

West Africa

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- 5 JAN 1972

Lessons of Africa's Year

SERIALS & DOCUMENTS
RECORD SECTION

What did West African countries most obviously share together in the year that has passed and what will they share in the year to come? Not, unhappily, politically ideals or economic objectives, not their approach to their problems and certainly not their citizenship. They shared Africa's greatest curse, urban unemployment. And many of them shared its corollary, violent crime. In the coming year neither of these evils will diminish. They all suffered the uncertainties which the crisis of the major currencies produced, even if the franc zone countries could stand aside as extras who had no say in the matter. All experienced some degree of inflation and faced the problem that increases in salaries and wages can be self-defeating when prices rise to absorb them. For most smuggling, inwards and outwards, has remained a major industry.

Generalisation is more difficult in politics. But with happy exceptions one notes a general feeling about rulers that "they are all the same". Questioning of the pretensions of any government is healthy. But the cynicism that seems to be developing in West Africa about almost all governments, sometimes leading even to questioning the value of independence itself, can be dangerous.

This is a sombre background but it is only a background, which will remain during the coming year. The foreground fortunes of different countries have been extremely varied and remaining unpredictable. In Nigeria, for example, little progress appears to have been made along the path of return to civilian rule although the new census is being prepared. The decision not to court-martial any rebel officers was wise and magnanimous and contributes to the reconciliation which is still incomplete. The decision to reserve large fields of commerce to Nigerians and to enforce their participation in others has caused some commercial uncertainty, but swelling oil revenues made possible debt payment.

In Ghana, on the other hand, it has

become clear that it is not now the debts inherited from the Nkrumah regime but the immediately due commercial credits which are the urgent problem. The country is living on credit to a dangerous extent but no short-term answer is available. The cedi devaluation (see page 14) shows how a comparatively rich country can be bedevilled by payments problems, arising partly from the balkanisation of currencies in Africa. The object of the devaluation is to restrict imports which are uncontrollable by other means. It will also help some exports, impress Ghana's creditors and act as a gesture to the farmers.

A certain petulance towards critics and opponents has been shown by Dr. Busia's Government. But it should be remembered that this is a country where it is possible to be a critic and an opponent.

Sierra Leone has had another troubled year. But this time the execution of the former Force Commander and three other officers for their part in an attempted coup and attempts on the then Prime Minister's life have ended the comic opera impression which previous events may have created outside. The abortive coup of March led to the hurried change to an executive presidency which brought Sierra Leone into line with her neighbours. The Court of Appeal showed its independence in declaring the treason trials null and void, and the Government wisdom in finally releasing almost all those affected. But political bitterness still runs deep and the Government still cannot devote all its attention to the grave financial situation.

In Liberia the death of President Tubman after over twenty-seven years in office can be compared only to the death of Queen Victoria. But his successor has not only measured up to the job. He has instituted reforms which are among the brightest happenings of the year.

In French-speaking Africa, the tour of President Pompidou in five countries in February reassured those who feared that

the departure and death of de Gaulle would mean dramatic changes in ex-French Africa, but there was enough ambiguity in the French president's carefully chosen utterances to leave room for certain changes which he is thought to back. For example he lent support to measures now being taken in places like Dakar, Abidjan and Yaoundé towards modest and belated Africanisation of the French business presence. Also, behind his reassurances that the privileged position of France's former colonies with the EEC would be retained, were certain suggestions that adjustments would be unavoidable with Britain's entry.

Under Pompidou, also, there does seem to be with the help of the EEC a slow breaking down of the *chasse gardée* concept of francophone Africa as an exclusive French preserve. At the same time French sights are being raised elsewhere in Africa: President Mobutu of the Congo (which later changed its name to Zaïre Republic) was entertained lavishly in Paris, and French relations with Nigeria and Ghana continued to develop.

But the "cooperation" budget for the ex-French colonies is increasing again after some years of decline, and the special expeditionary forces sent to Chad have been largely withdrawn, although a substantial permanent French force remains. While the rebellion in Chad appears to be dormant it still remains a problem country of plots and student agitation.

The only coup of 1971 (Uganda) was not in West Africa, but unrest affected a number of countries. There were strikes in Mauritania, riots in Congo-Brazzaville. President Mobutu arrested his two former close colleagues, MM. Bomboko and Nendaka for plotting against him, while President Sekou Touré in Guinea spent much of the year exposing conspiracies against him in party and army following the invasion attempt of November, 1970.

Internationally the great issues have

EYADEMA AND POMPIDOU

- OAU and the Middle East
- Ibadan riots verdict
- Africa's creative experience
- Matchet in Monrovia



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been "dialogue" with South Africa, and the Rhodesian "settlement", with attitudes to Communist China as an interesting sideline. Support for Taiwan and for "dialogue" often go hand in hand. Reactions against the Rhodesian settlement have been far less vehement than expected. But this is partly because the issue has not finally gone through.

Not only the inclinations of Mr. Heath and the policies of Sir Alec took Britain further away from Africa during last year and will take her further this. Britain's membership of the EEC obliges Commonwealth African countries to consider association themselves. But it is association with Europe, not with Britain, which may be to the good of both parties, but profoundly changes an ancient link. The spectacle of a "weak" dollar (though it remains a commodity of which most African states cannot have enough) underlined the weakness of Africa's own currencies, or in the case of the franc zone and Liberia, the absence of any currency of their own at all. Indeed if the events of last year and the likely course of this year underline anything at all, it is the need for much greater African self-reliance economically. But as this need asserts itself, the means to achieve it in most cases recede into the distance.

MATCHET'S DIARY

Monrovia

Nobody who has studied the style of government of President William Richard Tolbert Jr. since he succeeded the late President Tubman last July will be surprised that when he is inaugurated as President this week he will wear a lounge suit. This is still a remarkable break from the past: for the white tie and tails, which now will be worn only at two evening functions, have become traditional here for all major ceremonies by day or night. President Tubman was in many ways an unconventional man but he was a stickler in dress, even insisting on grey morning coats for his inauguration garden parties, another costume which the new President seems to be abandoning. I saw him, too, receiving the new Belgian Ambassador in a simple suit. His predecessor would have insisted on black morning coats. In the ruling true Whig Party's newspaper, *The Liberian Age*, a journalist noted "The Liberian society of top hats and cutaways which Dr. Tolbert inherited is evidently on the way out".

All this, however, is symbolism. What has been changed in substance? So far, as was noted in an editorial in this journal last week, the most important change is the relaxation of the atmosphere, allowing and encouraging discussion of all kinds. When I met the President in his office on the fourth floor of the vast Executive Mansion (he has not yet moved in to the residence) he himself seemed far more relaxed than he used to seem as

Vice-President. Yet he was in the middle of preparing an important policy statement, had had a long series of meetings about the coming budget and about external affairs and about Liberia's dealings with the International Monetary Fund, and had just gone through the formalities of receiving an Ambassador's credentials. He speaks softly but clearly and laughs readily. After 19 years as Vice-President to a man of formidable personality he clearly does not find the supreme office ungenial; he has blossomed in it. He welcomes the new freedom of discussion to which his curbs on the security men have made a major contribution. "How could I lead a people if I had no means of finding out what they like or dislike? Mr. Tubman never wanted people to remain silent but the idea grew up that criticism was out-of-place".

One issue hotly discussed here is Liberia's continued championship of Formosa's UN membership and continued diplomatic relations with Taipei. Some say that it is unrealistic to go against the world trend in this way, with the support in Africa only of President Mobutu who has never forgiven the Communist Chinese for their intervention in the Congo. The President told me that he was not "against" Communist China: "how could I be against a nation that size? But I think that Formosa also has rights which have been ignored. Both should be in the UN". Some point to the agricultural assistance Formosa is giving and ask what has happened to the agricultural work in Sierra Leone where the Formosans have been replaced by the Peking men.

Another issue which arouses controversy is the new President's confirmation of some death sentences passed under the regime of President Tubman who, almost since the beginning of his long term, never confirmed a death sentence - but did not commute many either. The most publicised case was that of the Nigerian, Justin Obi, but there have been three others. There is some confusion between the gruesome publicity attached to these hangings and the principle on which President Tolbert has acted. "The law prescribes the death penalty for murder and I must carry out the law. Only if I have reasonable doubt or find new evidence can I avoid my duty. In these cases I could find no good cause after the most careful examination I am now examining the other cases". There is no doubt that the President will commute some sentences. But what is questioned is the principle of executing people condemned to death perhaps many years ago, but living in the belief that they would never be executed because of the late President's policy. And capital punishment itself is now being called in question.

Nothing pleases the President more than to discuss agriculture. He has land around his big private mansion in Bensonville, the straggling township north of Monrovia where he was born almost 59

years ago (his father started life modestly as a farmer but became a businessman and eventually Head of the Ruling True Whig Party). But like most leading Liberians he also has farms up country, in his case around Belefuama on the Saint Paul River near the Guinea border. He grows a variety of crops but is particularly proud of his rice and the centre of his farm policy is to make Liberia self-sufficient in rice inside 10 years. This is a modest ambition in a



Tolbert: "How could I lead a people if I had no means of finding out what they like or dislike?"

country still largely agricultural and with abundant land in relation to its population. But it's a matter of roads as well as farms, of marketing as well as a production. But it must be done since Liberia imported in 1970 almost \$10m worth of rice; "what we must do" said the President "is to develop 50,000 acres of high-yielding rice annually. Surely that's not impossible?"

No real change is possible, however, the President thinks, so long as the mass of farmers work communal land. "Every citizen should be able to acquire as much land freehold as he can work; only then will there be an incentive to put all you've got into your farm". The President assured me that since there was no shortage of land, chiefs could ensure that freehold ownership spread gradually without damaging the claims of commercial holders.

"Liberia is like a tree"

In charge of the execution of agricultural policy is the Secretary James Philips, who is so enthusiastic for getting around that he gained a pilot's license at the age of 43. Now he flies himself in his tiny Cessna to visit remote areas - and finds that when he doesn't want it himself the aircraft is in great demand for charter. "Liberia is like a tree", he says: "what is underground must nourish what is on the surface. That means that our great revenues from minerals must be used to improve agriculture".

Whether Mr. Philips will stay Agriculture nobody can say. For on last day of the year all cabinet members and their deputies, who are drawn from outside the legislature, gave their resignations to the President, as did ambassadors. This makes him free of his inauguration to make what appointments he chooses without having to sack anybody. President Tolbert already made some welcome changes to the cabinet, notably the appointment of 28-year old William Dennis as Secretary for Commerce. He is expected to bring more young men in and at least one woman - among his changes on the bench he has already appointed Liberia's first woman judge. He will also improve the calibre of the superintendents - the local administrators. But what everybody discusses is the Vice-Presidency. He will have to be elected in a few months time and all that is agreed about him as I write is that he cannot come from the President's county, Mesurado, nor be related to him as is President Tubman's senator son. He will still be drawn from a very narrow circle and is likely to be Senator Green, Chairman of the True Whig Party. But the open discussion of men and their merits is encouraging.

Because there is no Vice-President at present, the Speaker, Mr. Hennes, would be the President's successor. After him would come the President of the Senate who happens to be the President's elder brother, Senator Frank Tolbert. "The Presidency is an elective office" the President told me: "there is no question therefore of the Chief Justice or the Secretary of State succeeding, but only the representatives of those elected to the legislature".

The President is said already to have made a mark on the civil service by his early-morning visits to see who was at work. But reform of the service is one of his most difficult tasks. "We must admit that it is not really a civil service at all", he told me. "The first step is to make merit the only criterion for appointment or promotion". He wants the new Civil Service Commission also to give officials security of tenure so that they no longer see their jobs as temporary ones, from which to take as much as possible and to which to contribute as little as possible. And in a country where cabinet ministers still get only \$500 a month a general rise in official pay is essential if better people are to be attracted.

All this and his other plans do not make the President a revolutionary, nor does one expect the former President of the Baptist World Alliance and the Grand Master Eminent of Liberia's freemasons to be one. But in this country he seems adventurous. And they are recalling the story that as a young man he was so impressed with his mother's account of the beauty of a young lady living at Robertsport that he made the 50 mile journey by sea in a "rowboat" to see her. She is now Mrs. Victoria A. Tolbert, First Lady of Liberia.



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IBADAN RIOTS VERDICT

By a correspondent

After several months consideration, the Federal Government has released the report of the Commission of Enquiry into the student riots at Ibadan in February last year, which led to the fatal shooting by police of one student and the injury of several others. The Commissioner, Mr. Justice B. O. Kazeem, saw the disturbances as part of the general picture of student unrest attributable to several remote causes including inadequate hostel accommodation and unsatisfactory catering services, strained relations between domestic staff and students, the use of law enforcing agencies by the University authorities during demonstrations and lack of adequate staff-student communication.

The report criticised the actions of the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lambo, and condemned the use of rifles by the police. The Federal Government, however, did not agree with all the recommendations although it accepted the majority of the Commissioner's findings.

The White Paper says that it agrees that "it was totally wrong for students generally to turn what began as a peaceful demonstration into a violent one at the mere sight of police on the campus" and that "students could not be regarded as peace-loving citizens when they failed to disperse after tear-gas was thrown at them by police, but instead they continued to throw stones at police". Although Mr. Justice Kazeem strongly condemns the use of rifles, the Federal Government says in the White Paper that "it must be pointed out that the police have the duty to be on the campus as elsewhere in order to maintain law and order by whatever appropriate but lawful means they may have at their disposal. Riot in any form, committed whether by students or by any other group of citizens, deserves to be quelled by law enforcement agencies in a manner and to extent necessary to restore law and order. Government expects and believes that all men of goodwill must deprecate student indiscipline and rowdiness, especially when accompanied, as in the instant case, by resort to violence and to wanton destruction of and damage to public or private properties."

Poor catering

The main cause of the disturbances appears to have been student discontent with the catering facilities at Nnamdi Azikiwe Hall. Since 1966, three years after the hall was built, there had been intermittent complaints by students at the hall of inadequate catering facilities and lack of food. Mrs. Apampa, catering manageress of the hall, had such wide-ranging administrative responsibilities for day-to-day administration of catering and housekeeping for the hall that the Commission found it little wonder that there were incessant complaints about her and members of her staff concerning catering

and related matters.

Complaints both in 1966 and February 1970 leading to almost riotous demonstrations were the subject of reports by committees which did little to satisfy the students' worries. The Commission into this year's riots found four remote causes of the disturbances: "inadequate food supply and poor catering services generally within the University, the question of non-participation by students in the decision-making bodies of University, inadequate hostel accommodation as a result of a phenomenal rise in the number of students and the problem of the essentially residential nature of the University, and lack of mutual confidence between the University administration and students, resulting in non-utilisation by students of the normal channels of communication laid down by the University for redressing grievances."

Although the students complained about the improper selling of food from the store by the cafeteria manageress, the Commission found this was not the reason for the shortage of food which was one of the immediate causes of the disturbances. But the reasons she gave for selling were unconvincing. The Federal Government accepted, among other things, that Mrs. Apampa should be transferred to another part of the University but that there was no evidence to justify her dismissal.

Lambo criticised

The Commission castigated Dr. Lambo, who, although said to be held in high esteem by many students, failed to take the students' hunger strike seriously enough, and his decision to close down Azikiwe Hall after the students had gone on hunger strike is found to have "triggered off the disturbances".

It is also found that his failure to inform the students that Mrs. Apampa would be permanently transferred from the hall after the decision had already been leaked to the students contributed greatly to the feeling of mistrust between students and the University administration. "If this had been done it would have completely resolved the crisis." He was criticised for making an error of judgment in not referring the closure of hall to the senate meeting taking place on the evening of incident. It thought Dr. Lambo had allowed himself to be stampeded into taking a decision that the best course of resolving the crisis was to close down the hall.

In this respect the Commission also criticised the advice, or lack of it, tendered by his advisers, "namely, the Acting Registrar Mr. S. O. Okudu, Student Affairs Officer S. A. Odumaye and warden of Nnamdi Azikiwe Hall E. O. Adetunji did not rise to the occasion".

Eye witnesses told the enquiry that the rioting did not appear to begin in

earnest on the morning of February 1 until the students saw the police squad positioned outside the administration building. Earlier that morning the Students Union Executive addressed and informed students that Nnamdi Azikiwe Hall would be closed if they did not disperse and call off the hunger strike, the students became angry and started to throw stones at members of the Executive. The Security Officer who witnessed this incident ran to the Vice-Chancellor's office where he was instructed to call the police; they followed a misunderstanding or over-zealousness on the part of the Commanding Police Officer. The police had already been alerted the previous day and by morning of February 1 were deployed in strategic positions. By the time reinforcements arrived, the student strength had increased to about 2,000 to 3,000. There were 50 police, said the report, consisting of six constables with rifles, six constables each with one smoke pistol and six smol cartridges and 28 others armed with batons.

Out of control

The students went on the rampage throwing stones and other missiles at the police and the administration block. The police immediately fired teargas but this proved ineffective because the wind was blowing in the wrong direction and blew the smoke back at the police. According to the President of the Students Union he was persuading some students to disperse and approached the police to appeal for an end to the teargas but was arrested. When the students saw this they regrouped. The Chief Superintendent arrived and took over. He instructed his men, as he says, to fire in the air after having ordered them into the kneeling firing position to scare the students - was then that one student was killed and others injured.

The Commission found "only the absolute minimum rounds necessary should have been used and never under any circumstances should bullets have been fired over rioters' heads", but the students were not absolved of all blame either. The Commission recommended that each student at the University should forthwith pay a levy of £1 towards the total cost of repairing damaged property.

Government accepted this, but was unable to accept the Commission's findings on the form of police action taken. "The use of firearms on this occasion was fully justified in the circumstances," although it regretted that this resulted in the death of Mr. Adekunle Adepeju.

The Government accepted a few of the Commission's recommendations on the reform of certain University procedures and promised to look into others. Generally, however, it found that the time was not ripe for students to be allowed as full a part in the administration of the University as the Commission recommended.

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LEIN

People

● Hard on the heels of Penguin Africa Library's tenth birthday in January (which was mentioned in this column last week), Heinemann Educational Books are celebrating the tenth birthday of their African Writers series with a similar flourish (our spies indicate that Heinemann's event was planned before Penguins). The occasion will be marked by the launching of *Girls At War* a collection of short stories by Chinua Achebe, who has been the editorial adviser of the series since it was launched in 1962 with his own *Things Fall Apart*. Heinemann says that Achebe will be in London for the happy event, on his first visit outside Nigeria since the end of the war, indeed his first visit to London for four years. Heinemann have now issued a complete list of their titles, and an impressive list it is, too.

● Two of the men appointed Deputy Chairmen of the Pearce Commission "to ascertain by direct contact with all sections of the population" of Rhodesia, whether the Smith-Home proposals for Rhodesia are acceptable to the country as a whole, are well known in West Africa. They are Sir Maurice Donnan, former Governor and Governor-General of Sierra Leone, and Sir Frederick Pedler, ex-Deputy Chairman of the United Africa Company. Sir Maurice's African experience goes back to 1935 when he was an Administrative Officer in Tanganyika, and of West Africa in 1950, when he was Director of Social Welfare in the then Gold Coast, working loyally under Nkrumah when he came to power. From 1956 he was Governor of Sierra Leone, and collaborated closely with Sir Milton Margai in the totally peaceful change to independence in 1961. He then stayed on as Governor-General for a year, before the post was Africanised. He was always thought then to be the champion of Sierra Leone interests against the Colonial Office, just as later, as Governor and Governor-General of Malta he championed Maltese interests against the British Government. He had not wanted to hand on as Governor-General in Malta but Dr Borg Olivier, Dom Mintoff's predecessor as Maltese Prime Minister, induced him to do so. From his Sierra Leone experience Sir Maurice knows that African self-government can work, but observers ask whether a man with his background and impressive appearance would be seen as truly sympathetic by the Rhodesian "tribal" Africans. Sir Maurice is seen as possibly one of those subscribing to a minority report which could cause great embarrassment to the British Government.

Sir Frederick had direct experience of the colonial service in Tanzania and the Colonial Office (as well as accompanying Lord Hailey as an assistant on the tours for his mammoth *African Survey*) but he

moved to the United Africa Company in 1944, which put him on the West African circuit. Indeed, in 1951 he wrote a book *West Africa* for which Lord Hailey read the proofs. At UAC he lived through the entire Africanisation period, with the policy of producing senior African directors, managers, etc., so he may be said to know African capacities at first hand. He retired in 1968, but retains close links, through, for example, the School of Oriental and African Studies. (He was, incidentally, criticised by a Labour Opposition MP at Westminster who claimed he had business connections with Rhodesia.) The trouble about the Pearce Commission is that an honest and sincere man, in Rhodesian conditions, where there is no freedom to campaign and explain, and where there is a government monopoly of media and power so that the mass of Africans may not understand what they are being asked, could report that he finds no dissatisfaction with the Salisbury terms.

● After 52 years of teaching, Dr Ephraim Amu has retired. His last appointment was as head of the music department of the Institute of African Studies at Legon University, Ghana, but he has taught in many schools and colleges - including Peki Blengo Evangelical Presbyterian Middle School, Akropong Training College, Achimota and Kumasi College of Science and Technology - and is known as a theologian as well as a musician. He had a reputation for being a strict disciplinarian, and for being particularly keen that his pupils should be exact in their use of language, whether it was Twi, Ewe or English. In an editorial, the *Daily Graphic* said that he laid great emphasis on "doing things the African way" long before "Achimota was heard of". Among the many other tributes was one from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. William Ofori-Atta, who described Dr Amu as one of the few Ghanaians who dedicated their services not only to their family but to mankind.

● "African time" - a lack of obsession with punctuality - is, for many people, one of the advantages of working and living in Africa. But it doesn't fit in with the Ghana Government's crusade for "discipline". This was driven home by the Ashanti Regional Chief Executive, Mr. Maxwell Owusu, guest speaker at the Kwadaso Agricultural College's end of year ceremony. Mr. Owusu arrived about a minute before the appointed time of 2 pm. But after a quarter of an hour, only about 15 guests (including reporters but not most of the organisers) had turned up, so he departed, leaving his prepared speech. The principal, Mr. S. K. Asuo, arrived soon afterwards and rushed to Mr. Owusu's office. In the words of *The Pioneer*: "But the Regional Chief Executive, a busy man he is, had returned to his desk to continue with the large volume of public business which had piled on his desk and could spare no other time".



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Israel, Egypt and the OAU Peace Mission

By a correspondent

With the conclusion of the debate on the Middle East situation at the UN General Assembly, the efforts of the Organisation of African Unity Committee to find ways and means of bringing peace to the Middle East, have halted for the moment.

During the debate, the OAU made public the peace proposals which the OAU had put to Israel and Egypt. These were: (a) agreement by the two parties to resume indirect negotiations through the UN mediator Jarring in line with the 1967 Security Council resolution. Israel replied that it agreed to the resumption of Jarring without prior conditions. Egypt replied that they agreed to "indirect negotiations" under Dr. Jarring with a view to applying the 1967 resolution. (b) an interim agreement on the opening of the Suez Canal and stationing of UN troops on the East Bank of the canal. Israel agreed to the drafting of an agreement on the canal to be "negotiated and accepted in common agreement". Within the framework of negotiations she would be prepared "to discuss measures designed to ensure control and respect" of such an agreement. Egypt said she was willing to make the necessary arrangements for reopening the canal, if Israel withdrew as the first step, and on condition that Israel responded favourably to Jarring's February memorandum (the refusal to reply to which had led to the freezing of Jarring). (c) Agreement on secure and recognised borders. Here again Israel said they should be determined by negotiation, and Egypt said that they should be in line with the OAU resolution and Jarring's initiative, both of which stipulate withdrawing to Egypt's international borders. The remaining three points concerned demilitarised zones, details of the evacuation of occupied territories and the stationing of an international force at Sharm-el-Sheikh, to guarantee shipping in the Tiran straits. Egypt agreed to this, while Israel's answer was that freedom of navigation would be provided for in the eventual peace agreement. Analysis of the proposals and the replies detected no softening of the Israeli and Egyptian positions on reactivation of Jarring - with Israel saying everything is negotiable, while Egypt essentially stipulates Israeli withdrawal as a pre-condition for any settlement.

Breaking the vicious circles

In the debate Mr. Rashid Driss of Tunisia described the mission of the African "wise men" as historic, whether or not it produced immediate results or whether its proposals ran into difficulties. He warned Israel against rejecting the African initiative. "The Africans don't like their good faith to be betrayed", he said. The Africans were sometimes divided, but they were capable of solidarity on matters of justice. He hoped the African mission would "permit the breaking up of the vicious circles of conflict and hate".

The eventual resolution tabled by a group of 18 Afro-Asian countries including Zambia and Mali was supported by Egypt. It called for the resumption of the Jarring mission on terms that Israel had warned she would find unacceptable. These were that Israel should agree to withdraw from occupied Arab lands in return for Egypt's declaration of willingness to sign a peace treaty.

The resolution reaffirmed that acquisition of territories by force is inadmissible, and that territories thus occupied must be restored. A Senegalese amendment which "noted with satisfaction the replies given by Egypt and Israel to the memoranda of the committee of African heads of state and considers the replies sufficiently positive to make possible a resumption" of the Jarring mission and deleted praise of Egypt for its response to Jarring was defeated receiving only 21 votes with 63 against and 38 abstaining. Some African states opposed the resolution on the grounds that the OAU proposals were not a public document, and should not be considered before consultations among African leaders. Senegal had withdrawn its sponsorship of the Afro-Asian resolution at the last minute. Likewise a resolution by Barbados and Ghana, stressing the positive aspects of the OAU mission in finding common denominators between Israel and Egypt was defeated, obtaining only 16 votes.

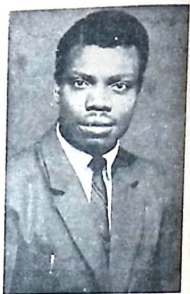
Broad spectrum of African countries

The result of the vote was as follows - 79 for, 7 against with 36 abstentions. The African states divided as follows for - Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia (23); against, none; abstentions, Algeria, Botswana, Central African Republic, Dahomey, Gabon, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, Senegal, Upper Volta, Zaire (16) absent, Mauritius, Swaziland. The abstainers include the most loyal friends of Israel, plus Senegal because of the defeat of their resolution, plus Libya and Algeria, who felt that the Afro-Asian resolution was not strong enough. But a fairly broad spectrum of African states supported the resolution, including most of the members of the OAU Committee.

The *New York Times* commented that Senegal whose President had headed the Committee had attempted to amend the Afro-Asian resolution in a way that would reflect the diplomatic realism of the African approach. "The defeat of the Senegalese amendment is a defeat for anyone with a stake in a Middle East settlement - including the Egyptians - but there is no reason therefore to cast aside the promising conclusion of the OAU mission that grounds do exist for a resumption of negotiations. Now that the rhetoric has had its day it is time for the two parties to begin at last to discuss the realistic security arrangements that were the essence of the African approach".

Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban said that the Senegal amendment had "made a solution possible". Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel Premier said in Tel Aviv that she did not think the OAU mission had failed. "For the first time the Arabs are running about, busily trying to patch up differences between them and the Africans. Regardless of the UN General Assembly vote, there are differences of opinion among the Africans on the Middle East conflict. The fact cannot be hidden that the African presidents put forward proposals which the Arabs refused to accept", she claimed.

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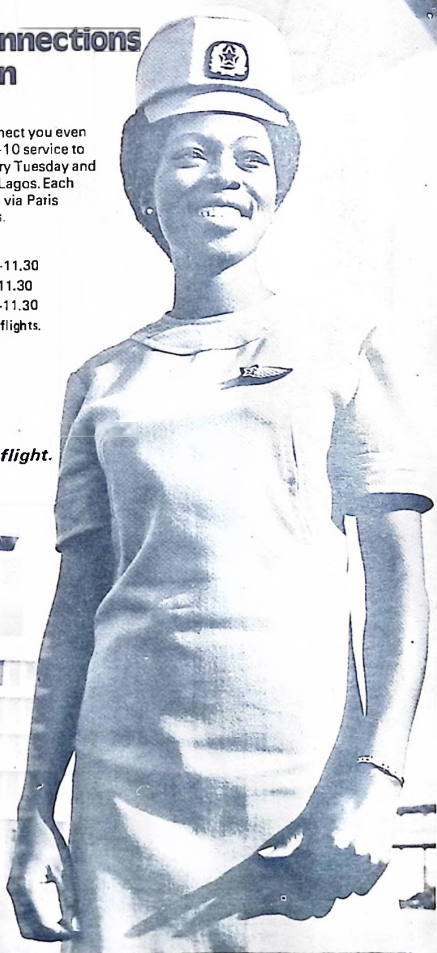
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Letters to the Editor

MILITARY MAGNANIMITY

SIR - Apropos your main article in the December 3 issue, it might be thought by some that you make too much of the magnanimity of the Federal Government of Nigeria towards the leaders of the late rebellion. Nothing could be further from the truth, as a glance at what happened in this very year in the Sudan, in Morocco, and in Sierra Leone clearly shows. It will be remembered that in none of these countries did the violent challenge to the State's authority last much longer than a couple of days. In Nigeria, the rebellion was kept going for at least two-and-a-half years.

This raises the question - is such magnanimity justifiable? I think it is, and most Nigerians are in favour of it because they know in their bones that it is the right thing to do. One cannot go into the reasons here, but presumably General Gowon knew that magnanimity is often the truest wisdom and that a great country and little minds go ill together. Such self-interested benevolence was not meant to have only an 18th century relevance.

Finally, may I quote from an essay of Lord Macaulay on William III of England which in many parts seems to be describing persons and events in recent Nigerian history: "A powerful party had strongly...elevation... Many of his ministers...were falsely, and some justly accused, of correspondence with his...competitor. The world has rarely produced a (man) whom such circumstances would not have converted into a vindictive and jealous tyrant - (he) did not even resort to a system of exclusion. His conduct displayed a lofty scorn of suspicion which was at once the highest magnanimity and the highest wisdom. He would see nothing. He would believe nothing. He fearlessly surrounded his person...with pardoned enemies and calumniated friends, and thus secured the services and conciliated the affection of many whom a less generous policy would have rendered useless or treacherous." Surely, this is the heart of the matter.

G. ADEKUNLE WILLIAMS

London

HEATH AND BLACK AFRICA

SIR - Since Edward Heath has had the accidental success of becoming Prime Minister of England, some of his foreign policies that affect Africans have shown that this "pseudo-maestro" has very little regard for black African countries. It is a

shame that he seems to be turning black African countries against Britain which was held in very esteem by many of these countries at one time were British colonies.

Unlike his predecessors who we fair play and justice for all countries, Heath seems to be deliberately telling black African countries that they amount to nothing. His stubbornness to sell arms to South Africa and strong desire to re-admit Rhodesia to the Commonwealth is a strong indication that if he were in the position of Vorster or Ian Smith, he would certainly follow their policy of white supremacy!

To think that the once greatly respected, and admired British Government could degenerate so low within such a short time fills me with grief.

I do realise that black Africans can dictate to this "pseudo-maestro" how run his government, they can shake of these insulting actions of his by nationalising all British owned establishments and expelling all the British from the countries. After all, the Republic of China seems willing to help some African countries, and it is the U.S.S.R. who assisted Nigeria most during her civil war.

It is high time black African countries started realizing who their friends are.

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Books and Publications

THE AFRICAN EXPERIENCE

New Approaches to African Literature
2nd Ed. by J. A. Ramsaran. (Ibadan
University Press, Nigeria, £1.05)

Whispers from a Continent by Wilfred
Cartey Henemann Educational Books,
London. (First published in the U.S.A.
by Random House Inc. New York,
1969, £3.25).

Perspective on African Literature Edited
by Christopher Heywood (Henemann,
London in association with University
of Ife Press, £1)

Literature from Africa, written in
English and French, has come of age.
Regarded in the past as the growing
infant of the forties, the recalcitrant child
of the fifties, and the turbulent
adolescent of the sixties, it has now
arrived to take a definitive place in world
literature. A spate of books are being
published in the field of studies of
African Literature. Among these are the
three listed above.

The doyen in the field is Ramsaran,
lately of Ibadan, who first published his
Approaches to African Literature (A
guide to Negro-African writing and
Related Studies) in 1964. Mr. Ramsaran
was a member of the English Department
at Ibadan for twelve years, during which
time he saw the syllabus for the English
degree at Ibadan change to include
literature south of the Sahara. He has
therefore known many of the present day
Nigerian writers from their beginnings.
The second Edition of his guide has been
necessary to bring it up to date, and it
remains essentially a reference book, a
useful bibliography of writing by and
about black writers in English and
French, on both sides of the Atlantic, and
includes some Afro-Portuguese poetry as
well.

Ramsaran is thorough, and he has
included all recent important writing by
African writers, the only omission I could
find was the modern popular sentimental
fiction, for example by J. Benibor
Blay and Mickson and Konadu of Ghana,
and their counterparts in Eastern and
Western Nigeria. Their readership is
increasing, and some will probably survive
the test of time. Much of Ramsaran's
early statements on African writing,
though drawn largely from Sartre and
Conrad, are still noteworthy, and are
useful for the record. His West Indian
criticism is perceptive and balanced,
though he does not give Naipaul the
supreme palm recently accorded him in
England. A somewhat patronising atti-

tude has left Ramsaran behind in the field
of critics of African literature.

Whispers from a Continent, by
another West Indian, is a totally different
approach to the field of modern African
literature. Its author, Wilfred Cartey is
also from Trinidad, educated at the
University of the West Indies and now an
Associate Professor of African Literature
at Columbia. New York Professor Cartey
brings a poetic insight and a nostalgic
depth and sincerity to his analysis of
some contemporary African writers. He
underlines the importance of blackness in
African literature. Throughout his work
comes the soul-searching cry of
negritude;—the original negritude of
Cesaire, of the lost Antillean dream, of
Damas, of the articulate West Indian
evoking the soul of Africa. The manner of
presentation of his material is wholly
subjective and somewhat original. Pro-
fessor Cartey has worked out a theme
which runs: Mother and Child (Auto-
biography) — Disillusion: The Colonial
World. — Alienation. Apartheid. — The
lost generation Urban Political Reality;
— Exile and Return. Negritude. — and
lastly Belief and Man's Faith.

Into this scheme he tries to fit most of
the contemporary African writers, — their
philosophies, stories, novels, poems and
plays. The idea is fascinating, but the
result is sometimes confusing, particularly
towards the end. In the last section only
the late Christopher Okigbo in
Heavenstage convincingly represents
Man's Faith; the others mentioned are
too cynical or sceptical to be acceptable.
A great deal of thought and trouble have
gone into the making of this book, but
the effect on the reader is not sufficiently
impressive. There is a feeling of
unevenness perhaps even of over-
interpretation, of leading more into some
of the material than its writers intended.
But this is inevitable, in filling different
writers into a pre-conceived scheme, a
very ambitious plan in covering such a
wide span. It might have been useful at
the beginning of the book, to have had a
statement explaining the intention of the
author and demarcating its limitations. In
spite of all this, however, this book goes
deeper into the analysis of many con-
temporary African writers than most, and
will have a useful place whenever African
writing is being studied in depth.

The third book on the list is *Pers-
pective on African Literature*, a com-
pilation of some of the lectures delivered

at the Conference on African Literature at the University of Ife in 1968. It is edited by Christopher Heywood, who was then Visiting Professor of English at the University of Ife at the time, and one suspects, largely responsible for the success of the Conference, which represented the cream of African writers and their critics.

It is divided into four sections: Criticism, Language and Style, Forms, and Authors, a useful classification, which enables coverage of a very wide field, ranging from an erudite analysis of literary criticism and its relevance for West Africa by Dr Abiola Irele - a brilliant statement, to the very interesting account of popular fiction in Ghana by the irrepressible Iwe Ninsin. Each of the papers included is outstanding and it would be impossible to name them all, but I was fascinated by the Yoruba sources of Tutuola's language (Afolayan), and much moved by a personal statement from the writer James Ngugi.

In conclusion, I shall leave it to the reader to draw his own conclusions from the fact that the literary work which has emerged from the three books under review as clearly and unanimously the most profound is Camara Laye's *The Radiance of the King*. I will end with a quotation from David Cook's penetrating analysis "The Relevance of the King in Camara Laye's *Le Regard du Roi*":

"The Radiance of the King seems to me to be a profound rethinking of our

whole awareness of life; it seeks to take account of all that is positive in the experience of Africa, old and new; and ultimately strives to comprehend all that is positive in the experience of the world, old and new."

M.N.

A History of the Beja Tribes of the Sudan, by A. Paul (Frank Cass, £3)

This is a reprint of a work originally produced in 1954, concerning a people whose recorded history goes back an unusually long time, and yet have managed to remain secluded from the mainstreams of change in their mountainous fastness near the Red Sea in north-eastern Sudan. They are, says the author "the Bugha of Leo Africanus, the Bugiens of seventeenth century cartographers, the Blemmyes of Roman times, the Bugas of the Axumite inscriptions, who were quite possibly also the Buks of the Egyptian hieroglyphs... who for forty centuries of their known history have watched civilisations flourish and decay...". The sources for the history of this Hamitic warrior people are thus plentiful, and the author makes full use of them, going from the days when the Red Sea hills were a source of gold to the Pharaohs, to the era of the Mahdi, Twefik Bey and Mr Gladstone, and ultimately to the Beja in the 20th century, and what Mr Paul calls "their reaction to modern methods of administration".

C.D.

Annual Survey of African Law, 1968, edited by Neville R. Eugene Cotran. (Cass, £9)

The second volume in a series appearing annually, in which experts consider developments legal field in all African countries of the Sahara - including Rhodé, the Portuguese territories, and in South Africa, Professor Allott writes on Ghana, and Nylander and Kasunr Nigeria (unlike last year, there is "Biafra" this year). U. U. Uche writes on Sierra Leone and The Gambia, a year a group of French experts from Centre de l'Afrique Noire in Bordeaux deal with ex-French Africa, and Herbots with the Congo (Zaire) writing in French.

Contemporary African Literature: a catalogue of an exhibition organised by the University of Ife Book Ltd from November 25 to December 21, 1971, is available outside Nigeria at a nominal fee of 7s. 6d. Niger State. Over 800 books by black African authors writing in English and French were on show at the exhibition, as well as children's books by African authors and a selection of creative writing in Yoruba. Several African literary and cultural magazines were displayed.

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Commercial News

Ghana devalues by 48 per cent

Following the US decision to devalue the dollar by 7.9 per cent, Nigeria suspended all foreign exchange transactions while Government officials considered the implication of the move. On December 23, it was announced that the Nigerian pound was retaining its gold parity, so that it would follow sterling with a revaluation of over eight per cent against the dollar. The Gambia and Sierra Leone also followed sterling, the parity of which in terms of gold remained unchanged.

Ghana followed the US move by devaluing the new cedi by 48.6 per cent, bringing its value down to 55 US cents (the last devaluation was in July 1967). A Government announcement said that surcharges on imported goods had been abolished (imports automatically becoming more expensive) and the price paid to cocoa growers increased from NCS to NC10 per 60lb load, with effect from the next mid-crop season. The measures were aimed at "encouraging our

exports and export industries, making our currency more attractive for investment and promoting economic growth". Devaluation would enable adjustments to be made to import and export price levels and would mean lower costs for tourists.

The Government hoped that an improvement in the balance of payments would result, thus assisting the liberalisation policies which the government had been trying to follow since taking office.

"While the prices of our imports have been going up fast, those of our exports have been dropping. The terms of trade have moved strongly against us, and we are being squeezed hard", said the statement, which noted that repeated international monetary crises had shown the need for greater exchange rate flexibility. An increase in the daily minimum wage from 75p to NC1 from January 1 was also announced, and the Government promised pay increases for other employees earning up to NC1,000 a year.

New excursion fares from West Africa

For the first time, winter excursion fares on northbound routes from West Africa are planned by British Caledonian for flights linking Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Gambia with London. Next year they will apply during the month of April and then from November 1 through to 30 April, 1973. The new fares will be available to nationals of these African countries and to foreigners holding a one year residential qualification. One stopover will be permitted on either the outward or return sector of the flight. This must be outside of Africa. This excursion fare will be available to travellers on visits of between 21 and 35 days.

The new excursion fares are: Lagos, Nigeria-London; Accra, Ghana-London - £178.30 (the current return economy fare is £242.50); Kano, Nigeria-London - £156.45 (current return economy fare £212.80); Freetown, Sierra Leone-London and Monrovia, Liberia-London - £172.85 (current return economy fare £235.10); Bathurst, Gambia-London - £158.30 (current return economy fare £215.30).

The airline is to introduce a computerised reservations service from April. The chairman, Mr. Adam Thomson, said that this would enable reservations staff to confirm seat availability on any of service within three seconds of request and to make positive bookings right up to departure time.

• Air-freight costs of more than 40 Ghana manufacturers participating in the OAU Trade Fair in Nairobi this year will be paid for by the Government. The Ghana Manufacturers Association will spend about NC10,000 on manning the Ghana stand, which will cover 41,000 sq ft.

Tin: Nigeria accused

Nigeria has reduced the status of its foreign-owned tin mining companies - including the erstwhile world's largest private tin mining company - to marginal or loss-making enterprises, says an editorial comment in the December issue of *Tin International*. The editorial goes on: "In criticising certain tin mining companies for contesting the full implementations of the Adebayo Commission's recent wage award, the National Executive Council of the Nigerian Mine Workers' Union held that 'the falling price of tin in the world market is not a sufficient reason for the minefield employers to refuse to pay the award'. If this, and various other statements emanating from Jos at the end of last month reflects a new type of economic thinking, then some, at least, of the emerging nations' problems are of their own making".

• In the next three years 7,500 wells are to be constructed in rural areas in Ghana by a West German firm, Forrestral, at a cost of about Nc14m.

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On 1st October 1971, Barclays Bank DCO changed its name to Barclays Bank International Limited. This acknowledges a basic change of function and policy which has been taking place over the last five or six years at an accelerating pace.

In America we now have a flourishing bank in California. On the other side of the continent another subsidiary, Barclays Bank of New York, has been established. In Europe, with our parent we now have a controlling interest in Societe Bancaire Barclays (Suisse) S.A. and have opened a second branch in West Germany, at Frankfurt, to supplement our business in Hamburg.

Local incorporations

Barclays National Bank Limited on 1st October took over our business in the Republic of South Africa and in South West Africa. The new bank has a paid up capital and reserves of R 83 million (£47 million). We have retained our business in Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland as part of our own operations.

Other subsidiaries have been set up in Ghana, Sierra Leone and, from 1st October, Zambia. In Malawi we have joined together with the Standard Bank Limited to form, in partnership with the Government, the National Bank of Malawi. Similar arrangements are in hand for Kenya. In Israel we have come to an arrangement with the Discount Bank to incorporate a new bank which will amalgamate our local business and that of a subsidiary of theirs. We now have no fewer than fifteen subsidiary or associated banks in operation.

The change in name marks a far reaching re-organisation in the structure of the whole Barclays Group. The expansion that has taken place at home and overseas, not only in size but also in new activities, makes such re-organisation essential. The parts which concern us are first, that we have now become a wholly owned subsidiary of Barclays Bank Limited and, second, that Barclays Bank International will in 1972 take over from the parent the direction of the U.K. foreign branches, Barclays Bank S.A. (the French subsidiary) and some of its overseas trade investments. There will be many people who will be sad to say farewell to the well-known name of 'DCO'. I am sure, however, that the great majority will not only see the logic of the changes but welcome the challenge of new policies and wider horizons.

Continuing growth in business and profits

The Group profit for the year, before tax and excluding exceptional items, at £30,553,000 shows an increase of £5.4 million on the comparable figure for 1970. The net figure of £16.1 million (1970 £13 million) represents a working improvement of 23.8 per cent. There are in addition certain non-recurrent items which bring the total profit after tax to £17.5 million (1970 £14.5 million).

In May, Barclays Bank of Nigeria became the first of our subsidiaries to make a public issue; one million 10s. shares were offered to the public at 16s. 6d. a share and the issue was oversubscribed almost four times. This is the type of operation which we hope to repeat elsewhere when the time is appropriate, thus giving the local private sector the chance to invest in its own banking system.

In the international currency world our dollar operations have continued to develop. For some time we have felt that a purely sterling capital does not provide a satisfactory base for the expansion of international business and we have therefore raised \$50 million, partly in 15-year 8½ per cent bonds and partly in 7-year 7½ per cent notes.

I have little doubt that, on balance, Great Britain should join the E.E.C. There are clearly great opportunities here for an international bank.

A farewell message

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking all those who have given me such strong support during my chairmanship.

During the last few years we have introduced new methods of management, a process which could not have succeeded without the full co-operation of the staff at every level.

The Bank is now entering a new phase of expansion and I have no doubt that the opportunities for the staff are as great as they have ever been.

Copies of the full statement and the report of the directors can be obtained from the Secretary, Barclays Bank International Limited, 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH.

Ghana cocoa purchases up

Purchases of main-crop cocoa in Ghana in the week ended December 25, 1971, were estimated at 25,203 long tons. Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board announced in Accra bringing cumulative purchases for the first 10 weeks of season to an estimated 299,346 long tons (against 259,580 tons for the first weeks of last season).

● The discrepancy between the official purchase figures in Ghana and those from private sources may be due to the basis of calculation of gradings. Wilson, Smithett and Cope, the company's latest report points out that private sources of information are believed to be based on actual purchases by the main buying agents in Ghana. "This causes confusion and, indeed, uncertainty regarding the final output of the main crop, officially estimated at 375,000 tons. Private estimates are in the region of 420,000 tons". Much will depend on whether the "tail" in the new year is long of short and here, the official opinion differs sharply with that of private sources.

The trend of prices in the short term will depend mainly on the actions of producing nations and the report says that if they can remain out of the market for another month, the price is likely to rise - "but whether a higher level of price can be sustained or not will be determined by the size of the crops which should be known by that time". Ghana and Nigeria are said to have sold a little more than half their estimated production, but consumers are believed to have bought perhaps up to three quarters of their requirements which means the market is vulnerable.

Commenting on the meeting in Geneva of the 11 main consuming countries the report says that "little or no progress was made in the preparation of a stabilisation scheme for cocoa. A new agency report said that delegates were generally pessimistic about the chances of a world agreement being negotiated early next year (UNCTAD is pressing for an agreement before the third UNCTAD conference in Santiago in April).

Timber in Ghana

Mr. I. A. Grassie, general manager of Gliksten W. Africa, told Mr. A. Munifi, Ghana Minister of Youth and Rural Development, that if nothing was done to ameliorate the surcharge policy and other tax on machinery for timber operations, most of the timber companies would find it difficult to operate. He said that because of the heavy taxation, it was impossible to compete with the other West African countries in the timber trade. Mr. Grassie also expressed concern about the delay in the payment of bonuses for the export of manufactured goods as promised by the Minister of Trade and Industries: about NC74,000 was due to the company.

Chairman's Statement

CONSOLIDATED AFRICAN SELECTION TRUST

Effects of Latest Developments in Sierra Leone and Ghana on Group's Profitability

CONFIDENCE IN JOINT EXPLORATION PROGRAMME

"I feel sure . . . the phase of our history upon which we are now entering will in the fullness of time afford success commensurate with the past".

A. Chester Beatty (*Chairman*)

The 47th Annual General Meeting of Consolidated African Selection Trust Limited was held on December 14 in London.

The following is the statement by the chairman, Mr A. Chester Beatty:

Ladies and Gentlemen: The financial results for 1970/71 reflect the operations of a year in which the group's diamond mining business in Sierra Leone was acquired, in accordance with the Sierra Leone Government's declared policy for the mining industry, by The National Diamond Mining Company (Sierra Leone) Limited in which the Government owns a 51 per cent interest and the CAST group a 49 per cent interest.

You will recall that, under the terms of the agreement which led to the formation of NDMC, all diamond trading stocks held by SLST at 30th June, 1970 were excluded from the transfer and were sold for SLST's own account. As a consequence of this provision, the CAST results benefited in 1969/70 from abnormally high sales within the year while the new company, NDMC, began life without any opening stocks. It is not therefore surprising that NDMC did not pay an interim dividend during its first year of operations. Thus for the first time since 1935, the CAST results do not include a major contribution from Sierra Leone.

Since our own accounts were published, the accounts of NDMC have been issued and reveal a profit after taxation of £1,127,000. In considering how the profit should be appropriated, its directors no doubt had regard to the fact that NDMC's working capital had been provided in the form of loans totalling £4,000,000 of which 51 per cent was made available by the Sierra Leone Government and 49 per cent by SLST. In the event, the NDMC board decided to restrict the dividend for the year to £500,000 and to repay half the working capital loans. The effect of this decision is that SLST will receive this month a dividend after tax of £245,000 and a loan repayment of £490,000, with a further loan repayment of £490,000 in March 1972.

While these dispositions are satisfactory, they do not alter the hard fact that CAST's assets in Sierra Leone and the earnings which flow from these assets have been halved. In view of these changed circumstances and having regard to the Company's continuing exploration and development commitments elsewhere in the world in conjunction with Selection Trust, the board regretfully resolved to declare a reduced interim dividend of 2½ pence a share in March 1971; we now recommend a final dividend of 2½ pence making a total of 5 pence a share for the year, compared with 10 pence for the previous year.

SIERRA LEONE

The Sierra Leone mine was operated directly by SLST for the first six months of the year, until the agreement of September 1970 with the Government received parliamentary ratification in December 1970. Since that date

SLST has continued to manage the operations in accordance with the agreement, subject to the general direction of the board of NDMC.

There was no material change in the scale or manner of the operations during 1970/71 and diamond production amounted to 922,000 carats, which was only slightly less than SLST's production of 944,000 carats in its final year of operations in 1969/70.

It is with much regret that I have to say that there has been a deterioration in the situation regarding illicit diamond mining and in the related illicit diamond dealing activities. I have in the past issued repeated warnings on this score and now in the absence of adequate deterrents, effectively applied, the life of the mine is being seriously curtailed. When the Government announced its policy of acquiring a 51 per cent interest in the mining industry, it acknowledged that it would be derelict in meeting its responsibilities if it failed to protect a business in which it had a majority share interest. That statement and commitment was made exactly two years ago. The Government has had a majority share interest for twelve months and yet no effective action to curb illicit mining or dealing has been taken. Such action should not be delayed further.

Before leaving the subject of Sierra Leone, I would like to comment on our relations with NDMC, on whose board we are represented as well as being managers of the company. It would be pointless to pretend that during this first year we have not encountered difficulties accompanied, at times, with the expression of apparently irreconcilable points of view. I believe however, that these differences can and, indeed, must be overcome if the new joint Government/SLST company is to be successful. It is our firm intention to play our part in the proper implementation of the agreement which we have so recently concluded with the Sierra Leone Government.

GHANA

As you may recall, an extensive programme of modernisation and extension of the capacity of the technical operations in Ghana was completed in 1965. Since then, not inconsiderable improvements have been carried out, but the period has been largely one of consolidation to enable the present level of diamond production to be maintained. I would like to draw particular attention to the success of our programme of promoting Africans to senior posts in Ghana, where the operations are to a very large extent now supervised by Ghanaians, with only a nucleus of expatriates.

It is unfortunate that the world market for Ghana diamonds continues weak, especially at a time when some degree of increase in costs is inevitable, even with the strictest of budgetary controls. There have recently been fluctuations in the exchange rate between sterling and the Ghana currency, the new cedi, which is tied to the United States dollar. It is not expected, however, that these fluctuations will, on

balance, materially affect the financial results of the operations in Ghana for the year ending in June, 1972.

Ghana has experienced continuing difficulties with its economy as a whole, principally as a result of the fall in the price of cocoa from which a substantial part of its revenue flows, and the Government has recently increased the burden of taxation which was already bearing heavily upon the mining industry. I trust that it will not be too long before some measure of relief will be forthcoming in order not to retard the progress of the industry.

AUSTRALIA

Turning now to our interests outside West Africa, I come first to what I believe to be the most exciting prospect to date of our joint exploration activities in partnership with Selection Trust. I refer, of course, to the nickel discovery at Agnew in Western Australia. Reports will continue to be issued from time to time as useful information becomes available. We have, however, just received news that a further deep borehole has intersected ore below the 1000 feet horizon thereby confirming our expectation of extension in depth.

A feasibility study to assess the optimum economic level for initial operations at Agnew is now well under way and much of our current diamond drilling work is concentrated within a strike length of 1400 feet with a view to providing the data upon which our mining and metallurgical planning will be based.

At the same time an intensive exploration programme is in progress for several miles along strike to the north and south of the main body of mineralisation, which we now call Perseverance.

In the Spargoville area, work in the development of locations 2 and 3 is proceeding, although progress in shaft sinking at the latter location has been retarded by difficult ground conditions. Development of these locations will assist us with our underground exploration of the area.

Negotiations for the sale of concentrates from Spargoville are still in progress, but you will appreciate that the present state of the nickel market is not conducive to the speedy conclusion of satisfactory sales arrangements.

In several other locations in Western Australia we have had encouraging indications in our search for copper and zinc, and prospecting for these minerals is a major part of our current exploration programme. At the same time, we are applying the valuable experience that we have gained from our investigations at Agnew and Spargoville to our continuing search for further nickel deposits.

CANADA

In Canada our major interest is, of course, the South Bay Mine, the formal opening of which I attended this year. Here I would remind you that among the considerations

Chairman's Statement

CONSOLIDATED AFRICAN
SELECTION TRUST

Continued

which influenced us in deciding to sink a shaft and bring this copper/zinc/silver mine into production was the economic and practical advantage to be derived from carrying out further exploratory drilling from underground. This work has added to the ore reserves which are now sufficient to support operations at the current milling rate for five years and we are hopeful that more ore remains to be found.

Profits from the mining operations will in the first instance be applied in repaying the loans raised to finance pre-production exploration and capital costs.

IRAN

There have been no further significant developments in regard to our investment in Iran. The Iranian Government is still considering proposals made by us and others for bringing Sir Cheshmeh into production but has not yet reached a decision.

CAST's share of the expenditure on the project amounts to some £2,000,000 and is carried in the balance sheet at cost under the heading of Mining Prospects. The board feels that it is justified in following this procedure pending further developments, bearing in mind assurances given by the Government that in any event expenditure by Selection Trust and CAST on the project will be recognised.

CONCLUSION

It is a salutary moment in the history of CAST to take stock. In the past year we have had to part with half our assets in Sierra Leone. We have not yet received a dividend on our remaining investment in that country. Our profit from Ghana has suffered tax at the swinging rate of 81%, a rate which precludes any further investment whatsoever. We are not, however, totally unprepared for these events. Mines are a wasting asset and it was in anticipation of an eventual falling away of income from our traditional diamond mining operations that we decided in 1963 to devote a relatively substantial proportion of our resources to a joint programme of exploration in partnership with Selection Trust. Exploration is by its nature a long term undertaking but our efforts have not gone unrewarded and I trust that the discovery at Agnew will in time provide a significant measure of justification for the decision that was taken in 1963.

I cannot believe that in the industrial Western world, mankind is going to use less metal. There are already signs that lower grade deposits are being mined and the higher grade deposits are becoming correspondingly more valuable. In the general area of the 1,000 square miles that we are exploring with Selection Trust in Australia, several high grade nickel deposits have been found and I am of the opinion that there are few more attractive areas in which to explore for mines.

CAST has had long experience in mining and it is to mining that we look for the future. In the past year we have suffered a number of severe reverses. Nevertheless I feel sure that the course we are following is right and that the phase of our history upon which we are now entering will in the fullness of time afford success commensurate with the past.

Development plans 'may be abandoned'

Nigeria has continued "its steady march back to prosperity" and now forms, after South Africa, Barclays largest and most profitable overseas banking operation, says the Chairman, Sir Frederic Seebohm, in his annual report for the year ending 30 September. In May, Barclays Bank of Nigeria became the first of the Barclays' new subsidiaries to make a public issue; one million 10s shares were offered to the public at 16s. 6d a share and the issue was oversubscribed almost four times. "This is the type of operation which we hope to repeat elsewhere when the time is appropriate, thus giving the local private sector the chance to invest in its own banking system."

Looking at the problems facing the developing countries, Sir Frederic comments: "We are more than ever aware of the need for new initiatives and of the fact that the successes of the past have also been accompanied by serious disappointments". Industrial and urban expansion had introduced increasing inequality of incomes and opportunity. Envy, jealousy and frustration were frequently apparent.

"The rich countries have not opened up their markets to the new industries as expected and the prices of minerals and tropical food products have declined to such an extent that exchange reserves are in many cases approaching exhaustion and development plans may have to be severely modified or possibly even abandoned. Liabilities incurred in the past and based on expectations of much greater export revenues are becoming an intolerable burden. In the international race to increase exports and to establish economic ties the developed countries have supported supplier credits which have increased still further the foreign liabilities of the recipients. It is not easy to see how this situation can be eased in the next few years but future policies on aid giving will need to be more realistic as regards interest and repayment terms, to say the least."

In the rural sector, the attitude of the aid recipients was one reason why so little had been achieved. Practices that had persisted for thousands of years were difficult to change. Aid donors, were taking "grave responsibilities on their shoulders" and needed to take full account of the political and social effects of change. "But for a commercial concern such as ours, the main difficulty is to find viable projects in the rural sector. While we have identified some, we do not expect to see any large scale results for many years to come". The Bank itself hoped to provide not less than £100,000 a year to a special fund for developing countries.

The richer countries should step up soft aid preferably through IDA, if they really meant to provide one per cent of their GNP in aid. There seemed no other

way of providing the much needed infrastructure of communications, control and technical education which progress would still be frustratingly slow, particularly in the rural sector.

But, Sir Frederic concludes, the little hope of a "progressive response to the world's development needs" in the near future. "It appears that we must now wait patiently until the monetary system is restored to some order before any major step forward in development assistance will be forthcoming".

The group profits, after tax, totalled £16.1 m compared with £13 m in 1970.

Congo B road credit

The International Development Association has approved a \$4m. credit to Congo B to assist improved maintenance of the highway network and refund balance of a 1969 highway engineer credit.

The IDA explained that over the past five years the Congo has faced a problem of a road maintenance system requiring drastic improvement. Under a previous IDA credit of \$630,000, the Bureau Central d'Etudes pour les Equivalents d'Outre-Mer (BCEOM) reviewed road maintenance requirements, a recommended comprehensive organisation and a training programme which form the basis of the present project, the cost of which is estimated at about \$4.25m. The IDA credit will cover the foreign exchange component of nearly \$3.4m., the balance being used to refund the previous credit.

• An additional NC11.8m. loan being sought by the Ghana Water and Sewerage Corporation from the World Bank to finance the second phase of the Accra Sewerage project. Local costs of over NC6m. will be met by the Government.

• Ghana submitted proposals for 2 industrial projects during the third African Meeting for the Promotion of Industrial Projects, which was held in Abidjan recently. Mr. M. E. Badu, manager of the Capital Investment Board who led the Ghana delegation, said the meeting had provided a rare opportunity for making contact with potential investors from industrialised countries. The contacts would be followed up, and the UN Industrial Development Organisation had agreed to help with the follow-up exercise. The projects submitted by Ghana included pulp and paper, sugar, lacquer and varnish production, dairy farming, tanning and instant coffee production.

• A meeting of rubber producers to discuss falling prices, is being planned, Malaysia's Finance Minister, Tun Tan Siew Sin, announced.

WEST AFRICAN SHIPPING NEWS

DER DEMPSTER LINES
SOUTHBOUND - From Liverpool: FOURAH Y due Tema Jan. 16, DUMBAIA s/g. Yerpou Jan. 13.
 London: FULANI s/g. London Jan. 13. ROE due Port Harcourt Jan. 7, EGORI s/g. London Jan. 20.
 London, N. Continent: FORCADOS due Tema Jan. 11.

SOUTHBOUND - To Liverpool: AUREOL due Appa Jan. 11; EBANI due Appa Jan. 6. London: FALABA Jan 16; FIAN due Jan. FREETOWN s/g. Matadi Jan. 8.
 London, N. Continent: DUMURRA due Abidjan Jan. 7.

ARBER LINES
OUTWARDS - A VESSEL s/g. New York mid Jan. for Monrovia, Abidjan, Tema, Lagos/ Appa, Douala.
HOMEWARDS - FERNLAND Idg. Lagos, outbound, mid Jan., Ghana 3rd week Jan. Abidjan/Monrovia 4th week Jan.

KY LINE
SOUTHBOUND - From Japan via Hong Kong to Port Harcourt, Lagos, Tema, Abidjan, Freetown, etc.: DOMINICA MARU s/g. Japan Dec. 5 due Lagos Jan. 16.
ASTOUND - From Lagos, Tema, Abidjan, Freetown, etc. to Japan via Hong Kong: TENNESSEE MARU s/g. Lagos Dec. 26, Tema Dec. 29, Freetown Jan. 3 due Japan Feb. 13.

MOERMANN LINE
ARMORIQUE s/g. Hamburg Jan. 21, Antwerp Jan. 25, Rotterdam Jan. 27, Le Harve Jan. 29 due Dakar Feb. 6; TANGA s/g. Rotterdam Feb. 2 due Appa Feb. 13.

DAFRA LINE
TASTOUND - AFRIKA s/g. Houston Jan 18 due Port Gentil Feb. 17, Warri Feb. 21.
WESTBOUND - FRANKRIG s/g. Takoradi Jan. 12 due Abidjan Jan. 13, Houston Jan. 30.

GOLD STAR LINE
WESTBOUND - NEGBA due Kobe Jan. 9, Keelung Jan. 12.
EASTBOUND - SAHAR due Kpeme Jan. 3, Singapore Feb. 2, Mohi Feb. 11.
BLACK STAR LINE/USNH/WEST AFRICA
WESTBOUND - KLORTE LAGOON Jan. 16, New York Jan. 28, Philadelphia Feb. 3.

BLACK STAR LINE/UK/CONTINENT/WEST AFRICA
SOUTHBOUND - KLORTE LAGOON Bremen Dec. 5, Hamburg Dec. 8, Antwerp Dec. 11, Rotterdam Dec. 13, Dunkirk Dec. 15, SUBIN RIVER New York Dec. 17, Glasgow Dec. 24.
NORTHBOUND - BENYA RIVER Rotterdam Dec. 27, Gothenburg Dec. 29, Copenhagen Dec. 30, Oslo Dec. 31; OFFIN RIVER Avonmouth Jan. 17, London Jan. 24.

DELTA LINE
DEL RIO s/g. Dakar Jan. 26 due Conakry Jan. 27, Freetown Jan. 29; DELT, ARGENTINA s/g. New Orleans Feb. 2, Houston Feb. 7 due Dakar Feb. 17.

PALM LINE
SOUTHBOUND - From London: KATSINA PALM due Freetown Feb. 12.
 From Liverpool: KANO PALM due Freetown Feb. 19.

NORTHBOUND - To London: KATSINA PALM s/g. Abidjan Jan. 8.
 To Continent: ANDONI PALM s/g. Monrovia Jan. 4.

N.Y.K. LINE
WESTBOUND - From Japan via Hong Kong to Lobito, Matadi, Lagos, Abidjan etc.: SAIKYO MARU s/g. Kobe Nov. 6 due Takoradi Dec. 28.
EASTBOUND - From Lagos, Tema, Takoradi, Abidjan, Lome etc. to Japan: SAIKYO MARU Takoradi Dec. 28/29, Tema Jan. 2, Japan Jan. 31.

CHARGEURS REUNIS
SERCOUF due Tema Jan. 17; JOINVILLE s/g. Koba Jan. 16.

MITSUI OSK LINE
MONTEVIDEO MARU s/g. Koba Dec. 6, due Lagos Jan. 12, HODAKASAN MARU s/d. Koba Dec. 20 due Lagos Jan. 24; ARIZONA MARU s/d. Koba Dec. 29 due Lagos Feb. 3.

MAERSK LINE
INWARDS - From Japan via Hong Kong to Matadi, Lagos, Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan: MAREN MAERSK s/g. Koba Feb. 5 due Lomé Mar. 3.
OUTWARDS - From Matadi, Lagos Tema, Monrovia, Freetown, Bathurst, Abidjan, Takoradi: JESPER MAERSK s/g. Abidjan Jan. 5 due Takoradi Jan. 6.

FARDELL LINES
HOMEWARDS - AFRICAN STAR s/g. Lagos/Appa Jan. 6 for Abidjan, Monrovia, US Ports; AFRICAN CRESCENT Luanda Jan. 9 for Lobito, Matadi, Monrovia, US Ports.
OUTWARDS - AFRICAN PLANET due Dakar Jan. 12 for Conakry, Freetown, Monrovia Jan. 19, Buchanan, Abidjan, Takoradi, Tema Jan. 27, Lagos/Appa Jan. 29, Douala Feb. 9; AFRICAN MOON due Monrovia Jan. 30 for Abidjan, Tema Feb. 5, Matadi, Luanda, Lobito

KONINLIKE NEDLOYD NV EUROPE/WEST AFRICAN SERVICES
BATU due Pointe Noire Jan. 20, Bome/Matadi Jan. 24, Luanda Jan. 31, STRATT NAGOYA due Abidjan Jan. 2, Appa Jan. 4.
NIGERIAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE
SOUTHBOUND - NNAMDI AZIKIWE s/g. Lagos Feb. 10 for Appa Jan. 31.
NORTHBOUND - ORANYAN due Middlebrough Jan. 12.

SCANDINAVIAN WEST AFRICA LINE
SOUTHBOUND - BANDA Idg. Scandinavia 3rd week Jan. for discharge WA, 2nd half Jan./early Feb. LAVAU Idg. Scandinavia 1st half Feb. for discharge WA mid Mar.
NORTHBOUND - VIKAREN Idg. WA mid Jan. for discharge Scandinavia 1st week Feb. INDIANA Idg. WA end Jan./early Feb. for discharge Scandinavia early Feb.

HOEGH LINES
HOEGH BEAVER s/g. Hamburg Jan. 11, Bremen Jan. 12, Antwerp Jan. 15, Rotterdam Jan. 18 due Las Palmas Jan. 24, Freetown Jan. 28; HOEGH BONNY due Dakar Feb. 2, Abidjan Feb. 6, Port Harcourt Feb. 10.

ROYAL INTERCOAST LINE
INWARDS - STRAAT FRANKLIN from Japan s/g. Jan. 17 due Luanda Feb. 13, Monrovia Feb. 18, Freetown Feb. 20, Tema Feb. 23, Port Harcourt Feb. 26, Lagos/Appa Feb. 28, Cotonou Mar. 3, Takoradi Mar. 5. Abidjan Mar. 8; STRAAT VAN DIEMEN from Hong Kong s/g. Jan. 2 due Lagos/Appa Feb. 10, Cotonou Feb. 16, Lome Feb. 17, Tema Feb. 18, Abidjan Feb. 19, Monrovia Feb. 23, Freetown Feb. 25, Dakar Feb. 29, Conakry Mar. 3, Takoradi Mar. 13.

OUTWARDS - STRAAT FRANKLIN from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt., Hong Kong and Japan early Mar. STRAAT VAN DIEMEN from Nigeria/Ghana to Singapore opt., Hong Kong and Japan second half Feb.

EAL EUROPE - AFRIKA LINE GMBH MIS X due Lagos/Appa Dec. 30, Douala Jan. 2, Pointe Noire Jan. 5; ABIDJAN due Abidjan Jan. 2, Cotonou Jan. 5, Douala Jan. 8.

NOPAL LINES
WESTBOUND - NOPAL SUN s/g. Luanda Dec. 29 due New Orleans Jan. 26; NOPAL LUNA s/g. Luanda Jan. 14 due New Orleans Feb. 9.
EASTBOUND - NOPAL VAGO s/g. New Orleans Jan. 10 for US Gulf ports, NOPAL TELLUS s/g. New Orleans Jan. 25 for all US Gulf ports.

WESTWIND AFRICA LINE
BUENA FORTUNA due Lagos Jan. 7, Pointe Noire Jan. 10, Freetown Jan. 17, NORTHWIND due Houston Dec. 31, Lagos Jan. 20, Pointe Noire Jan. 23.

EDWARD NASSAR LINES
SARAH ELIZABETH due Famagusta Jan. 6, Beirut Jan. 8.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS MUST BE PREPAID The charge is 25p per line per week for insertion (minimum £10). Display classified ads are £2.00 per column inch. For Numbers 500 extra. Copy to be either PRINTED OR TYPEWRITTEN and is required at Counter Help. Followed Post. Payment: CASH BY FRIDAY 21.00 FOURTEEN DAYS PRIOR TO COVER DATE. All forms for advertisements are completed on the explicit terms. They are subject to cancellation without notice at the discretion of the publishers and where any special bill will be made to publish the advertisement on the date specified. The publisher will not be held responsible for advertisements which lack of proper address. The publishers will not accept liability for loss or damage caused by printed errors or omissions and they will not accept any other arrangements in the printing of any advertisement to ensure its publication, such as the insertion of a "lost" Africa.

SITUATIONS VACANT

STATUTORY CORPORATIONS SERVICE COMMISSION Vacancy in the Electricity Corporation of Nigeria Training Officer - Planning and Administration Department - Training Post - Training Officer (Planning & Programming). Scale: SAP 1 to EN500 x 2 - EN500 x 1.1. (a) Planning of training programmes for the staff of other policy decisions and other staff of other institutions. (b) Planning and organising management courses in consultation with local and overseas institutions. (c) Planning, programming and conducting of Supervisory development courses for staff. (d) Recruitment and selection. (e) Preparation and publishing of training manuals and modification of same when necessary. (f) Investigation of the suitability of staff for promotion. (g) Administrative work in connection with the above. (h) Any other duties assigned to him from time to time by the Chief Engineer. (i) Qualifications & Experience: A good University degree or equivalent in Mathematics. Candidates must have a high organisational aptitude and experience in teaching electricity supply industry is an advantage but not essential. Method of Application: Application forms are obtainable from: The Secretary & Chief Administrative Officer, Statutory Corporations Service Commission, Private Bag 2033, Port Harcourt Marina, Lagos, And Oversea at The Nigeria High Commission, 9 Northumberland Avenue, London W.C.2. Completed application forms should be returned to the Secretary & Chief Administrative Officer (at the above address) not later than 26th January, 1972.

STATUTORY CORPORATIONS SERVICE COMMISSION Vacancy in the Electricity Corporation of Nigeria Post Office Personnel Officer, Northern Areas, Duties: (a) Personnel Officer responsible for Personnel Administration and assists in initiation of Personnel Policy. He must have initiative above average in the discharge of his duties. (b) He must display good knowledge of Personnel Administration and will discharge varied personnel duties e.g. Recruitment, Promotion, Discipline, Maintenance of Staff Records, Handling of leave Papers and Postings. He should be conversant with Personnel Relations and be capable of fostering and maintaining good Industrial Relations. (c) He should be able to check various Government Applications for Children Allowance, Transport Fare for those proceeding on leave/transfer, Hotel Expenses and process Advances. (d) He should be conversant with Salary and Loan. (e) His duties also include general office supervision, maintenance and security of the Good V.I. Office. (f) He should be conversant with the various Schemes e.g. Retirement Benefits, and ability to initiate Staff Welfare Schemes will be an advantage in addition to his Qualifications & Experience: A University Degree in Business Administration or Sociology or Economics or a similar Certificate from the Chartered Institute of Secretaries or Corporation of Secretaries or Diploma in Management Studies obtained from a reputable institution. Professional Body of completion of at least three years study. Applicant must in addition have had at least three years post qualification experience. (g) Personnel Administration in a large organisation. (h) Scale: SAP 1 to EN500 x 2 - EN500 x 1.1. (i) EN1,365/EN1,460 - EN1,860 per annum. (j) Statutory Corporations Service Commission, Private Mail Bag 12033, 30 Marina, Lagos, Nigeria, and Overseas at The Nigeria High Commission, 9 Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2. Completed application forms should be returned to the Secretary & Chief Administrative Officer (at the above address) not later than 26th January, 1972.

SITUATIONS VACANT - cont.

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI - KENYA.
Applications are invited for Lectureship in Department of Linguistics and African Languages. Applicants should have a higher degree, preferably a PhD in the field of theoretical and descriptive linguistics. Training in the linguistics of African languages (including genetic and areal typology) would be advantageous. Interest in sociolinguistics will be an additional recommendation. Ample opportunities exist for research into various aspects of the linguistics of African languages. Appointee would be expected to take up appointment by June 1972. Salary Scale - EK1,550 - EK2,250 p.a. (EK6 = £7 sterling). The British Government may supplement salary in range £612-£744 p.a. (sterling) and provide children's education allowances and holiday visit passages. F.S.S.U. Family passages, bi-monthly overseas leave. Detailed applications (6 copies) naming 3 referees by 20th January, 1972 to Inter-University Council, 90/91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT, from whom particulars are available.

Sierra Leonean Accountant

International Company requires a qualified Sierra Leonean Accountant, aged 25-35, preferably with post-qualification experience to work in finance administration in the company's Head Office in Freetown. After initial orientation the work will cover various aspects of internal audit, financial and management accounting in a marketing organisation.

An initial salary of Leones 2,800 per annum is supplemented by a housing allowance and free out-patient medical service is offered to employee and immediate family.

Applicants should apply in writing stating age, qualifications and experience to Box No. 4K/692, c/o Mathers & Bentsons Advertising Ltd., 129 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6NN.

SITUATIONS WANTED

A young Nigerian with B.Sc. Honours Physics seeks a teaching place in a well equipped secondary or high school. Appropriate position in industry or any establishment will be considered. Reply Box No. X 1400, West Africa, Cromwell House, Fulwood Place, London WC1V 6HZ.

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SIERRA LEONE DIOCESAN BOOKSHOPS LIMITED

GENERAL MANAGER

Applications are invited from suitable qualified Sierra Leoneans, male or female, preferably aged over 35 years, for the post of General Manager. Applicants must be practising and active christians.

The General Manager will be responsible to the Board of Directors for advising them and for running the whole of the Company's business.

He should therefore have knowledge of the educational system and schools in Sierra Leone and of the stationery and book trade.

He must be fully conversant with buying and stock control; some knowledge of accounts would be advantageous.

The Applicant will have held posts which entailed control of staff and should be of a personable disposition to enable him to maintain and foster good staff relationships and to negotiate with customers at all levels.

The post will involve travelling to up-country branches, schools and other institutions.

Salary and allowances will be according to qualifications and experience.

The successful candidate may be required, at the Company's expense, to undertake study visits abroad, etc., to improve his knowledge of the book trade.

Applications should be forwarded to P.O. Box 100, Freetown, Sierra Leone by 15th January, 1972.



RADIO AND TELEVISION SERVICING

This private College provides efficient theoretical and practical training in these subjects. One year day courses are available for beginners and shorter day courses for men with experience. Free prospectus from London Electronics College, Dept. LX/5, 20 Penveron Road, Earls Court, London, S.W.5. Tel. 01-373 8721.

SIERRA LEONE DIOCESAN BOOKSHOPS LIMITED

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

Applications are invited from qualified Sierra Leoneans for the post of Assistant General Manager. Applicants may be male or female and must be active and practising christians and over 25 years of age.

The Assistant General Manager will be primarily responsible for supervision of the Freetown bookshop but will be required to assist the General Manager in the running of the Company's business as a whole. Travelling throughout the Country will be entailed.

A knowledge of accounts, buying, stock control and the stationery and book trade would be an advantage.

Applicants should have the right personality to foster good staff relations and should be able to negotiate with customers.

Salary and allowances will be according to qualifications and experience.

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OAU

DEFENCE COMMISSION MEETING

Opening the fourth session of the OAU Defence Commission in Addis Ababa, Emperor Haile Selassie called for the organisation to make a concrete decision for the liberation of Africa. The session was attended by delegates from about 30 of the 41 member states. The Emperor's message, which was read to the meeting, said it had to be candidly acknowledged that the Defence Commission's work had not gone forward with the priority it deserved. He named three countries, Senegal, Guinea and Zambia, as having been the targets of colonialist and fascist aggression, and this constituted a threat to all of free Africa.

Outgoing chairman of the Commission, Brigadier Olutoye of Nigeria, said that Africa was going through a difficult period, and the Commission should make firm proposals for the next OAU summit in June. He referred to the British government's "treacherous betrayal" of millions of Africans in Zimbabwe by its so-called settlement with the Smith regime. Mr H. B. Musa, Acting OAU Secretary-General, said: "Whether we wish it or not, sooner or later we shall have to resort to violence, which we abhor... but it is better to prepare ourselves for it and decide on it now."

He criticised African countries for "lethargy" over the past few years. They had allowed Africa's enemies "to arm themselves massively and to organise themselves so thoroughly that none of you can doubt that today they are fully prepared for a possible confrontation". The struggle would be long and arduous because Africa's enemies would never leave voluntarily to the Africans "the immense resources in raw materials and minerals of all sorts which abound within the territories they dominate... The liberation of Africa and the total guarantee of territorial integrity and sovereignty of our states as well as the security of our continent, must be accomplished by the Africans themselves. The epoch of equivocation has definitely ended and the hour of action has dawned".

The conference elected General Haile Baykadagn (Ethiopia) as its Chairman, Captain-Abdi Kossaz (Equatorial Guinea) as its first Vice-Chairman, Captain Mamadou Sanogo (Mali) as its second Vice-Chairman and Colonel Lukobo (Zambia) as Rapporteur.

The Commission which met behind closed doors, and was attended by delegations from nearly thirty of the 41 OAU members, produced no communique, although a later OAU statement said that the Commission will submit recommendations for a collective defence system for Africa to the summit in Rabat, including an elaborate machinery to deal with emergency situations. The Kenya Assistant Defence Minister, James Njeru, who led the Kenya delegation, said on his return to Nairobi that the Commission had decided to recommend regional defence pacts in Africa. It would be up to the heads of state to decide on regional alignments, he said, adding that the Defence Commission was also concerned with ways and means of helping the liberation movements.

It is also reported that the Commission discussed General Amin's offer of Uganda for training base for liberation movements, although there was no public reaction. The proposal has been criticised by the Congo-Brazzaville Information Agency as "merely a plan to gain control of these movements", so that President Amin could send reports on them "to his masters in Tel Aviv, London and Pretoria".

● A Mauritanian government communique says that mediation by the OAU in the quarrel between Guinea and Senegal could possibly lead to an agreement during a meeting to be held in January in Monrovia.

● A one-week meeting of the OAU's Educational, Scientific, Cultural and Health Committee has been held in Cairo. A message read to the meeting from President Sadat stressed the importance of the Committee's intention to exploit "the riches of the African continent".

● The OAU Scientific Council has elected Vice-Chancellor L. Goma of Zambia University as its new Chairman in succession to Professor Adeoye Lambo, who has taken up a post with the World Health Organisation in Geneva.

● The Mali national daily *L'Essor* said that the only advantage of the Anglo-Rhodesian agreement was that they "ripped away one of the British government's many veils of hypocrisy". It was difficult to see what justification Britain could advance for capitulating to settler interests and compromising the future of Rhodesia's African population.

IVORY COAST

Senghor's Visit

President Senghor of Senegal has on an official visit to Ivory Coast first since the two countries became independent in 1960. The visit lasted 11 days, and ended with the signing of various agreements, notably a treaty of friendship and co-operation, setting up a Grand Mixed Commission at the Minister level, and a protocol of co-operation. They also approved an agreement on cultural and trade relations which had been agreed by ministerial delegations, and a customs agreement. The visit included several rounds of discussion between the two Presidents, in Abidjan and at President Houphouët-Boigny's home at Yamoussoukro, and President Senghor also visited Man and Gagnoa.

Speaking at Man, President Senghor said that differences between Senegal and Ivory Coast were necessary "because Ivory Coast is complementary to Senegal just as my brother President Houphouët-Boigny is complementary to myself". In Gagnoa he said that dialogue should first take place between Africans rather than with North, East and Southern Africa. And the priority dialogue in West Africa was between Senegal and Ivory Coast. The Senegalese President also stressed his support for Ivorian President's foreign policy of "non-alignment and positive neutrality".

At a dinner soon after his arrival in Gagnoa, Senegalese President had said that within six months the treaty setting up a francophone West African Community grouping the seven states of the West African Customs Union (UDEAO) with Togo, would be signed.

On his return home to Dakar, President Senghor said "the welcome I received in the Ivory Coast could have been more friendly, more brotherly in a word, warmer. What struck us was the way that all the people of Ivory Coast were behind their president Houphouët-Boigny and the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast."

Most commentators, including *Soleil* in Dakar and *Fraternité Mattin* in Abidjan, as well as other francophone media, have stressed the historic importance of the visit in bringing together the two "vedettes" of ex-French Africa, who have for the past twenty-five years of politics, tended to be thought of as rivals, although their overt political rivalry ended with independence and the end of the West African Federation in 1960.

● President Houphouët-Boigny has given up the post of Education Minister which he had taken at the time university troubles earlier in the year. New minister is M. Paul Akoto Ya formerly Director-General of Education. Two new Secretaries of State have been named: M. Pascal Sikiebe Nguessan (Primary and TV Teaching), and M. Julien Hiena (Culture).

GHANA Mensah urges inter-African pact

Addressing the African Population Conference in Accra, Mr. J. H. Mensah, Minister of Finance, called for an agreement between African states on the conditions governing the residence of their nationals in each others' countries. "It is a matter that cannot simply be left to 'take care of itself'", he commented. "Satisfactory norms should be established in those areas where population movements and inter-African trade were important, life and business could proceed with the help of the law rather than in contravention of it."

Work on the demarcation of the Ghana-Ivory Coast border, started last August, will be completed by the end of January. Mr. A. I. Grassie, general manager of Glaxo in West Africa, said in Selwa.

Dr. Busia gave only one official party during the Christmas-New Year holiday period in accordance with the Government's austerity policy. The Junior Minister of Public Relations in the Prime Minister's Office, Oheneba Kow Richardson, said that the Government had decided to reduce the number of official entertainments to the barest minimum after finding that their cost had been rising over the past few years.

A fully-integrated five-year agricultural development plan has been drawn up by the Eastern Region Administration for a 2,000 square mile area on the Afram Plains. Mr. George Djabanor, the Region's chief executive, explained that the final stages of the plan envisaged the creation of industries based on the agricultural developments brought about in the earlier stages. Between 20 and 25 settlements would be established, each absorbing up to 80 farms, leading to improved living conditions for about 6,000 of the 32,000 people in the area. The villages affected by the plan would be given assistance with tobacco growing, poultry and livestock, citrus, maize, yam and cotton growing, shallot farms and cassava processing.

An investigation is being made by the Ghana Government into allegations that many farmers have not been paid for their cocoa by buying agents. Chairmen of local council management committees have been instructed to collect the names of all aggrieved farmers.

But the Government stressed that, through the Cocoa Marketing Board, it had paid the Licensed Buying Agents more money than the value of cocoa declared to the Board: "There is, therefore, no reason whatsoever, why any farmer who had sold his cocoa should not have been paid".

The silos and cold stores built by the Drexel Group are to be rehabilitated by the Ghana Food Distribution Corporation in order to store food.

From next January, 150 German tourists are to visit Ghana every month, Mr. E. Okley, managing director of the State Hotels Corporation, announced. He also said that following a tourist promotion drive in the USA and Canada by a three-man delegation, 250 Afro-Americans are due early this year. Contacts had been made with a number of airlines, particularly Pan American, who were confident of West Africa's tourist potential. Mr. Okley said that the Corporation would be recommending to Government the establishment of a West Africa Tourist Board. During the course of the current financial year, work would start on the construction of new hotels in Cape Coast and Bolgatanga.

Mr. Klaus Gorlich, a director of the Germany company involved in the deal announced by Mr. Okley (Afrika Tours) said that Ghana would earn more than £374,000 a year in foreign exchange from the operation.

The frequent lack of quorum in the National Assembly was caused by the low allowances paid to MPs, Mr. J. A. Braimah, Northern Region chief executive, said in a lecture organised by the Centre for Civic Education. MPs were unable to cover their expenses with the allowances and had to divert their attention to other business in order to make ends meet, he said, adding: "Those who enter Parliament with the intention of making money soon find themselves disappointed".

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TOGO Eyadema in France

President Eyadema has been on a five-day official visit to France. Arriving in Nice for a two-day private visit prior to the official one, the Togo President said: "Europeans, who see things from far away have the tendency to treat soldiers who take power in Africa as ambitious individuals. I can assure you that the Togolese army has no political ambition. Moreover, having been brought to intervene for the first time in 1963, we returned to the barracks. But politicians being what they are, and the parties, in a small country like ours, favouring baleful divisions, we intervened again in 1967. We emptied the prisons and recalled the exiles and we began a policy of reconciliation and national unity, as well as a policy of austerity in the political sphere. Since 1968 the Togolese budget has been balanced." Asked if there were an opposition in Togo, the President said "there is no opposition. There are only a few jealous people who have not forgiven us for having succeeded where they failed." Before going to Paris he visited the Instruction Centre for Infantry and Marines at Fréjus (Var) where he had studied for a short period before being sent to Indo-China in 1954. In the course of the visit he gave a demonstration of rifle and automatic pistol shooting.

He was welcomed personally at Orly airport by President Pompidou, who described the Togolese President as "a trustworthy and faithful friend of France." The President's programme included two sessions of talks at the Elysée, a lunch with Premier Chaban-Delmas, a dinner at the Grand Trianon and a theatrical performance at Versailles of *Jedonax* by Sacha Guitry and a dinner at the Elysée Palace. At the latter President Pompidou said that President Eyadema has chosen to serve under the French flag. "You will always be at home here." He underlined the importance of co-ordination between aid-giving countries, while keeping French aid's own personality and character. He added "we are doing this in the framework of the EEC, and we are trying to achieve it especially with West Germany, in conformity with the spirit of the treaty which France has with that great nation. We know the strength of the ties which history has forged between your country and Germany, and the imprint she has left. I should add that the coordination of aid policies of France and Germany remains exemplary in Togo."

In his reply President Eyadema also dwelt on "cooperation", which was a word dear to Togolese, firstly because it recalled the name of "his illustrious creator, the name of the father of our independence, I speak of General de Gaulle", and secondly because President Pompidou was the fervent defender of the policy, and Togolese believed



Eyadema and Pompidou "indispensable cooperation"

Franco-Togolese relations to be a model of the kind of relations which could be established between "two countries which are independent but of unequal development".

At a dinner given by President Eyadema for his host, the French President had said that he was aware of the seriousness of the world monetary crisis for the third world, whose exports of primary produce were valued in terms of dollars, but whose imports were being made more expensive by inflation and the de facto revaluation of certain currencies. France and the countries of the franc zone had shown commendable cohesion in the face of these difficulties, he said, adding that it would be necessary to take "the greatest possible account" of African countries "when the moment comes for their voice to be heard".

The Togolese President also went to Angers, where he visited the factory of Thomson which is installing a TV network in Togo. He then went by train to Rouen (the first African head of state ever to travel in the French presidential train, because of fog at Angers airport) where he visited the Pechiney-St Gobain factory which converts annually 500,000 tons of phosphates mined in Togo into chemical fertilisers and sodium phosphate. He is reported as having picked up some of the white grains, inviting his Foreign Minister Joachim Hunlede to do the same, saying "take a piece of your fatherland". The President also visited the Renault works at Le Havre where he was presented with a white Renault 16-TS.

On his return to Togo, the President announced that France had agreed to help with the development of the University of Benin (Togo's new national university) and with irrigation schemes. He had been delighted by the welcome he had been accorded in France and had seen ample evidence of "the indispensable cooperation which exists between France and Togo". He then announced that President Pompidou had accepted an invitation to visit Togo in November 1972.

• The visit had lengthy coverage in the French press, with a 12-page supplement in *Le Monde*, and a full-page article in *Le Figaro*. The militant students' organisation FEANF (Federation des Etudiants

de l'Afrique Noire en France) put out a statement attacking the unlimited propaganda which French imperialist circles orchestrated around the voyage of the General-president.

• During the visit it was announced in Lome that President Eyadema had been promoted from Brigadier to Major-General.

CHAD Army chief changed

President Tombalbaye has replaced General de Brigade Jacques Doumro as Chief of Staff of the Chad armed forces with Colonel Felix Malloum. General de Brigade Doumro, who is 52, is retired. The move follows student demonstrations at the end of November in which Doumro was called on to take power in a coup d'état by demonstrators. A veteran of the Free French forces in 1939-45 and of Indo-China, he has been head of the Chad army since 1964 and chairman of the powerful Chad Veterans Association. Two years ago he was seriously ill, and was hospitalised in Paris for a period. Colonel Malloum is 39, and is a graduate of French military schools of Brazzaville, Frejus and Saint-Maixent. From 1953-55 he was in Indo-China and later fought with the French in Algeria. Promoted Colonel in 1968, he has been Military Chief of Cabinet in the Presidency.

The move followed an important government reshuffle, in which President Tombalbaye took over personally the Ministry of Defence and Veterans from Adoum Tchere, who is now Minister in charge of Party Organisation. Another major move was the replacement at the Ministry of Finance of Djibrine Kerallah by the former Secretary of State for Finance, Elie Romba. M. Kerallah becomes Minister of State attached to the Presidency. M. Antoine Bangui, formerly Minister of Coordination, becomes Minister of Planning and Overseas Aid while the former Commissioner for Overseas Aid, Bruno Bohadi becomes Minister of Education and Culture, replacing Garandi Dikoa, who is now Special Assistant at the Presidency. The Minister of Agriculture, Michel Djindjar becomes Minister of State responsible for Agriculture.

SIERRA LEONE Macaulay, Kallon and 5 others released

The release from detention of the former Attorney General, Bertha Macaulay, Q.C., John Kallon, (a former Permanent Secretary, Establishments) and five others was announced on Christmas Eve. The other five were Alpha Kamara, former head of the C.I.D., Alpha mega Sheriff, Momodu Ba, Hamed Mendo and Private Daniel Kamara. Like the seven detainees released in November, Macaulay and Kallon were among those sentenced in the treason trial arising from the establishment of military rule in 1967 but whose appeals were upheld in May 1971 (Mr. Macaulay was considered the mainstay of the defence throughout the trials). The Appeal Court said at the time that the Government was free to try all the men again but after a short period of further detention the Government decided not to proceed with new charges. The only exception made was for former Brigadier Lansana who the Court said could be charged only for the offence for which he was extradited from Liberia, false imprisonment.

Former Brigadier Andrew Juxon-Smith, whose case is separate but who won his appeal, is still detained as is Mr. Foh, former Electoral Commissioner, and the former ADC to the late Sir Henry Lightfoot Boston. No-one from the banned United Democratic Party has been released in the Ramadan and Christmas gesture, although a number of party members are detained, including two former Ministers, Ibrahim Taqi and Mohammed Foma. Few soldiers are in detention apart from those already facing court martial. It is understood that those of the released detainees who were formerly in Government service have received full back pay.

After President Stevens had summoned the diplomatic corps to State House to protest against remarks made by a British MP, Mr Harold Sorel (*West Africa*, 16 December 17) and against an article in a German magazine, the acting British High Commissioner apologised about Mr. Sorel's remarks but said that they had been refuted by members of the Government itself and represented the views neither of the Government itself nor of the people. The German Ambassador also apologised for the magazine article, which claimed that because of the discomforts and dangers only adventurous tourists should venture into Sierra Leone. Earlier, the President had protested about Mr. Sorel's speech to Mr. Malcolm Macdonald, a former British diplomat, who was visiting Sierra Leone as part of an African tour.

A peaceful solution has been found to the dispute at the Delco Mines, Marampa, which had culminated in a four-hour

protest by more than 2,000 workers, the general secretary of the United Mine Workers Union, Mr. S. Foday, announced. He said that there had been minor incidents during the protest and tension had been high, but no-one had been injured. Mr Foday attributed the unrest to redundancies, an announcement of salary increases for expatriate staff and sacking of an African employee by an expatriate official.

The Vice President, Mr. S. I. Koroma, and the Minister of Mines, Mr. Kawusu-Conteh, visited London before Christmas, apparently to discuss the possibility of the Diamond Corporation making a greater contribution to Government revenue. No decisions were reached but further discussions will be held in Freetown at the end of January.

The registration period for non-citizens was extended to December 31 but the acting principal immigration officer, Mr. E. A. Coker, warned that from January 3 intensive checks on non-citizens would be made by police and immigration officers. He said that female non-citizens in particular had not been making any effort to register.

Work on the Bunbuna Falls hydro-electric project is expected to begin within the next three months, President Stevens announced.

During the period January to September 1971 Sierra Leone's imports totalled Le.68.738m and exports and re-exports Le.57.885m.

Over 100 gamblers were expected in Freetown last week on a trip partly financed by the local casino which hopes to gain both publicity and profit

Emperor Haile Selassie is expected on a state visit beginning January 16.

LIBERIA Cause for 'real apprehension'

In his first "State of the Nation" message, President Tolbert said that the Government was faced with a potential cash deficit of about \$8m (approximately £3.3m). The situation for 1972 was one of "general uncertainty, lack of confidence and, in some cases, of very real apprehension about the future." Ineffective control and management of public funds resulting in abuses of public confidence were part of the cause of the current problem, and there had also been inadequate administrative control of the government agencies responsible for economic policy. "This lack of co-ordination and efficiency must be corrected immediately", he said.

He announced in his three-hour speech that Liberia's foreign business partners had agreed to discuss clarification of the "rather ambiguous" provisions of the concession agreements so that they could

be aligned to modern standards but stressed that he was not envisaging any form of nationalisation. The President regretted that a "substantial number of top Liberians" had failed to pay their taxes, and expressed determination to see all the laws of the country enforced, including the tax laws.

The President also supported a reduction in the voting age from 21 to 18 and recommended an improvement in prison conditions and the introduction of a rehabilitation programme for prisoners. He considered that the Anglo-Rhodesian settlement was an "unfortunate compromise of principles", and he suggested that Britain should ask the UN to appoint a Commission consisting of representatives of the OAU, the Commonwealth and other neutral nations to supervise a plebiscite to test the acceptability of the proposed terms.

William Tolbert was due to be formally inaugurated as President on January 3. Among the guests were Mrs. Pat Nixon, wife of the US President, and evangelist Billy Graham.

On hearing of a strike by some workers of the Prestone Plantations Company, the Government appealed to them to return to work immediately, and President Tolbert directed the Attorney General, Mr. Clarence L. Simpson Jr, to investigate the matter on the spot. According to Radio Elwa broadcasting from Monrovia, the Attorney General, who was accompanied by the Director General of the National Security Services, Mr. Nathaniel Baker, reported that the workers had a number of legitimate grievances concerning living and other conditions of employment, and the Government therefore decided to begin negotiations with the workers' council and management.

The Congress of Industrial Organisations did not fear an opposition labour movement even if it was headed by a Cabinet Minister, the secretary general Mr. Amos Gray, has declared. Referring to the appointment of Councillor A. B. Tolbert as head of the Liberian Confederation of Labour, Mr. Gray claimed that the appointment of Mr. Tolbert, who is legal counsel to the Liberia Iron and Steel Corporation, was made with the intention of stopping strikes.

President Tolbert spent a night at West Point, one of Monrovia's slum areas to identify "myself with you in your poverty... together we should work to better our condition". He slept at the home of a teacher, Mrs. Louise Flemming, a former school friend.

Dr. Allen Nichols, a US Public Health official working at the John F. Kennedy Medical Centre in Monrovia, was drowned while swimming at Sugar Beach, about 12 miles from the capital.

Work has begun on a self-help low-cost housing project in Gardinersville.

NIGERIA Commonwealth withdrawal threat

Nigeria has threatened to reconsider its obligations to the Commonwealth if Britain rejects a four-point Nigerian demand for majority rule in Rhodesia. In a statement to the press External Affairs Commissioner Dr. Okoi Arinko said that Nigeria totally rejected the planned Anglo-Rhodesian settlement as "completely unacceptable". The African population of Zimbabwe could not be asked to accept the proposals which were "neither designed to prevent the perpetuation of white minority rule nor to guarantee progress to majority rule". If Britain rejected Nigeria's proposals and persisted in opposing African aspirations "in collusion with racist regimes" thereby "threatening the security of Nigeria and other African countries" Nigeria would have to "re-examine its obligations as a member of the Commonwealth" and "to take other appropriate measures to safeguard Nigerian and African interests and security". Nigeria would not agree to the lifting of UN sanctions against Rhodesia. Dr. Arinko called for massive international aid for economic reconstruction and educational development of the African population and urged the UN to guarantee "the territorial integrity of the new, independent Zimbabwe". Nigeria would not support the admission of an independent Rhodesia under a minority rule to the UN, the Commonwealth or "any other international organisation of sovereign states."

• Nigeria has revalued its pound in relation to the dollar from 2.80 to 3.04 dollars, while the cross rate for sterling remains set at 117 pounds sterling to 100 Nigerian pounds. This follows the Government's decision that the official gold parity of the Nigerian pound should remain unchanged at 2.4884 grams of fine gold. The new rates came into effect from December 20, when foreign exchange transactions were suspended while the authorities considered the implications of the decision to devalue the dollar.

• Nigerian and Ethiopian officials have reached substantial agreement on what advice to present to their respective governments for a study of expanded co-operation in transport, air links, education and culture, agriculture and trade and science and technology. The three day meeting in Lagos was a follow-up to points agreed in General Gowon's visit to Ethiopia earlier this year. The delegations also prepared for the signing of a cultural agreement during this month's visit of Emperor Haile Selassie

• A trade centre is to be opened by the United States in Lagos. Mr. Robert Beshar, director of the International Commerce Bureau announced.



Playing Santa Claus to the Nigerian Childrens Society in London was Mr. Theophilus Okowokure, a lecturer from Igbu Ulesha.

• The State of Emergency imposed on Nigeria just over five years ago will continue in the interests of the stability of the nation General Gowon said on his return from the All Nigeria Festival of the Arts in Ibadan. It would only be lifted if and when it was considered that there was no more threat to the peace of the nation. On the suggested creation of a Ministry of Culture he said that he did not consider it necessary because the ministries of information and education were handling all cultural activities successfully. But such a ministry could be created if there was enough work for it to do.

'Cultural genocide'

• Alhaji Maitama Sule, Kano State Commissioner for Community Development, has accused European colonialists of "subjecting Nigerians to a cultural genocide" at a symposium on Nigerian culture during the All Nigerian Festival of Arts in Ibadan. Colonialists had implanted a sense of inferiority in Nigerians as a means of furthering economic exploitation and political domination. "In an attempt to imbibe foreign culture, the deculturalised Nigerian had succeeded in making himself a sorrowful caricature of the white man" he said. The Commissioner called for the creation of a Federal Ministry of Youth Culture and National Guidance as the only way of reviving the dignity of Nigerian culture.

• Legal experts from 19 African countries have held a five-day UNESCO sponsored meeting in Lagos to discuss methods of teaching international law and international relations with special reference to African problems and needs.

• A £100,000 theatre is to be built in Enugu by the East Central State Arts Council.

Newspapers demand control of agency

In a resolution adopted at the 11th annual general meeting in Kaduna Nigerian Newspaper Proprietors Association demanded controlling shares in National News Agency, proposed Chief Enahoro at a recent meeting. Information Commissioners in Harcourt. The Federal Government, the proprietors, should own only 30 per cent of the agency's shares, with 70 per cent going to the information media. Association also asked the Federal Government to give the agency a grant of £145,000 for the installation of 12 printers in all twelve state capitals. NPA also called for the formation of a Press Council to help preserve freedom of the press.

• A call for a more liberal interpretation of the defamation act by the judiciary has been made by the president of the Newspaper Proprietors Association, Mr. Lateef Jakande. He said that unless the judiciary was as anxious to protect public morals as it was protecting private reputations, the Act would always be interpreted to the detriment of the press.

• Nigeria will soon develop local iron ore for domestic utilisation, the Federal Commissioner for Industries, Dr. Eyiata Adetoro, told the Soviet ambassador who said that a Russian geological team had completed its survey work in the north and would soon start investigating iron ore deposits in the south. Mr. Vorobyov said that the survey had indicated a good prospect for the iron and steel industry.

• Following a battle between customs officers and groups of smugglers in a creek near Lagos, in which a number of officials were wounded, it has been decided to arm patrols. Two canoes were sunk in the encounter, but 150,000 cigarettes were seized and 20 pieces of cotton prints.

• The first bilateral trade agreement between Nigeria and Dahomey has been signed in Cotonou. The agreement, negotiated last July, is aimed at boosting the meagre trade between the two countries.

• The National Supply Company, established by the Federal Government to buy essential commodities in bulk, will not engage in retail trade, the chairman, Mr. Victor Adegoro, told the inaugural meeting of the board.

• An interim report on the feasibility of staging a world trade exhibition in Lagos in 1974 has been presented to the Government by a Hungarian team.

• The ban on strikes and lock-outs has been extended for a further six months from December 12.

NIGERIA—Contd. Students burn White Paper

Six student leaders burned 300 copies of the Government White Paper accepting the findings of the Kazeem report on the Ibadan University riots earlier this year (see page 5). The student leaders told the press that they rejected the recommendations of the tribunal — which the government accepted — that each of the 4,000 students at Ibadan University should pay £1 for "damage" to the university during the disturbances. They accepted "with little reservation" the tribunal's findings that the police had shown "overzealousness" in opening fire. But this finding was rejected by the Government White Paper. The student leaders described the rejection as "damnable, fascist and militaristic." The White Paper was "unjust, inequitable and inconsistent with the pretended spirit" with which the enquiry was set up. They promised to publish a "Black Paper" on the enquiry findings shortly.

• Three new Commissioners have been appointed in the Midwest: Mr. Omotayo Akpata of Ibadan University to Education, Dr. John Ebie of the Midwest Institute of Technology to Health and Mr. B. Mefeni, Economic Development and Reconstruction. Mr. Edwin Clark moves from Education to Finance (vacated by Chief Eke, who is now a

Federal Commissioner). The other vacancies arose from the creation of a new Ministry of Home Affairs and Information (Mr. Lawrence Borha, from Agriculture) and the relinquishing of Works and Transport portfolio by the Governor.

• The Christian Council of Nigeria's rehabilitation commission is to cease functioning next April, the director, Mr. Emmanuel Urhobo, told a news conference. Over 1,500 workers would become jobless. He said that the commission had spent £7m., about half of it in the East Central State. Most of the money had come from overseas donors.

• Dr. C. G. M. Bakare of Ibadan University has been given a \$49,000 award by the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations to carry out an experimental study of the effects of persuasive communications on the acceptance of family planning in a Nigerian rural environment. It is a two-year project.

• Mr. B. A. Okanlawon, the chief secretary officer at the Nigerian Textile Mills factory in Ikeja, has been re-elected Shoun of Ogbomoso by the kingmakers. His earlier election had been nullified by the Western State Government following a petition challenging its validity.

• The speed limit for motorists will be reduced for four weeks after the change to right hand driving, the Federal Commissioner for Works and Housing, Mr. Femi Okunnu, has announced.

• Ahmadu Bello University now has 4,000 students drawn from all the States. Kwara provides the biggest single contingent and there are more students from East Central State than from Kano or the North West.

• The University of Nigeria, Nsukka, is to establish 24 colleges on its campus at Nsukka and Ogoja, the vice-chancellor, Prof. H. Kodilinye, has announced. Each college will be sufficiently self-governing to make its own rules.

21-gun salute for Dick Tiger

A twenty-one gun salute and boxing demonstration highlighted the burial of former world light-heavyweight boxing champion Dick Tiger at his home town of Amaigbo in the East Central State. Over 15,000 attended the burial including the national boxing coach, Hogan Kid Bassey, and government officials. In his funeral oration, East Central State Director of Sport, Mr. Jerry Enyeazu, said that his death should teach the living the positive effectiveness of hard work, determination, perseverance and magnanimity. Said the State Commissioner for Education and Sports "Had his life been spared, Tiger would have lent more prestige and honour, not only to the state, but also to Nigeria as a whole." Since his death tributes have been flowing in from all over the world. Said an obituary in the London *Times* "Tiger was a cheery character and a fervent patriot for the now vanished state of Biafra and during the tragic war in Nigeria was hoping that some of the monies he earned would help to alleviate suffering back in his homeland. He will be remembered as one of the most consistent modern world champions of boxing and a warm human being." British sports writers have also paid tribute to the Nigerian boxer. Said Terry Goodwin in the *Daily Telegraph* "Tiger was perhaps the best fighter produced by the Commonwealth, not just because he was world champion at two weights, but because he proved himself and fought most of his important bouts in the United States." Ian Gibb in the *Sun* said he was "one of the rarest men ever to step into the boxing ring" and the *Daily Mail* quoted his first manager, Tony Vairo as saying "he will always rate as one of boxing's all time greats." The New York State Athletic Commissioner said that the whole boxing community was saddened by Dick Tiger's death, while in Lagos the President of Nigeria's Supreme Council of Sport, Mr. Abraham Ordia, said that his death was a tremendous loss to African sport "He was one of the outstanding sportsmen produced in Africa. It is tragic that we should lose him at that age, just when he had a chance of a new career in sport."

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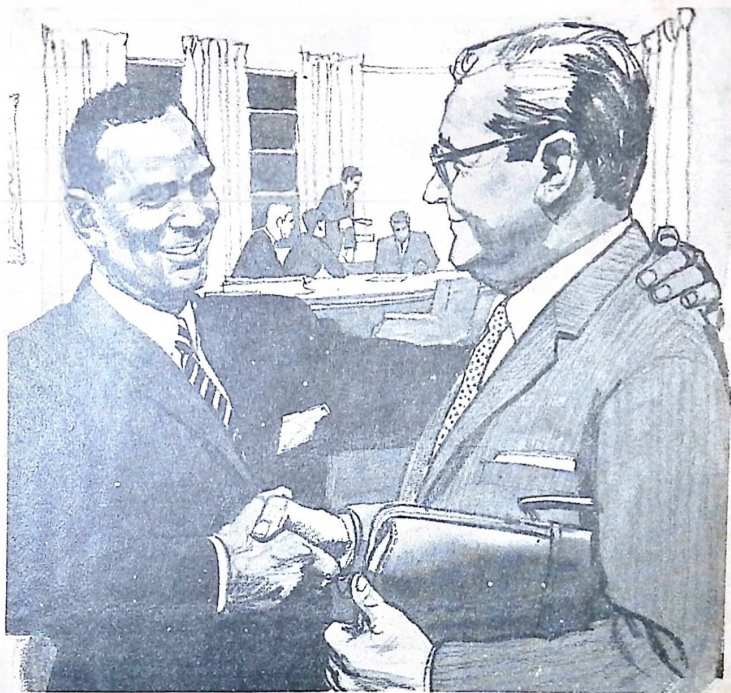
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