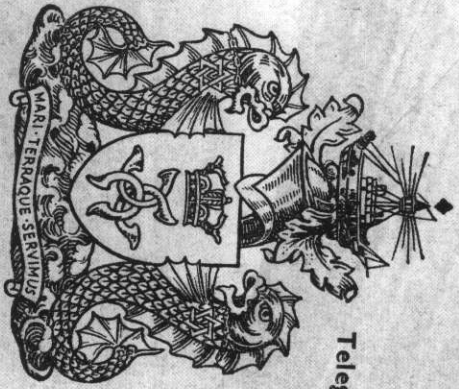
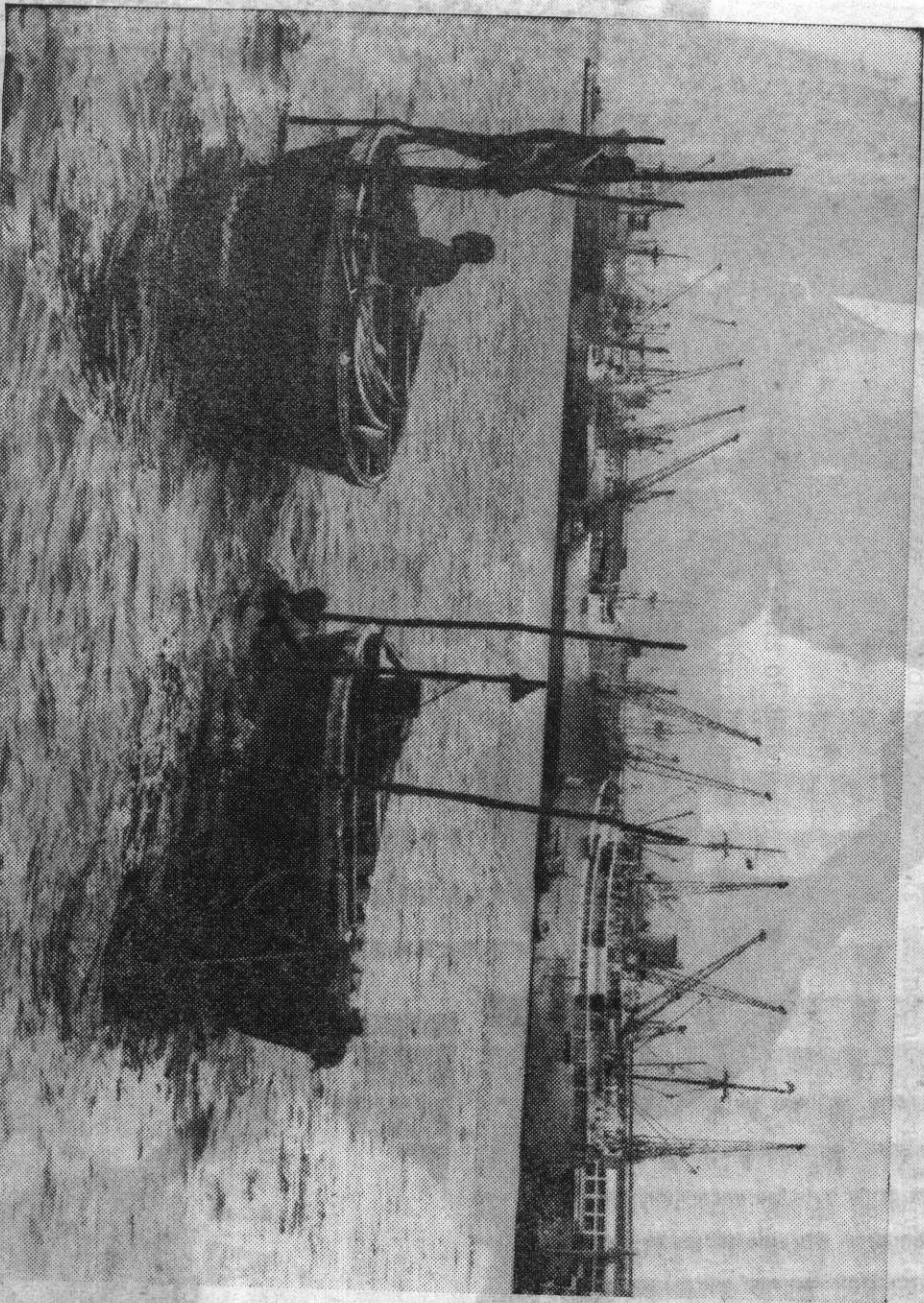


# NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY



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secret of an untrained party led by the acting Consul-General. Benin was taken and the Oba deported in 1897.

In the north, the Royal Niger Company had little authority beyond gun-its troops defeated the forces of the emirs of Nupe and Ilorin and put a stop to slave raiding in these emirates. The company was also faced with attempts by Germany and France to annex parts of their territory. The eastern frontier was settled by treaty with Germany, but for a time there was serious danger of conflict with France over the western boundary. In these circumstances Captain F. D. Lugard (later Lord Lugard) was sent to Nigeria to raise an imperial force of local troops, under British officers, which became known as the West African Frontier Force. The dispute with France was settled amicably soon afterwards.

## CHARTER CANCELLED

In view of these international and other difficulties it was decided to cancel the charter of the Royal Niger Company and place the whole country under direct government control. On January 1, 1900, the northern part of Nigeria (practically identical with the present Northern Region) became the Protectorate of Northern Nigeria, while the southern part, exclusive of Lagos, became the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria. In 1906 Lagos and Southern Nigeria were amalgamated.

In Northern Nigeria Sir Frederick Lugard (as he then was), the first High Commissioner, was compelled in 1903 to take military action against the Sultan of Sokoto and the Emir of Kano, who refused to abandon the slave raiding which was ruining the country or, indeed, to have anything to do with the new administration. These and other recalcitrant Fulani rulers were removed from office and others were appointed who agreed to abolish slave raiding and to obey the orders of the High Commissioner. A system of indirect rule was established, the "Native Authorities" being allowed to govern their territories under the supervision of British officials.

## AMALGAMATION

On January 1, 1914, the whole country was amalgamated into a single Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria, with Lugard as the first Governor-General, the former separate protectorates becoming the Northern and Southern Provinces of Nigeria, while Lagos was styled the Colony of Nigeria. In 1939 the Southern Provinces were divided into areas known as the Eastern and Western Provinces.

In two world wars the Nigeria Regiment of the West African Frontier Force fought with gallantry and distinction against Germans, Italians and Japanese. In the first war the German colony of the Cameroons was captured and a portion of it was administered, through the government of Nigeria, under a Mandate from the League of Nations and later under a Trusteeship Agreement with the United Nations.

In the early days of colonial rule the administration was chiefly concerned with the maintenance of law and order,



Government House, Lagos.

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