting at Kaduna at which a most happy association was established with representatives of the Northern and Eastern Sports Commissions. This meeting made possible an exchange of ideas that must prove most fruitful for all parties and created an understanding that augurs well for future co-operation. From this experience, the Council is convinced that continued liason between the three Regional Bodies will be in the best interests of the nation as a whole.

The year has not produced all the results the Council would have liked and feels that, in different circumstances, it could have achieved. At every turn the Council has been brought up against the fact—brutal in its frustrating influence—that it can work only within the "limit of its resources". For nearly nine months of 1961—62 no funds were available for re-current, let alone capital, expenditure. It was, therefore, only with the greatest difficulty that the Council during this period was able to make even a token fulfilment of its duties to the public. The Council is surrounded with an inanimate mass of paper containing all the ideas it is so eager to put into practice; but until money is available to bring these ideas to life there is actually little the Council can do.

Because of this comparative inactivity, the Council has increasing sympathy with mounting public opinion that feels the Council is not doing its job fully and efficiently. The Council, from its own intimate knowledge of its limited activities, must admit that this public feeling is justified. At the same time it must be maintained that the Council is doing everything that can be done within the limit of its resources. Not until Government is willing and able to provide the Council with adequate funds at the beginning of a financial year will it be possible for the Council to operate in the manner in which it would like and which would have a chance of winning public approbation.

Encouraging evidence that Government is willing to give the Council a chance to carry out the duties laid on it by Law was obtained when the plans for the development of the Liberty Sports Centre and the eight Provincial Sports Centres received Executive Council approval. That this approval should co-incide with a period of financial difficulty for the Government is most unfortunate; but the Council is fully conscious of the present need for economy and would be the last body to be importunate in such circumstances. All the same it is with a sense of relief and rising hope that the Council has received Government's permission to seek ways and means, other than a direct Government grant, of obtaining the funds necessary for these capital developments. The Council has been diligent in its search and is justifiably optimistic that a scheme for financing its capital projects will be submitted to Government early in the new financial year. Should the terms of this scheme be acceptable to Government, there should be evidence

throughout the Region in 1962—63 that the Council is at last being enabled to carry out one of its main duties — the provision of recreational facilities.

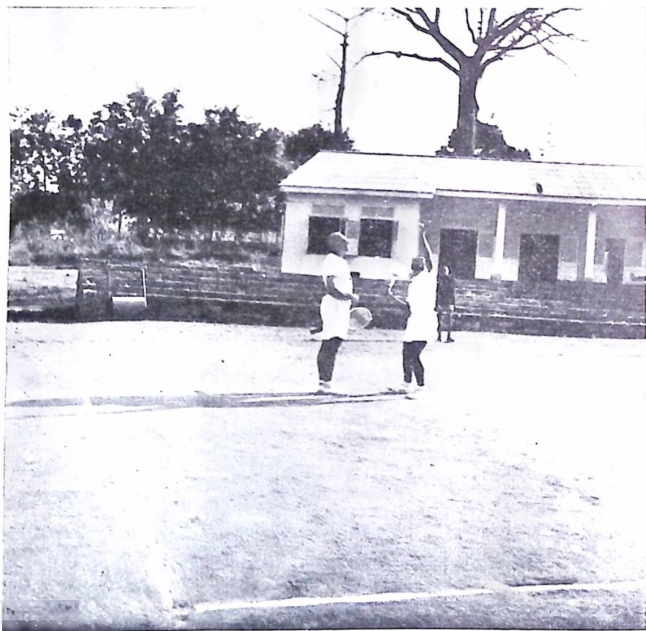
During the year, two new Committees were set up—Works and Transport under the Chairmanship of Chief J. M. Beckley and Scholarships and Training, under the Chairmanship of Mr. R. A. Ogunlade. Chief E. N. A. Begho succeeded Mr. Ejiwunmi as Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Because of the financial restrictions to which reference has already been made, there have been few increases in the Council's staff. Towards the end of the year, Mr. O. Soile and Mr. George were selected as Organising Secretaries. The duties envisaged for them will be elaborated in the section dealing with the Council's Grants to Governing Bodies.

While on leave in Europe, Mrs. Fatayi Williams was able to visit the Sports Centre at Hennef which is run by the Middle Rhine Football Association. Though not organised on exactly the same lines as are proposed for the Liberty Sports Centre she was, thanks to the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Jacobi, able to see much that was of interest and inspirational value.

#### Service

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Major Grindley and his Class

## COACHING

### General

The full implementation of the Council's coaching schemes is dependent on the employment of Chief Coaches. At the beginning of the year, the Council had in its employment one Chief Coach — Mr. L. Courtier (Football). At the end of the year, no Chief Coaches are in employment. As Ministerial approval had been obtained for the employment of Chief Coaches for Football, Athletics, Boxing and Table Tennis, and funds were available some examination of the present unsatisfactory state of affairs is called for.

Soon after Mr. Courtier had been appointed as Chief Football Coach on the recommendation of the West Council of the Nigeria Football Association a new Council was elected to whom Mr. Courtier was unacceptable. The Council felt that there was little substance in the new W.C.N.F.A.'s objections to Mr. Courtier on professional grounds; but was fully aware of the new W.C.N.F.A.'s reluctance to be associated with any action initiated by its predecessor. In deference to the wishes of the Hon. Minister and the W.C.N.F.A., Mr. Courtier's contract was terminated by the Council in June 1961.

The W.C.N.F.A. was most anxious to obtain the services of a "continental" coach, presumably because of the present ascendancy of some of the European and South American teams. The Council made prolonged efforts to meet the W.C.N.F.A.'s wishes; but all proved abortive. In some cases no reply was received. In others, the salary requested was far beyond the Council's means. In many instances, there was the insuperable barrier of the applicant being unable to speak English.

Eventually the W.C.N.F.A. agreed that the help of the Football Association should once more be sought. The Council has again received the most helpful co-operation from the Football Association and hopes of obtaining a Chief Football Coach are brighter now than they have been since the W.C.N.F.A. first conceived the idea of seeking a "continental" coach.

With the help of the Coaching Committee of the English A.A.A. and the United States Information Service and a number of Embassies the post of Chief Athletics Coach was advertised in Great Britain, the United States of America and other parts of the world. A number of applications was received but none earned the approval of the W.N.A.A.A. though one applicant was subsequently appointed a National Coach in England. The W.N.A.A.A. then also became imbued with a desire for a non-British coach and months passed while the Council, at the W.N.A.A.A.'s request, addressed inquiries to athletics coaches all over the world. The search was just as abortive as it had been in the case of the "continental" football coach and for much the same reasons though in one or two instances the athletics coaches made it clear that they would not be prepared to leave their own countries until after the 1964 Olympic Games. A re-examination of the original applicants is now being made.

8 The Chairman of the Nigerian Amateur Boxing Association had been much impressed by offers of assistance from the United Arab Republic; but the West Council of the N.A.B.A. welcomed the possibility of obtaining the services of C.S.M. R. Marks who had been coach to the Nigerian boxers at Cardiff in 1958 and to the British Team in Rome in 1960. Mr. Marks was due to retire from the British Army at the beginning of 1962 and expressed a keen interest in the post of Chief Boxing Coach in Western Nigeria. It was therefore agreed between the Council and the W.C.N.A.B.A. that Mr. Marks should be offered the post and the Chairman of N.A.B.A. should ask the United Arab Republic for the services of a coach to cover the interim period. Unfortunately for Western Nigeria, Mr. Marks was promoted to Regimental Sergeant Major and is to stay in the British Army. No assistance has been forth-coming from the United Arab Republic. The search for a Chief Boxing Coach continues.

Professional Table Tennis Coaches in the sense of those who give all their time to table tennis coaching are few and far between and usually they have many allied commercial interests which are a deterrent to their taking a permanent post abroad. It seems, therefore, that the idea of a permanent Chief Table Tennis Coach may have to be deferred until such time as an indigenous player has developed the standard and obtained the experience worthy of the position. Meanwhile, the Council and the W.C.N.T.T.A. hope to obtain the services of a professional coach for at least part of each year.

The Council believes that the success of any coaching scheme is dependent on the fullest co-operation between the Council and the Governing Body. That is why the Council has deferred at every stage of the search for Chief Coaches to the wishes of the Governing Bodies concerned even though it has not always been in agreement with the views expressed by the Governing Bodies or the steps they wished to be taken. For instance, however good a foreign coach might be in raising the standard of the individual performer or team, the Council is very doubtful whether he would have the knowledge or administrative experience to implement a coaching scheme such as is required in Western Nigeria. This is because in most countries coaching is carried out by professionals from the lowest to the highest levels. It has been accepted as a basic principle that it is not financially possible for Western Nigeria to adopt this approach to coaching. It therefore follows that the

pattern of honorary coaches which has been developed in Great Britain must be followed. Only those coaches who understand this pattern and have administrative experience in its execution are therefore likely to be able to meet Western Nigeria's present needs.

The absence of Chief Coaches has not only restricted the amount of coaching it has been possible to do; but has also deprived the Council and Governing Bodies of the over-all organisation so essential for efficiency. It must also be noted that the Governing Bodies themselves are responsible for a factor that at present robs much of the training of honorary coaches of its full value. No Governing Body has yet produced the syllabuses necessary for the establishment of a national coaching award. Without this, it is impossible for coaches taking courses for the training of coaches to offer the participants the proper reward for the successful completion of the course. The Council sees the establishment of national standards for coaching awards as one of the Country's most urgent needs. This is a matter in which the Regional Committees and Councils can help greatly by bringing pressure to bear on the National Governing Bodies.

### **Football**

A very successful course for Honorary Coaches was held at the Liberty Stadium by the National Coach Mr. Beth Halevi and Mr. T. Balogun the Sports Council Coach. All the affiliated Associations of the West Council of the N.F.A. were given the opportunity of sending one of their experienced footballers to the course to receive basic instruction in the art of coaching. In all twenty-five persons attended the course and most of these are now with their provincial associations and clubs assisting with local players.

9

Many of the affiliated associations, of which there are over forty, failed to send a representative to the course despite the fact that all expenses were paid. It is hoped that Associations will show greater interest in future courses.

The orderly use of the Council's one full-time coach — Mr. T. Balogun — has been considerably hampered by the difficulty of dealing with two autonomous football bodies within the Region. Often time has been wasted by no advance information of agreed programmes being issued by the Governing Body. Even so, Mr. Balogun has worked hard and long.

### **Athletics**

The course conducted by Mr. Svanberg, the National Athletics Coach, was not as successful as it might have been mainly because the students attending varied from the beginner to the comparatively experienced and knowledgeable. What is essential for the beginner is boring for the more experienced and what is interesting and stimulating for the more experienced is beyond the comprehension of the beginner. Mr. Svanberg's flair was most apparent in his dealings with the individual athlete and his "seeing eye" brought forth many a helpful comment.

Mr. Akponwei has covered a lot of ground since he has been in Western Nigeria and his work, mainly concentrated on the training of honorary athletics coaches, has been well received. His enthusiasm has been most stimulating.

### **Table Tennis**

Mr. Brook laboured quite undaunted by difficulties regarding facilities. During the week available, he was able to report considerable progress on the

part of a number of the students; but also felt bound to comment on a certain lack of concentration and unwillingness to work really hard.

### Lawn Tennis

Major Grindley, the National Lawn Tennis Coach, held a very successful series of courses in Ibadan for the training of experienced players and Honorary Coaches. Eighteen players, three of whom were women, attended the sessions which were held at the Ibadan Tennis Club, University College and the Ibadan Recreation Club. Basic instruction was given in the art of coaching with particular reference to the introduction of young beginners to the game.

The Honorary Coaches trained by Major Grindley will provide regular coaching for those schools to which the Sports Council has introduced Lawn Tennis by providing facilities and equipment and to which further reference is made in the section on "Underdeveloped Sports".

Sessions were also held for personal performance coaching and were attended by many of the Region's top players who appeared to benefit greatly from the Coaching.

The Council would like to express its appreciation to the authorities of the University College, the Ibadan Recreation Club, the Ibadan Tennis Club and the Benin Recreation Club for so generously making available their tennis courts for the courses.

10

### Cricket

We were most fortunate in having the services of Mr. G. Headley, the famous West Indian Cricketer, for a six week coaching assignment.

Mr. Headley concentrated on three types of coaching Course:

- (1) Mixed Coaching (Coaching of Schoolboys with their gamesmasters).
- (2) Training of Honorary Coaches. (Training of School Masters and experienced players as Coaches).
- (3) Personal Performance. (Coaching for improvement of individual players personal standard).

Schools which received personal performance coaching along with their gamesmasters were

Government College, Ibadan, Abadina Primary School, Ahmaddiya Grammar School Ibadan, Loyola College Ibadan and Edo College Benin (Government College, Ughelli, were included on the proposed itinerary but were unfortunately unable to attend the Benin Course).

Of these, only Government College, Ibadan, and Edo College, Benin, had previous experience of cricket. The Sports Council will assist the others to introduce the game which will be developed by the Honorary Coaches trained by Mr. Headley. Further reference to this planned development is made in the Section on "Underdeveloped Sports".

The Sports Council wishes to express its appreciation to the University College, Ibadan, and the Ibadan Recreation Club for so generously making available their Cricket grounds for the numerous courses held.



George Headley

Teaching



and

Demonstrating



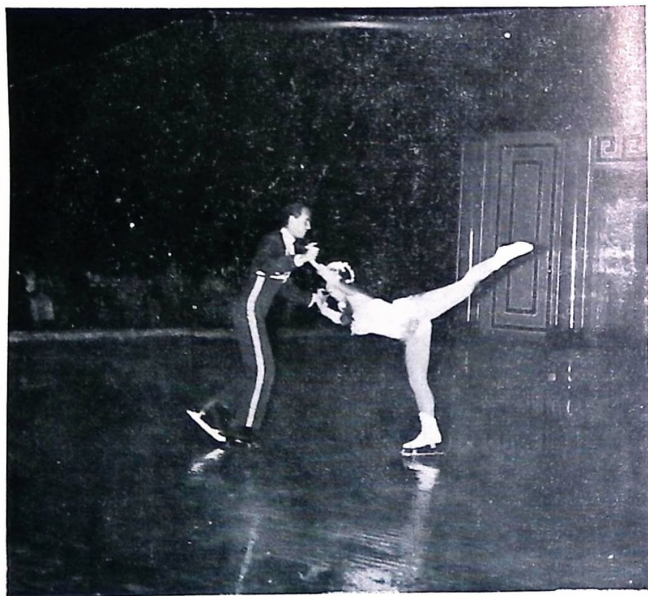
## Conclusion

In spite of all the difficulties, the Council in conjunction with the Governing Bodies has been able to organise and/or sponsor 30 courses for the training of coaches and 41 courses for the improvement of personal performance while 13 have dealt with coaches and players together. These courses have been attended by 2805 students of whom 172 were women. An analysis of the courses will be found in Appendix A.

It will be noted, that during the year, the Sports Council has been able to make use of the services of a number of the National Coaches; but in all cases their visits to the Region have been all too short. It is hoped that in the future, the National Governing Bodies will develop a far broader conception of the duties of National Coaches and their services will be more frequently and easily available to the Regions.

It must also be recorded with regret that not all those selected by Associations, Clubs and Schools were suitable for training as honorary coaches. The best player is not necessarily the best coach; but it is essential that anyone who aspires to become a coach must have mastered the basic skills of his chosen game to a degree when he is able to give efficient and effective demonstrations. No amount of theoretical knowledge can make up for inability to demonstrate.

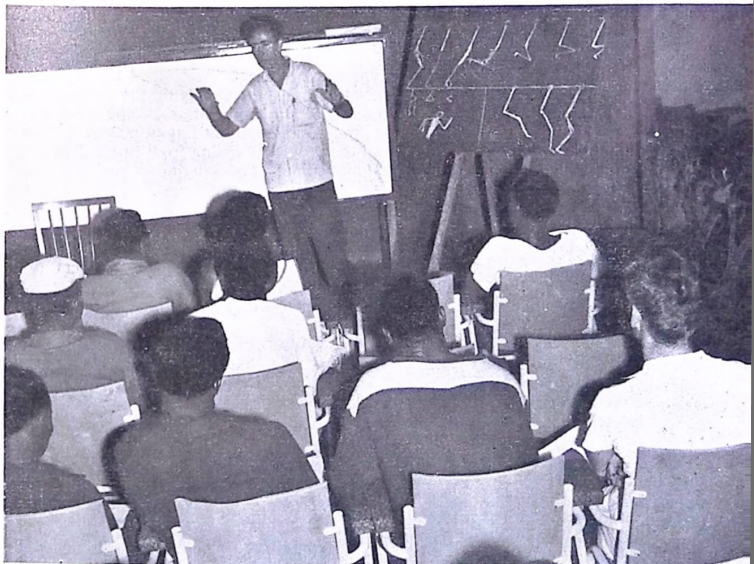
American Holiday On Ice





**K. A. B. Olowu (Assistant National Athletics Coach) supervising a Pole Vault Lesson.**

**Kolf Svannberg (National Athletics Coach) lecturing to a Class.**



## LIBERTY STADIUM

During the year, 23,649 students from 488 schools have visited the Stadium. A steady stream of adult visitors amounting to 6,776 is evidence of genuine public interest. We have also been happy to welcome distinguished visitors from many countries, including: Great Britain, the United States of America, Japan, Switzerland, Bechuanaland, Ghana, Nyasaland, Kenya, Israel and Eire. Our visitors have been most generous in their praise of this fine building and the facilities it provides. "The Stadium is lovely," "The Stadium is undoubtedly one of the best we have ever seen anywhere," "... amazed, in fact, astounded at the thorough thinking and organisation here," "A truly magnificent Stadium", were among the many tributes paid. But in case we should become too proud, it is as well to record one dissenting voice. "The Liberty Stadium is good except that it has a big 'but' which is, too much heat in the reserved covered seats". While the Council would consider such a comment justifiable from, say, the Ambassador from Iceland, it is difficult to believe that one of our own people should be so sensitive to the varying degrees of our torrid climate.

14 The sternest and most frequent competition staged at the Stadium finds the Stadium Management on the one hand and those who want to get in without paying on the other as the protagonists. Though the security fence has been re-enforced by barbed wire and broken glass has appeared on the tops of the walls, the Stadium Management has not, as yet, won this competition. The nature of the competition seems to arouse the sporting instincts of our guardians of the law. It has been observed on numerous occasions that the attitude of those who should be guarding the fixed defences is rather that anyone who can get over, under or through them has really earned a free seat. But the Council has decided that this is one "sport" which, in fairness to those who hire the Stadium, it cannot encourage.

The structure of the Stadium has been well maintained throughout the year with the Ministry of Works and Transport supplying the technical staff. The Council wishes to place on record its appreciation of the co-operation received from Mr. W. H. Cooke, the Superintending Engineer, and the Senior members of his staff. Even so, all the problems arising from original structural specifications have not yet been overcome. The interior of the West Stand is still subject to seepage and the in-flow of flood water. Ways to control this are still being sought.

The track and arena have been maintained in first class condition; though some of the non-sporting events have posed most difficult problems of renovation for the Ground Maintenance Adviser and his staff. For instance, the ice-rink laid for "Holiday on Ice" destroyed quite a large area of the grass.

The Ground Staff has also given considerable assistance to schools and clubs with advice on the maintenance of grounds and the laying-out of specific facilities. From the Stadium Workshop — an innovation this year — have issued several sets of tubular steel goal posts which have been made available to schools at comparatively cheap cost.

It must be recorded with some disappointment that very little use has been made of the Sportsmen's Clinic. If this lack of patients indicated a considerable decrease in the number of sports injuries it would not be a matter for complaint; but it is feared that it indicates rather a lack of appreciation of the facilities available and a general lack of interest on the part of the Governing Bodies.



A record of events held at Liberty Stadium with attendance figures will be found in Appendix 'B'.

## DEVELOPMENT OF LIBERTY STADIUM SITE

As has been mentioned, Cabinet approval of the Council's Development Schemes, raised high hopes that a real start might be made during the year. This was not to be and the only progress made was the granting of a contract for the building of the first section of the Hostel which will give accommodation for 50 students.

The Practice Track was left incomplete at the time the Ministry of Works and Transport withdrew their staff after the official opening of the Stadium. It has therefore fallen to the lot of the Ground Staff to complete a great deal of work that should properly have been carried out under the initial capital expenditure. The Track surface has been re-laid, throwing circles and jumping pits completed. The practice ground is now fully equipped for football and athletics and has been of great help to schools and clubs who have not their own grounds.

A landscaping plan for the whole of the Stadium site has been prepared for the Council by Mr. M. L. Lancaster. Though it is possible that the Council will not accept the entire detail proposed by Mr. Lancaster, this master-plan will ensure that the conception of the site as a whole is secure. The first planting will begin with the next rainy season.

The Council learnt with delight that an area of 165 acres to the North-West of the Stadium and bounded by the Ring Road had been acquired by the Ibadan Town Planning Authority. This makes the development of a National Park adjacent to the Stadium site a real possibility. It is not as yet clear how this area will be administered; but the Council would welcome undertaking the responsibility for its development and maintenance. Whatever the final decision may be, the Council is certain that future generations will bless those who had the fore-sight and the will to preserve this open space so near the heart of Ibadan.

As Government has also acquired areas of the Ibadan City Council's land along either side of Stadium Road leading to the Stadium from the South-West Ring Road, at least one approach to the site will be protected from building development in the future. The Council is most appreciative of Government's understanding and action in this matter and looks forward to the time when funds will be made available to plant this approach in a manner in keeping with and worthy of the full development of the site.



The Chairman and Mrs I. Fatayi-Williams make a start on the Hostel. L. to R. J. A. Ogunyemi (Stadium Manager), O. A. Alakija (Secretary), Mr Ranza (Poletti Bros. Contractor), The Chairman, R. A. Ogunlade, Mrs I. Fatayi-Williams, Chief E. N. A. Begho, P. Mark (J. E. K. Harrison, Architects).

16

Mr Butler and the Ground Staff at work rehabilitating one of the Tennis Courts which have been lent by the Ibadan Lawn Tennis Club for use in the Schools' Coaching Programme.





The 36-Seater Leyland Bus serves as a background for members and officers of the Council, L. to R. Chief E. N. A. Begho, Mrs I. Fatayi-Williams, J. O. Laniyonu (Chairman), R. A. Ogunkade, J. A. Ogunyemi (Stadium Manager), O. A. Alakija (Secretary).

17

### LIBERTY STADIUM

The Restaurant which will seat 100 people and which is run under concession by the Osumare Restaurant.



## GRANTS TO GOVERNING BODIES AND OTHER FORMS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

During the year, grants to assist with Administration, Organisation and Equipment have been made to the Governing Bodies of: Men's Athletics, Women's Athletics, Hockey, Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Table Tennis, Football and Netball.

### Equipment

The equipment grant has been raised to £80 and further assistance has been given by the Council acting as agent for the purchase of equipment. This is a course which has been made necessary by the very high local cost of sports equipment which, to the Council, appears to be one of the main deterrents to participation in sport. This applies particularly to games such as cricket in which the equipment is expensive at the best of times and which require considerable capital outlay before the game can be introduced. By acting as agent, the Council has achieved two beneficial results. By obtaining prices considerably below those which normally are charged in local shops, more equipment can be obtained for the same amount of money and the capital cost of introducing an expensive game is substantially reduced.

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### Popularisation of Sports

Governing Bodies have found it more difficult to qualify for grants helping to popularise their sports; but two — Athletics and Netball — have been successful. The Western Nigeria Committee of the A.A.A. were conscious that administration in the Provinces had deteriorated considerably during recent years and that some Provincial Associations had actually ceased to function. The Council was therefore pleased to sponsor tours by A.A.A. officials which did a great deal to re-vivify athletic administration throughout the Region. The Council is happy too to have played some part in making a National Netball Conference possible. This Conference resulted in the firm establishment of a National Netball Association with a constitution which will enable the Regions to play a full part in the development of the Game.

### Participation

The Council again sponsored the Regional Hockey XI's participation in the Inter-Regional Hockey tournament — this year in Lagos — and had the satisfaction of sharing to some extent in the team's unbeaten record.

### Transport

Last year, reference was made to the cost of transport being one of the main deterrents to participation in sport on a wide and competitive scale. The Council has now taken delivery of one Leyland 38-seater bus and two Mercedes 18-seaters. Those buses are available to Governing Bodies, schools and clubs at very competitive charges. In the big demand for the services of these buses, the Council sees the full justification of the policy that called for their purchase.

### Encouragement to Juniors

It is disappointing to have to record that the Council's suggestions to

stimulate and encourage participation in sport at the junior level have met with no response from the Governing Bodies. The Council is therefore drawing up concrete proposals for each sport which will, in due course, be submitted to the Governing Bodies for their consideration. Even if these schemes should not prove wholly acceptable, it is hoped they will at least stimulate the Governing Bodies into giving some thought and, eventually, taking some action in a matter which must prove highly beneficial to the encouragement of young people to take part in sport.

Some of the Governing Bodies particularly the A.A.A., have, with the full approval of the Council found, another way of interesting young people in sport. Where a Governing Body is prepared to undertake the additional organisation that is necessary, special admission prices for events at Liberty Stadium are offered to school children through the school authorities. The Council appreciates that this system is open to abuse and some very elderly "school boys" may present themselves for admission; but the Council believes that the over-all good achieved by making it financially possible for many more children to attend sporting events will far out-weigh the harm done by such abuses. The Governing Bodies of some of the less well-known sports such as Hockey and Rugby Football are already considering the possibility of school children being admitted free so that these games, by becoming better known, may become more popular.

#### **Leave for Sporting Events**

The vexed question of obtaining leave to participate in sporting events has also engaged Council's attention. The Council does not approve of long periods of absence from work for "camping" purposes; but does feel that a young man or woman should not be denied the chance to represent the Region or Nation because leave is refused or because the absence will be counted against earned leave. At a meeting of representatives of Government Ministries, the Government Corporations and Commercial Firms convened by the Council, it was established that, generally speaking, the Corporations and Commercial Firms would be prepared to follow any lead in this matter given by Government. The Council is glad to report that, following representations to Government, the whole question of leave to participate in sporting events at Regional and National level has been referred to the National Council on Establishments in the hope of obtaining uniformity throughout the country.

#### **Distribution of "Know the Game" Series**

So that students may have a simple text-book on the most popular sports, the Council has sent copies of "Association Football", and "Athletics" in the "Know the Game Series" to all Secondary Grammar Schools for use in their libraries. For further distribution of this series see the Section in "Under-developed Sports".

#### **Appointment of Organising Secretaries**

Reference has already been made to the appointment of two Organising Secretaries. The Council appreciates that great demands are made on the time of Governing Body Honorary Secretaries and that often it is impossible for them to see to things throughout the Region themselves. The Council therefore offers the services of the Organising Secretaries to the Governing Bodies to assist with administration or any other work that may bring relief to hard-pressed sports administration. It should be clear, however, that, though employed by the Council, the Organising Secretaries will work mainly under the direction of the Governing Bodies. It is anticipated that the Organising Secretaries will make a considerable contribution to the organising of and preparation for coaching courses.

## UNDER-DEVELOPED SPORTS

Reference has already been made to the successful launching of a National Netball Association and the Council is happy to see the progress that is being made by the Regional Association in the promotion of competitions at various levels.

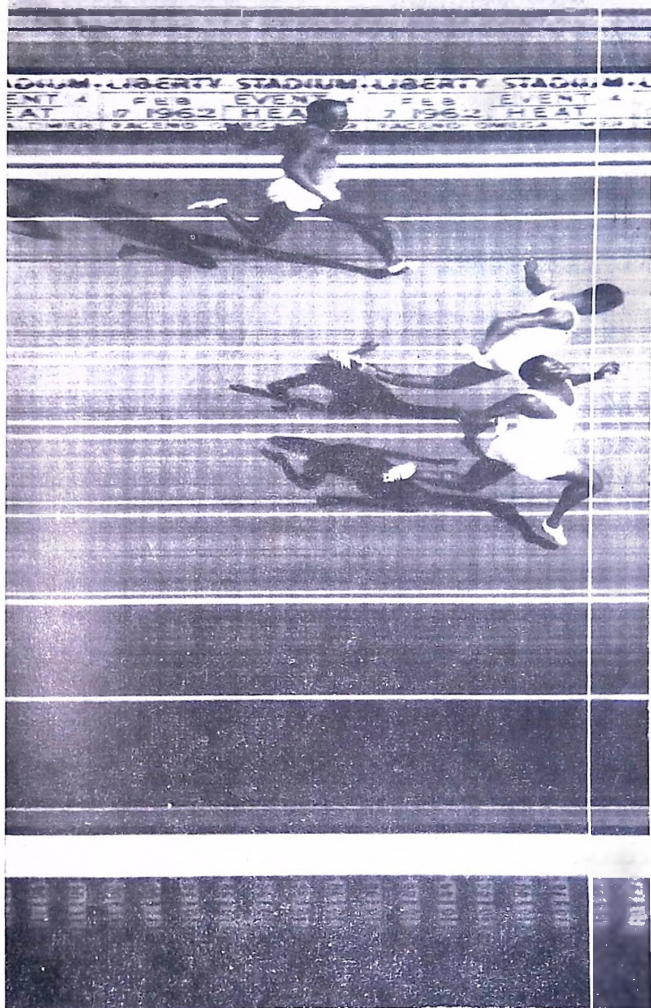
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Attempts to form a National Swimming Association have been less successful. In September 1961, a meeting between representatives of the Eastern and Northern Sports Commissions and Lagos Swimming interests was convened by the Council in Ibadan. At a subsequent meeting, draft constitutions drawn up by Lagos and the Council were presented. It was agreed that a further meeting should be held in May, 1962, to adopt one or other of those constitutions or a combination of the two. Meanwhile the Council is pleased to record and applaud the building of swimming pool at the Refresher Course School, Eleiyele, by the Nigeria Police.

Cricket and Hockey are both under-developed in the Region. Only two schools play cricket and only one hockey. The reason for this appears to be two-fold: the cost of equipment and the lack of school-masters competent to coach either game. In conjunction with the Cricket and Hockey Associations, the Council has agreed to give grants to selected schools for basic equipment and facilities while the Governing Bodies will provide Honorary Coaches. At the moment, the selection of schools is limited by the availability of coaches; but plans are in hand for the training of members of staff from the selected schools.

Though Lawn Tennis is much more widely played throughout the Region, it is an under-developed game in the schools. The chief difficulties again are the cost of making tennis courts and the equipment. The building of tennis courts is at present beyond the Council's financial resources. It is therefore greatly indebted to the Ibadan Recreation Club and the Ibadan Tennis Club for making, at the Council's request, some of their courts available for school use. The Council is also indebted to those individuals who so generously responded to the Council's appeal by giving and continuing to give rackets and balls for the use of the beginners. With co-operation of this kind and the help of the Honorary Coaches trained by Major Grindley, the Council looks forward to the rapid increase in the number of school children playing lawn tennis.

To assist schools to which new games such as: Cricket, Hockey and Lawn Tennis are being introduced, the Council has given to them copies of books dealing with each sport in the "Know the Game series."



#### HOW THE PHOTO-FINISH CAMERA HELPS THE JUDGES

Some Judges would have been confused by a runner's head crossing the finishing line first. But the Rule is quite clear. "The Competitors shall be placed in the order in which any part of the body, i.e. Torso (as distinguished from the Head, Arms, Hands or Feet) reaches the line." The Photograph helps to make it clear that the runner nearest the Camera is the winner.

## SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS

In the Second Annual Report it was stated that, in conjunction with the Ministry of Works and Transport, the Council hoped to improve the playing fields of five schools in Ibadan. The work on two of these: Ahmaddiya Grammar School and the I.D.C. Primary School, Mokola, has been completed. Unfortunately, through a misunderstanding on the part of the Ministry of Works and Transport, the work necessary on the grounds of the I.D.C. Training College, Iwo Road, was also done. This College was included in the original Ministry of Education recommendations; but was excluded by the Council from the Pilot Scheme because it was so expensive. Because the work was done in error at the I.D.C. Training College, the Council was financially unable to undertake the work at the Boys' High School, St. Michael's R.C.M. Secondary Modern School and the United Missionary College. This was disappointing to both these schools and the Council; but it is hoped that the mistake will be rectified in 1962-63.

The great thing is that the Ibadan Pilot Scheme has proved that the Ministry of Works and Transport in co-operation with the Council can produce far greater results for the money available than the schools could if left to make their own arrangements. The Council is therefore encouraged to make further representations to the Ministry of Works and Transport in the hope that it may be possible to extend this scheme to other centres in the Region.

## 22 REGIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Though funds are not as yet available to build the eight Provincial Sports Centres, heartening progress has been made in the implementation of this programme. Members of the Council have discussed the project with and displayed the model of the Provincial Sports Centre to a number of Divisional and District Councils. As a result, written assurance that a minimum of 16 acres will be made available free to the Council for Sports Centres has been received from:

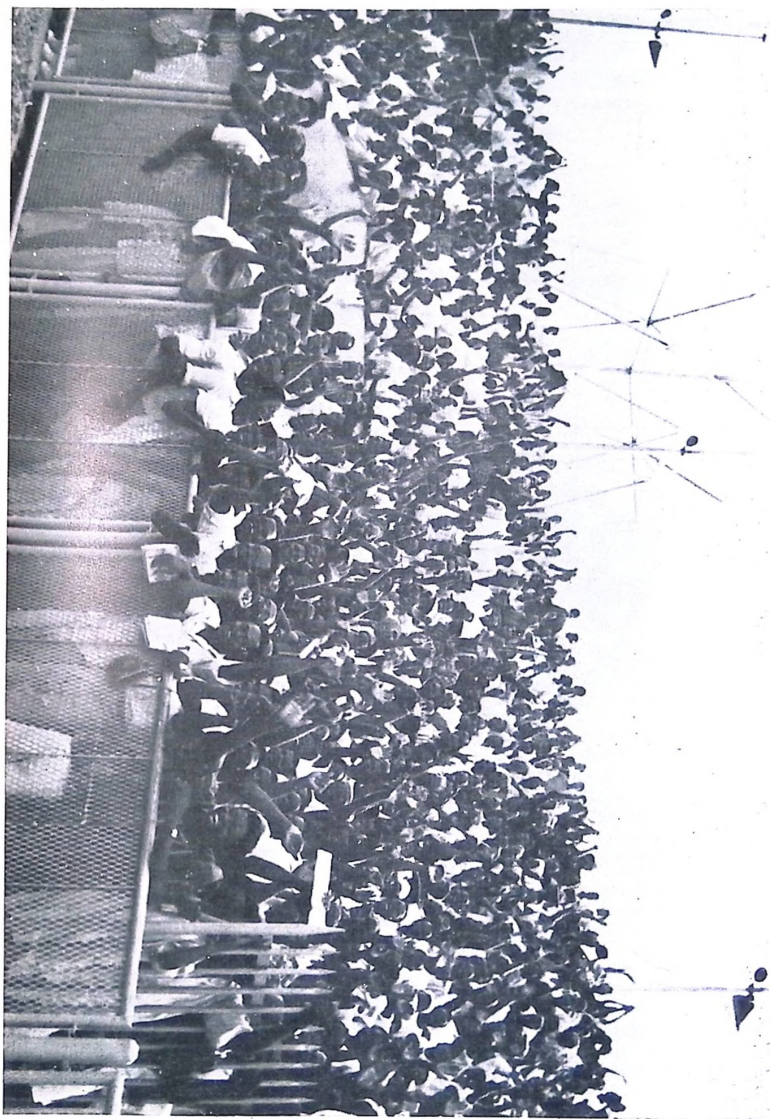
Akure District Council  
Egba Divisional Council  
Ikeja District Council  
Ogbomosho District Council

and Warri Divisional Council.

Verbal assurances have also been received from Benin and Oyo Divisional Councils. A reply is awaited from Ijebu Ode Divisional Council.

Though the Council must, of necessity, concentrate on the Provincial Sports Centre programme, it is happy to record that interest is already stirring in the Divisions. This is important as the Council is committed by policy to the provision of Modified Sports Centres in each Division as the second phase of its Sports Centre programme. The Ife Town Planning Authority has already reserved a site and Ondo has gone even further. Not only is a very good site already in use but, with the assistance of grants from the Local Education Authority, nearly 50% of the cement blocks necessary to build a wall to enclose the area have been made. The Council highly commends these efforts of self-help and hopes that it will be possible to give some assistance to encourage further effort.





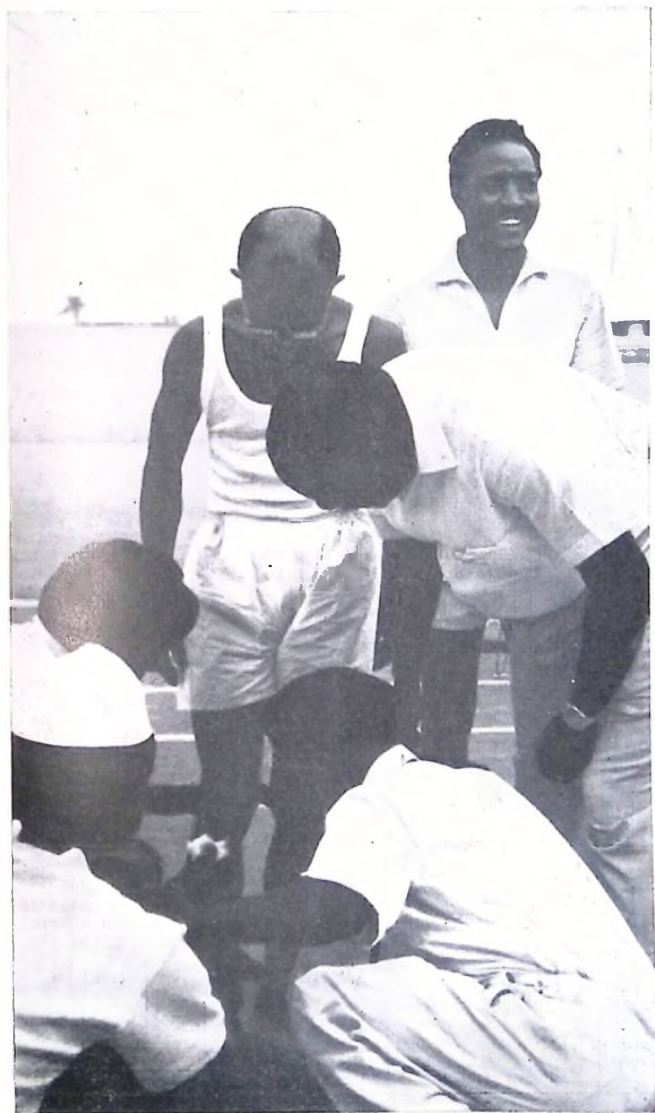
Chief G. Akin Deko (Chairman, National Sports Council) puts in for Running Repairs. First Aid is another Liberty Stadium Service

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr. J. S. O. Omagbemi, the Council's Scholar at San Jose State College, California, has successfully completed the second year of his four year course in Physical Education. An injury to his back sustained at the Olympic Games in Rome became increasingly troublesome and surgical treatment proved necessary. The Council is glad to report that the operation was completely successful and on March 17th, 1962, Mr. Omagbemi was well enough to return 9.5" for the 100 yards.

The Council sponsored Mr. Bakre's attendance at a Lawn Tennis Coaching Course in the United Kingdom. Mr. Bakre justified the confidence placed in him by the Council by obtaining the L.T.A.'s Preliminary Coaching Award.

The Council had hoped to make further scholarship awards during the year. Numerous applicants were interviewed and a selection made; but it has not yet been possible for the Council to announce the award. The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare considered that probably such awards should be more properly made through the Ministry of Education and directed that no further action should be taken by the Council until a Government policy decision had been made. That decision is still awaited.



## APPENDIX 'A'

COACHING COURSES ORGANISED AND/OR SPONSORED BY  
THE WESTERN REGION SPORTS COUNCIL IN CONJUNCTION  
WITH THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNING BODIES.  
1ST APRIL, 1961 — MARCH 31ST, 1962.

Sport	Coach i/c	Courses			Number of Students	
		Training of Coaches	Personal Performance	Mixed	Men	Women
Athletics	Rolf Svanberg	1	1	—	60	1
	P. S. Akponwei	3	7	12	1570	160
Cricket	G. Headley	1	11	—	178	—
Football	Beth Halevi	1	—	—	25	—
	Tesi Balogun	22	40	—	880	—
Lawn Tennis	G. Grindley	1	1	1	74	7
Table Tennis	Alec Brook	1	1	—	18	4
		30	41	13	2805	172

**APPENDIX 'B'**  
**LIBERTY STADIUM**  
**SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND ATTENDANCES.**

DATE	EVENT	ATTENDANCE
8. 4. 61	Grier Cup Competition	1,349
22. 4. 61	Hussey Shield Competition	925
10. 5. 61	Sheffield Wednesday V Western Nigeria (Floodlit)	20,518
27. 5. 61	Ibadan V. Lagos Ports Authority	1,488
10. 6. 61-27.6.61	American Holiday on Ice	22,094
1. 7. 61	West Rovers V. Lagos Rovers	4,645
29. 7. 61	Thermogene Schools' Cup Final	3,345
	Ibadan V. Kaduna (Floodlit Rugby Football)	,513
2. 9. 61	Ibadan V. Oyo Regional Cup Final	5,203
	North V. South (Floodlit Rugby Football)	717
2. 10. 61	West Rovers V. North Rovers	4,006
14. 10. 61	Ife G.S. V. Ahmaddiya G.S. Lagos	813
19. 10. 61	West Rovers V. Espanol F.C. (Spain)	2,934
28. 10. 61	Ibadan V Oyo — Premier's Cup Final	647
18. 11. 61	Ibadan V. Kano (Floodlit)	1,496
25. 11. 61-27.11.61	Zugspitz	8,925
1. 12. 61	Nigersol V. Nigerian Railway, Lagos (Floodlit)	878
2. 12. 61	Ife G.S. V. Methodist B.H.S., Lagos	948
12. 12. 61	Western Nigeria Boxers V. British Boxers	536
23. 12. 61	"Christian Monitor" Launching Ceremony	Admission Free
3. 2. 62	Federation of Boys' and Girls' Clubs Athletic Championships	538
10. 2. 62	Railway A.A.C. Sports	112
17. 2. 62	Ibadan Province A.A.A. Championships	1,369
3. 3. 62	W.N.A.A.A. Senior Championships	2,573
4. 3. 62	Western Nigeria V. Togoland	3,755
10. 3. 62	W.N.A.A.A. Junior Championships	2,434
11. 3. 62	Nigersol V. E.C.N., Lagos (Floodlit)	4,395
17. 3. 62	W.N. Women's A.A.A. Championships	2,626
20. 3. 62	Grier Cup Competition-Zone 'B'	1,456
23. 3. 62	Western Nigeria Festival of Arts	1,434
31. 3. 62	Government College, Ibadan V. Behanzin College, Dahomey	491



## EVENTS CONTROL

## WESTERN REGION SPORTS COUNCIL

1ST APRIL — 31ST MARCH 1962

Date	Particulars	Stadium Revenue	Car Park Revenue	Stadium Expenses	Profit or Loss	Paid to Promoters.				
8. 4. 61	Grier Cup Athletic Competition	26	8	7	8	13	7	34	18	2
22. 4. 61	Hussey Shield Competition	25	—	—	7	—	—	44	4	6
10. 5. 61	Shelfield Wednesday Vs. Western Nigeria	654	19	7	20	4	—	2,557	7	3
27. 5. 61	Ibadan XI Vs. N.P.A. Lagos	28	19	9	6	5	—	100	18	9
10.25. 6. 61	American Holiday on Ice Show	1,500	—	—	82	16	—	977	5	5
1. 7. 61	West Rovers Vs. Lagos Rovers	115	3	6	3	5	—	88	3	6
29. 7. 61	Thermogene School Cup Final	50	6	4	2	9	—	25	5	4
29. 7. 61	Floodlight Rugby Match Ibadan Vs. Kaduna	25	—	—	2	7	—	10	5	—
9. 9. 61	Floodlight Rugby Match North Vs. South	31	5	10	6	1	—	11	15	—
2. 10. 61	Regional Challenge Cup Final	128	8	3	6	4	—	43	10	3
14. 10. 61	Western Rovers Vs. Northern Rovers	105	12	10	6	16	—	63	19	—
	Western Rovers Vs. Ahmaduya Grammar School Lagos	25	—	—	19	—	—	29	—	—
19. 10. 61	Western Nigeria Vs. Spanish Team	175	3	4	9	1	—	57	15	—
28. 10. 61	Ibadan Vs. Oyo Premier Cup Final	25	—	—	1	—	—	31	12	—
18. 11. 61	Ibadan Vs. Kano (Floodlight Match)	600	—	—	38	15	—	19	5	—
25.27. 11. 61	Zugspitz Acrobatic Display	25	—	—	1	6	—	107	15	—
1. 12. 61	Nigeriol Ibadan Vs. Lagos Railway	25	—	—	1	6	—	30	16	—
12. 12. 61	Ife Grammar School Vs. M.B.H.S.	10	14	4	15	—	—	21	1	6
2. 12. 61	British Boxers Vs. Western Nigeria Boxers	25	—	—	1	14	—	25	4	6
3. 2. 62	Western Rovers Vs. Ashanti	25	—	—	—	—	—	19	9	9
3. 2. 62	Federation of Boys & Girls Ath. Competition	25	—	—	—	—	—	5	12	6
10. 2. 62	Railway Athletic Competition	25	—	—	—	—	—	4	12	6
17. 2. 62	Ibadan Provincial A.A.A. (Championship)	25	—	—	1	1	—	11	14	—
17. 2. 62	Western Region Senior A.A.A. (-do-)	25	—	—	2	2	—	10	14	—
3. 3. 62	West Rovers Vs. Togoland	152	15	—	5	6	—	40	3	—
4. 3. 62	Western Region Junior A.A.A. (-do-)	25	—	—	1	13	—	16	14	—
10. 3. 62	Nigeriol Vs. E.C.N. (Lagos)	46	5	11	4	1	—	48	4	—
11. 3. 62	Heat W.R. Women A.A.A. (Championship)	25	6	5	4	1	6	20	14	—
17. 3. 62	W.R. Women A.A.A. (-do-)	25	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—
20. 3. 62	Grier Cup Zone 'B'	25	—	—	—	—	—	18	18	—
23. 3. 62	Western Region Festival of Arts	25	—	—	—	—	—	13	4	—
31. 3. 62	Athletics & Soccer (Govt. College) Vs. Betarazim	25	—	—	—	—	—	11	16	—

£4,001	9	8	215	16	6	1,369	7	9	2,632	1	11	9,479	18	10
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