

Honourable
The Chief Secretary to Govt.
Chief Secretary's Office
Lagos, Nigeria

S. O. Obaseki
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Yoruba News
Ofunpa Road
Ibadan

Yoruba News

FOR GOD, THE KING AND THE PEOPLE.

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Dissolution of Partnership.

It is notified for general information
that partnership between Messrs. C. J.
Mellou and George Kapsopulos, Con-
tractors, of the Gold Coast and Nigeria
in West Africa has been dissolved as
from the 29th June, 1929.

GEORGE KAPSOPULOS.

Ibadan, 4th July 1929.

OWUYE.

Oniyawo gba Yawo,
Owo awe d' ofo.

Obirin kan ti o fe ko oko re silẹ lo lo gba owo lowo ale o si lo pe ojo ni Kotu Bere ninu ose ti o koja. Se "ate ko ko eran k' eran," gege bi ise awon adajo, nwon fun obirin na ni Iwe Ipejo pelu Akoda kan lati lo pe okes re ti o fe ko silẹ wa.

Inkan ti o pa ni lerin nibe ni pe, nigbati nwon de odo oko ti obirin si ne iwe si i, awon enia oko, ti won ti won ti regere silẹ de e-nowo gan iyawo, won si fa a wole; nwon so fun awon ti ale re yan tele obirin na wa pe, awon ko ba iyawo awon ja, ki nwon ma lo si ile won, A dupe o.

Awon tohun wa npa radi radi lode, nwon sinke pe, Jade kalo o! O si jade mo ni? Jade! Ko ma jade mo o. Nigbati nwon fi ese pale titi, ti won ko mo eyiti won o se mo ni won ba pada lo si ile pelu itiju.

Bi o ba se awa ni adajo ni, a ko ni je ki irufe; nia be ri owo ipejo gla mo; nitope fun rare l' o ta arare l' oji gegebi oko pe: titoro l'a toro obirin lowo iya ati baba ki a to gbe e.

Olola C. W. Alexander, oloye, c.m.g eniti Oba King sese fi joye Qtun Gomina ti wa ni Nigeria. de sihin ni Monday ana. Kotu Alapadi nibiti o ko de si lati ki awon oibo ni a ti fi imo, asia, aso alarabara se loso repete; lati ibe ni a ti ta asia si oju ona lo ni irona-irona titi de Kotu Bere, nibiti Bale ati awon Ijoye Ibadan, awon Olola, Ojise Olorun, Bokini, Gbajumo Ibadan gbogbo ati ogunlogbo enia pejo si lati ki alejo na "kabo." Oso ibi yi ko tile se rara, gbogbo ile Kotu na ni mberiri. Itafu ragaji ti a se fun Bale ko si bo ti ri ni i.

Ki o ma wa wo awon Olopa ati Akoda Ibadan pelu oye-ogun medals habahibi ni igba-aiya won; elomi ni to mefa

tabi mejo—ogede ogbologbo jagunjugun ni gbogbo won fere ije tan, o ma ye nwon o. Kai omo Ibadan! a ngba fun nyin o

Qtun Gomina ki Bale ati awon enia pelu erin muse ti o fi han pe inu re dun fun iyese ojo na. A ki Ajele Agba o ku alejo.

Iyese Lt. Governor ni Alapadi.

Ki o to de si Alapadi; awon omo Ile-eko obirin ti to si otun ati osi. Ni igberi won ni a ri awon Olopa Eko ti won si to si ibe pelu olori won ti o mu ida lowo gangan si duro niwaju won. O pe titi ti a si ti wa ni iduro nigbati agogo mejila fere lu ni okonrin na ti a ti nreti si de: bi o sokale lati inu moto re. beni onifere si tenubu fere re lati fi ki i ku abo. Lojukanna ni okunrin na ti a npe ni Repeto Sosu olori awon Olopa Eko, gerege lo sunmo Ogboni na ti o de pelu ida re lowo, o fi ida owo re na si otun ati osi, o si pe ise bi o si ti npe ise bena ni awon omo re ngbe ibon won si ejika won ti won si ni idi re sole Ogboni na ti o de si bere si i wo awon Olopa na yika lehin na, o lo wo awon omo ile-eko ti o nse bi Siji (Scout) Lehin eyi ni o ki awon obi ti nwon ti pese sibe.

Nwon ni ki a ma rohin moto ti o se jamba sinu iwe wa mo; sugbon, nigbati moto kansoso ba nse enia lese lemeji tele tele Jarin ojo mefa si arawon nko? A rope o ye ki a kilo fun iru awamoto be pe ki o se pele-pele.

Nje Ogbeni ti nwa moto Laoye Solaja eso ko dowo re baun? Se ni Satide ti July 14 ni moto re se oni-basikulu kan lese leba ile Ogbeni E. S. Johnson ti eje nsan bi omi? Monday July 23 ni moto re-kanna pelu Egin ati Egesin Ogbeni B. I Ajanaku tun kelu arawon ni Iyana oke Padi ati Onireke? Se ipalara na po tobe ti esin na fi wo. Egesin lo wo ara ni Ile-alarun ni Adeeyo, moto papa baje ti awon ti won wa ninu re si farapa.

E ku ewu ni a le ki nyin lotun, losi; ki Oluwa f' ofo mo be o—Sugbon pele-pele.

IROHIN ILE BALE

O dun wa lati so fun awon onkawe wa pe dide ti Otun Gomina (Lt-Governor) ti o bo si Monday ojo Ekan Igbi-mo Ibadan, ko jeki irohin na han ninu iwe wa ni o se yi.

Ifa Aditi. III.

Cocoa.

Awon baba wa so pe: ara meji l' o wa l' o ju orun, bi okan ba nke "Ele" ekeji a ma ke "Ero," toto o. Beni, inkan kan ki i le titi ki o ma ni ero. Kili ero tabi ogun ti a le sa si ipa ero Koko ti a nso bo yi?

Ni ona kinni, a ko je gba enikeni niyanju pe ki o ge igi Koko ti o ti gbin danu; beni a ko si je gba enikeni niyanju pe, ki o mase gbin igi Koko si oko re, ni ona keji (se emi na jogun igi Koko bi mejila kan o) sugbon imoran ti o tona gan ni pe, ki awon agbe ile wa ma gbin igi obi abata ati gbanja—iwonyi ni igi Koko ti Olorun da si ile awa Enia Duda pe, ki a ma fi se olo.

Igi obi ki i ku lai, beni ki i si iparun ninu oko ti a ba gbin i si lekani bi igi Koko. Nigba atijo, bi a ba wipe enikan la, o la; a ma siro igi obi ti o wa ninu oko re pelu igura onwaru. Owo ti a fi nra obi l' o d'odon ni ilu wa ko kere rara: yula fun irubo ti awon enia wa tabi ara ti awon imale ni o, tabi alejo sise, iyawo gbigbe, oku sisin, oye jije, ase sise, l' onakona gbogbo ga ni a nlo obi si. Ko si wakati tabi isaju kan ni ile wa ti obi kikan ki i r' orun nipa pipa je lasan.

Obi oloni pupa ti a npe ni Gbanja ti awon onisowo wa nlo ra ni Ilu Aganyin si lowo lori pupo ni Ile Hausa. "Gb' owo 'ngb' ewe" ni lohan: ki i kuta nigba kan, riro ni awon Hausa nro lo ra obi Gbanja ni Ilu Aganyin *Gold Coast*, nitori eyiti won nri ira ni ile wa nibin ko to won rara. Awon agbe wa ti

won ni igi Gbanja l' oko mo iye ponun ti awon nri ka lori igi kikan lododon. O si daju pe bi awon Hausa ba nri Gbanja ra terun nibin, won ko ni tun se wahala a nlo si Oke Okun mo.

Torina a be enyin agbe wa, e tun ero yi ro daradara; ogede igi Koko nikan ni gbigbin ko dara rara nitori pe o le mu adanu wa nikan gege bi a ti wi.

O to pe, ki eniti o ba ni ile ki o pin i si ona mefa, ki o fi idafa kikan gbin Koko, Obi ati Owu ki o si fi iyo ku gbin ohun jije orisirisi gege bi a ti ngbin i ni ilu wa telelele. Nipa sise be, won o le ma ko owo Ko-Obi, Owu, Epo, Ekujo bi ere ise won lododon.

Mr. J. G. Lawton, the District Officer, Ibadan has been promoted to the rank of Resident. Our congratulations.

INDEPENDENT AFRICAN METHODIST CHURCH

The dedication of the rebuilt Chapel of the above named Church will take place on Saturday the 27th inst at 3.30 p.m. Thanksgiving service and Love Feast at 10.30 a.m. and 7. p.m. of Sunday, also a Public Meeting at 6.30 p.m. of Monday the 29th.

Acknowledgement.

We have the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt from the Government Printer of a copy of Annual Report of the Mines Dept. for the year 1928:—

Press Notice.

It is hereby notified for public information that Monday August 5th is a Statutory Public Holiday throughout Nigeria and the British Cameroons.

Cocoa Industry.

by W. F. Hutchison.

There is nothing more remarkable in the agricultural history of the world during the last fifty years than the growth of the Gold Coast cocoa industry. I can say so with pride, because I can claim that I was the first to experiment with cocoa in this country. The soil of my plantation was not suitable for cocoa so I did not start the cocoa industry, but I can claim that I was the first to see the value of cocoa to this country. That was a claim that was a little more than thirty years ago, and to-day the Gold Coast is producing half the world's supply of cocoa. Unfortunately, Gold Coast cocoas lag behind in quality, and is always priced about 25 per cent. below the best qualities. I am speaking to you as an agriculturist and as one who knows the cocoa market in Europe. The reason is this: when a manufacturer buys two or three hundred bags of Trinidad or Ceylon cocoa, and takes a handful of beans out of a bag, all the beans are of the same colour and quality. And the beans in all the bags are the same as those in the first; they are evenly graded and equally fermented. If the same manufacturer buys Gold Coast cocoa, what does he find? He has to buy small parcels, and not only does he find differences in colour and quality between the different parcels, but in each bag there are beans of varying colours and qualities. He buys your cocoa because of the commanding position of the Gold Coast in regard to quantity, and because, otherwise, he would not get enough for his wants, but he makes you pay for the defects in quality and grading by reducing the price he pays you. There—I speak to you young men—try to look ahead and to improve the quality of your cocoa before some other country pushes you out of the market. And I have another piece of advice to give you. Speaking as a practical agriculturist, I tell you that the country is in a dangerous position as long as you depend solely on one product. There will be a very rude awakening for this country some day, because it is the inevitable consequence of the intense cultivation of plants in artificial conditions to produce disease. The plant is weakened by the artificial conditions,

and the disease which might be resisted in the natural conditions, no longer existed. The plant has been weakened, and the crowding of a single species in large numbers enables the disease to spread like a plague. In seventies of the last century Ceylon was covered with coffee-trees, and the people were devoting themselves to the cultivation of coffee just as our people are devoting themselves to the cultivation of cocoa to-day. Enormous fortunes were being made, and every one was rejoicing in the prosperity of the land. But one day, when planters came to their plantations, they saw some brown spots on the leaves of their trees. Nothing was thought of them at first but presently the leaves dropped from the trees, and then the trees began to die, until in a short time—within two years, I think—the whole of the coffee trees were killed off. What had caused this? A fungus which had been living for centuries on the plants in the forest, which had become accustomed to and tolerant of it, had found a new field, and pounced on the coffee-trees, killing them off because they had been so weakened by cultivation that they had no longer the strength to resist the attack of the fungus and so to gain time to become tolerant of it. The industry was destroyed, and the fortunes evaporated leaving ruin and gloom behind.

Something of the same kind will happen here, for the day of reckoning for negligent and unskilful cultivation will surely come. Please do not stand on one leg, as it were; by confining yourselves to one crop. You need not look far for another leg: you have what you need before you; asking for you-begging you. What is the matter with your oil palms? Why do you not cultivate some oil-palms alongside of your cocoa trees? Even if you treat the fruits in your own traditional way there is profit to be made out of them, and later on you can try to use machinery. I know that, at present the machinery for treating palm-fruits is very costly, but that is because the demand is from large capitalists who require very large plants. If a demand arises for small plants you will get them.

There is another piece of advice which I will give to you young men. Go to bush and become farmers.

WASU, Aug. 1, 1929.

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D. A. QBASA.

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LAND TENURE.

THE main question uppermost in the mind of every African at this moment is the matter of our land and how to secure it for the benefits of generations yet unborn. With the knowledge that our land is our God-given heritage, an inalienable birthright, upon the ownership of which the very existence of the race depends, no sacrifice is ever considered too great by our forefathers in their efforts to make it secure. This sentiment is common to every nation and race of men in every part of the world.

Every creature must have land to live upon. From the reeds that grow upon the banks of the rivers, the weeds of the sea that provide the needed sustenance for the fishes and other denizens of the deep; the grass, creepers, tubers, shrubs and fruit trees that maintain both men and beasts; these all cannot exist without being attached to the land.

But "the fowls of the air?" Yes, the birds must build their nests upon the trees, which, in turn is firmly rooted in the bosom of the earth; they also are obliged to come down and pick up grubs, insects and grains for their food. Then water—another indispensable life-sustaining element—cannot always be got straight from the clouds but mostly from springs, rivers, lakes and wells distributed all over the globe.

It is evident from the foregoing that, land is the basis of creation; therefore every legislation that may seek to deprive people of, or withhold complete ownership and the free use of their rights in, landed property is sure to produce hardship and oppression upon those subjected to its operation.

There are different laws governing the ownership of land in every country though, the most advanced is individual ownership, which is the prevailing system in Europe, America and other civilised countries to-day. Of course, certain civilised governments have been trying to introduce the socialistic experiment of state ownership or nationalisation of land. That was one of the shoals on which Mr. Lloyd George's government was wrecked: because the British people would have none of it, the voters simply threw out both the bill and the government that sponsored it at the time. It is this dangerous land policy—wrongly termed native customary law, that had been mistakenly applied to certain portions of Africa under European spheres of influence. But there is no such a thing as state ownership of land in West Africa, where, individual or family ownership is the rule and state-ownership the exception. Every inch of land has its owner; all what might appear as unoccupied lands to our European overlords are really family estates, (not state properties) the boundaries of which are well-known to their respective owners.

No African ruler or chief can encroach upon the rights of the least of his subjects in landed property. It is customary for an Oba or Chief to be offered suitable lands for farming by those who owned them in any part of the country over which he rules.

It is gratifying to observe that the principle of individual ownership of land has been given official recognition in the Protectorate by our paternal govern-

ment. The reforms in the land laws of Egba land published in our last number is an example of what we hope may eventually be extended to every part of Nigeria, where, the old rigid state control still obtains and which does not make for progress in any way.

Through this obsolete arrangement, many aspiring African traders have been placed at great disadvantage, many industries handicapped, credit facilities absolutely checked. The European Merchants have also suffered heavy losses from defalcating clerks, customers, buying and selling Agents,—especially in this Province, where, fully assured of the impossibility of a creditor attaching their houses by a writ of *Fi fa* such people have wontonly contracted and multiplied debts, which, they would not otherwise have incurred. There are many in this town to day, who, instead of settling their honest debts with the European and African firms, preferred investing such monies in houses and cocoa farms, regardless of the inconvenience to their creditors. On the other hand, the African traders, farmers and artisans, owners of decent buildings and well-cultivated, profit-yielding farms, find it impossible to make use of such properties as security with the Banks and trading houses for further development of their farms and trades.

It is good to safeguard wholesale alienation of land, but the local land regulation errs on the side of severity and is the principal cause of hardship in the Province. We are convinced a reform along the same lines as the Egba Native Administration will greatly improve trade and industrial activities in this Province and everywhere in the Protectorate.

Our Fishing Industry.

It is really high time that a start was made with a view to putting the fishing industry of the Gold Coast on a proper footing possibly on the lines of what is being done in Sierra Leone where the Government have taken the matter seriously in hand with, we believe, every hope of success.

Recent scientific observations in England have suggested that simple and practical measures of great advantage, alike to the fishing industry and the consumer, could be taken in the handling of fish. Relatively simple changes in handling at sea have been shown upon trial to have striking effects upon the keeping quality of fresh fish, and recent scientific researches have indicated possibilities of the utmost importance alike to the fishing industry and to the agriculturist in the utilization of marine by-products. The waste material dredged up from the bottom of the sea by the trawl, and the waste residues of the fish prepared at sea for market have been shown to possess qualities of first rate value in the nutrition of stock and poultry. The sea contains an abundant supply of the minute nutritional elements of which every breeder of stock and poultry is in search for as the supplementary feeding of his livestock.

There is no gainsaying the fact that the present method of fishing as conducted in this Colony is as obsolete as it is crude and it is also totally inadequate. It is somewhat surprising that the harvest of the sea has been neglected for so long, and although we have heard from time to time of the promotion of fishing companies, nothing seems to have come out of them. We believe that the Empire Marketing Board have made grants to certain portions of the Empire for the further exploration of the fishing industry. Before we can expect anything in the nature of a grant from the Empire Marketing Board it will, of course, be necessary to depart from the present old fashioned methods, and strike out into modern methods, and this is where Government can assist. There is not the slightest doubt that once the industry is taken up and handled in an intelligent manner, there is quite a lot of money to be made out of it. In these days of Khaki and Shorts the younger generation seem to think it is "infra dig" to go fishing and

before very long there will be no fishermen at all. But when one bears in mind the craft and tackle that is used, it is not surprising that there is no frantic rush to reap the harvest of the sea.

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL SHOULD TAKE THE MATTER UP.

We would like to see some of the unofficial members of the Council taking this most important matter up in the Legislative Council with a view to obtaining assistance from Government in the development of the industry on proper lines. It is surely a matter which has been delayed sufficiently long. We do not think the development of the industry would involve any very large initial outlay, neither do there appear to be any serious obstacles which would have to be overcome, the whole question being one of acquiring suitable trawlers and proper organisation on shore for the handling and curing of the fish. This is a matter which, so far as we are aware, has never been brought up in the Legislative Council. Why we do not know. But it would most certainly develop and in a very short time too into a good paying proposition. The people of Sierra Leone are fortunate inasmuch as they have a Governor who had long been aware of the neglected harvest that could be reaped from the sea, and with characteristic energy he at once set to work to improve upon the local fishing industry and there is no reason why we should not follow suit, or for the matter of that why we have not started long ago. However, as we stand at present, we have the benefit of profiting by the experience gained by the Sierra Leone Government and it should be quite an easy matter for us to get all the information available from and benefit by the sister Colony. If it is to be deplored that private enterprise is so backward it should be necessary to call upon Government for assistance, but the fact remains that this is the unfortunate position in which we find ourselves. If it is necessary for European countries with all their modern appliances for catching and handling catches of fish, to still further improve, how much more is it not necessary for us to take immediate steps to put the fishing industry of this Colony on a sound footing? There is only one answer to this question, and that is, the sooner a start is made the better.

A GOOD FIELD FOR EMPLOYMENT.

With the fishing industry run on up-to-date lines right along the coast a wide field of employment would be opened up both on the water and on shore. We have already stated that the Khaki Youths which are being turned out of the schools in hundreds every year consider it "infra dig" to go in for fishing. But if we had proper craft we are quite sure there would be quite a rush to participate in the industry both at sea and on shore. We have at present quite enough unemployed, and what we have to avoid with the rising generation is the unemployable. Clerks are to-day at a discount, the market is overstocked, and is likely to become more and more so before very long. With the present dulness of trade and continued amalgamation, the tendency is to reduce staffs rather than to increase and the future does not seem to look particularly bright. A well developed fishing industry apart from the other benefits that would accrue would seem to be an outlet for some of the youths that are being thrown on the employment market. Properly organised there would seem to be no limit to the vastness which a fishing industry in this Colony might attain, and with the most beginning that would be necessary to sort of feel the way, it is reasonable to assume that in a comparatively short period of time the industry would become a very large one. The only thing to do is to make a start, and like most other ventures in this part of the world, once the people get hold of the idea, they will not be backward in coming forward, and eventually making a success of it.

In conclusion we would draw the attention of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council to the necessity of bringing the matter of the fishing industry before Government, and if they do this, we believe that they will get the support they ask for, and also they will be doing the country a lot of good.—*The Gold Coast Independent*, July 6 1929.

News and Notes.

The Revd. Father F. J. Weiss' Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee Mass was celebrated on Wednesday the 17th inst. The jubilarian officiated, assisted by three other Revd. Fathers. Twelve Roman Catholic Fathers including Father Coquard attended. It is regrettable that owing to illness His Lordship Bishop Ferdinand Terrien could not come up from Lagos.

The Church was overcrowded in the morning. The jubilee sermon was preached by Revd. Father Leo. Taylor, who, in spite of his slight indisposition, expounded a short biography of the Revd. jubilarian's career and achievements since his ordination. After the High Mass, a photograph of the Revd. Jubilarian and some priests with the committee members was taken in group. Notwithstanding the bad weather, the At Home was largely attended.

The band of the Royal W.A.F.F was in attendance. The addresses and purses were presented by the committee members the R.C.M. School children, the Syrian community and the delegates from Lagos, to which the Revd. Jubilarian responded in a high term of appreciation. In the evening the priests and some select European gentlemen were entertained to a dinner given by the committee members. The proceedings were crowned with success, unfortunately some of the guests especially the delegates from Lagos and members were not entertained, which has left much to be desired. This is very unusual on the part of the committee members, who have gained good reputation for the way and manner in which they conducted an At Home in the past. But who is responsible for the omission at the recent At Home?

Wishing the Revd. Jubilarian long life of usefulness.

Our congratulations to the Rev. Father wishing him many happy returns of the day. Also the jubilee Committee great success achieved.

His Highness Ali Ogunaike the new Awujale was installed by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government on the 13th inst. K' Oba o pe o.

His Honour C. W. Alexander, C.M.G., Lt. Governor, Southern Provinces, was given a grand reception by the European and African Communities on Monday July, 22.

The Rev. Chas. Jemiriye of Ife-Ijbu Baptist Church who attended the Osogbo Conference returned to his station on the 11th inst.

Mrs. Janet John who came up to witness the function of conferring the certificate of a Licentiate Preacher upon her brother L. O. Fadipe, returned to Lagos on the 17th inst.

We regret to chronicle the death of Chief Amida the Otun Balé which took place at his residence, He Ali two on the 18th inst. His remains were interred according to moslem rites the same day. Our sympathy.

A devotional meeting to bid farewell to Master Oladipo Odunsi who proceeds to England to study Medicine, was conducted at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Odunsi, on Saturday the 20th inst, to which a select number of friends were invited. The service was conducted by the Revd. Canon J. Okusinde, A. B. Akinyele Revs D. A. Williams, E. M. Alalade and D. Dixon. Refreshment was served at the close.

We wish young Odunsi a safe passage to England and success in his studies at the University and safe return with Academic honours and medical skill.

The Nigerian Railway has arranged for special cheap trains, to run from the 3rd to the 5th August, between Lagos, Lafenwa and Iddo Station, at half fares for the up and down trips.

We are thankful for this concession and trust the management will soon put on a regular local train service between Ibadan and Abeokuta as now obtains between Iddo and Lafenwa stations. This will help to develop the existing markets and farms between these points such as Ogunsile, Olokemeji, Eruwa Road, Igboora, Sanusi, Opeji, Arikola, Lalate, Igangan, &c. now suffering for want of cheaper and quicker transportation.

Mr. Salami Agbaje of Alafia House, Messrs A. O. Johnson, Edem Davies, Alfred Pearse and others are to be praised for the way they executed the decorations of both the township and Beje Court Halls and the connecting route for the receptions of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor on the 23rd inst.

"THE YORUBA NEWS."

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