

# THE YORUBA NEWS

FOR GOD, THE KING & THE PEOPLE.

## The W. A. S. U. And AFRICAN EDUCATION.

On Saturday the 6th of August 1938, under the chairmanship of Mr. William E. A. Ofori-Atta, an inspiring and a most rare-competent address was delivered to the members of W. A. S. U. at Africa House by Dr. Hastings R. Banda, in the social, educational, political and economic conditions among the natives of Nyasaland, South African Union and Southern Rhodesia. To this was added his impressions on the history, life and general conditions of the Negroes in America. Dr. Banda is a native of Nyasaland, and for the past eighteen years he has lived at different times in Southern Rhodesia, the Union of South Africa and the United States. He was educated in America where, through the wonderful staff of which he was possessed, he obtained his degree of Bachelor of Philosophy (Ph.B.) from the University of Chicago, and that of Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) from Meharry Medical College.

In the course of his address, Dr. Banda assured the students of the numerous facilities which are open to African students in the United States of America to acquire higher education and qualify efficiently in any faculty whether in medicine, Engineering, Agriculture, Science, Beauty Culture or otherwise. These facilities, Dr. Banda explained, consisted in the numerous scholarships which were most easily obtained by purely African students than the Afro-Americans, provided the former possessed the "Spirit" in him. Dr. Banda strongly advocated for American education and culture for African students particularly for the West African Students; and advised it to him after his qualification in the University, an African student will be received to American colleges.

their accomplishment to his English cultures, because "Only the Best for Africa," according to the late Dr. Aggrey.

Dr. Banda also dealt satisfactorily with the many questions put to him after this address.

The following ladies the Gentleman, were among those present: Misses Ibiroko Williams, Lando Moore, H. A. D. Adefara, Mrs. O. Solanke; Messrs. J. I. Morgan, O. Coker, L. Odunsi, O. Adefolu, Rev. J. O. E. Soremekun, Mrs. M. O. Idowu, P. A. Martins, E. B. Dale, A. Okon, E. F. E. Anwan, Cobinah Kossin, Ladipo Solanke, A. Wilson Odunbaku, A. Adedoyin and A. Akiyemi. Several friends of W. A. S. U. were also present.

(Sgd.) Ladipo Solanke,  
Warden.

### PRESS NOTICE.

With reference to certain reports which have recently appeared in the Press to the effect that a Parliamentary Commission has been appointed to investigate and report on the condition of agriculture in West Africa, it is notified for general information that the Executive of the Lushoto Trust have invited four members of the House of Commons, assisted by three technical experts to conduct an inquiry in West Africa. Their terms of reference are:-

"To investigate, study and report on the West African Colonies generally, the inter-relationship between the Government, its officials, the natives and the natives, the status and standard of life of the native population and improvement thereof, the production of food and other materials and the incomes thereof, and in particular, certain main problems in respect of the development of agricultural, pastoral and forestry resources, namely:-

(a) Examination of the possibilities of mixed farming where available the rotation of crops, the use of fertilizers and the cultivation of a more varied range of foods for consumption by the native farmers and their herds. The production of culture

by plough and the use of machines.

- (b) A study of the main export crops which will include adequate manure, fertilizers and water, so as to experiment of growing the most valuable varieties of plants, and to ensure that the best methods are adopted to secure progressive yields, and to combat diseases.
- (c) An examination of methods of periodic crops for export, their desirability in the existing markets, and any improvements thereof.
- (d) A survey of the present position of forest, timber, and plantation, and of the possibilities of their extension, both by the improvement of forest and by the utilization of the products.
- (e) General study of soil conditions, including the question of soil deterioration by methods of cultivation of dry areas and forest lands, any improvement by better methods of cultivation.
- (f) The possibility of introducing new crops, including fruits, to which the soil, which might add to the economy, and also to increase the range of food and vegetables, which, while not commercially profitable, might add to the amenities.
- (g) The present system of land tenure and its effect on agricultural development with a view to indicating what system is likely to be the most advantageous for the development of the inhabitants and the land.

In connection with all these problems, it would be desirable to study the manner in which they have been approached or treated in French, Belgian, African, the Mandated Territories, and other countries enjoying similar climatic conditions.

The Members of Parliament who have accepted the invitation are:-

Colonel J. Sandeman Allen (Conservative), Mr. C. G. Amon (Labour), Mr. E. Clement Davies, K.C. (National Liberal), and Dr. Haden Guest, M.C. (Labour), and the technical experts are:-Dr. E. E. Coxhead, Head of Chemistry Department, Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, Herts., and Colonel A. G. Salter, Secretary of the Royal Zoological Society of London, Mr. H. G. Simpson, Economic Botanist, Kew.

The Secretary will be Mr. M. P. Bullock. The Mission through the good of Members of Parliament is a privilege, and it is not a Parliamentary Commission, but should it be regarded as presenting the expertise, under the auspices of Government, it is expected that the Mission in Africa to Nigeria, to investigate and report on the





