

# LAGOS EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**THE LAGOS EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT BOARD IS THE STATUTORY BODY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PLANNING CONTROL, DEVELOPMENT AND RE-DEVELOPMENT OF LAGOS, NIGERIA'S FEDERAL CAPITAL.**

**LAGOS IS NOW BEING TRANSFORMED INTO A MODERN CAPITAL. IT PROVIDES OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BOTH BUILDING AND INVESTMENT IN ITS LARGE SCALE INDUSTRIAL, HOUSING AND TOWN CENTRE SCHEMES.**

**ALL ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE MADE TO:—**

**J. W. HENDERSON, C.B.E.**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,**  
**LAGOS EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT BOARD,**  
**RECLAMATION ROAD,**  
**LAGOS,**  
**NIGERIA.**

# First Steps Towards Balance of Payments

By Our Special Correspondent

**A**N economic map of Nigeria, made in 1959, shows the country's main agricultural exports and mineral deposits and where they are produced or found, together with the location of industries at the towns in which they exist. The three categories are printed in types of different sizes nicely adjusted to their relative importance in Nigeria's economic life. The largest and heaviest type, in an appropriate shade of green, is reserved for the main agricultural exports—groundnuts, hides and skins and cotton in the Northern Region, cocoa, palm produce, rubber and timber in the Western Region, and produce in the Eastern Region, and bananas in the Southern Cameroons. Other products, such as citrus fruits and goat skins, are shown in a lighter type of the same size. The map marks tin as the most important mineral with columbite, coal, limestone, lead-zinc, and lastly oil as runners-up. In 1959 Lagos and Kano had the main concentrations of secondary industry—listed on the map in the smallest type of the three. Cotton spinning and weaving and cement manufacture were already using Nigerian raw materials, and processing plants for other domestic produce are added year by year.

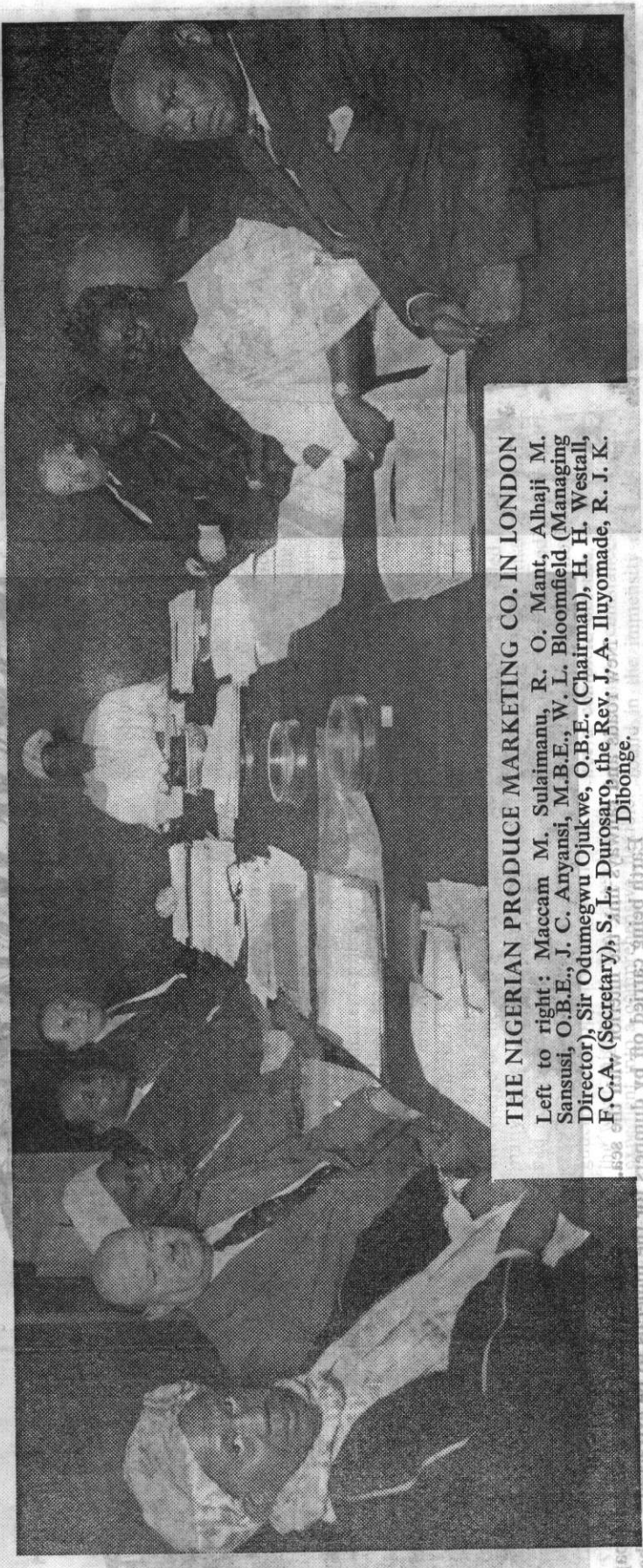
**FOREMOST ACTIVITY** Agriculture comes first in Nigeria by any standard of economic measurement. Nearly 80 out of every 100 Nigerian men work at it—using the word in its broadest sense, to include animal husbandry, forestry, fishing and hunting as well as tilling the land. Most of the women also, who work outside their homes, are engaged on this work. These are the figures of the census of

adequately fed from the country's own resources, although the staple diet is not wholly satisfactory by scientific standards in all parts of the country. Grains, such as guinea corn and millet, are the staple foodstuffs in the northern part of Nigeria, and here, according to the Economic Survey, supplies are generally adequate. But in the south, especially in the south-east, of Nigeria the staple diet is based on root crops such as yams and cassava, and is consequently said to be deficient in proteins. The International Bank mission which visited Nigeria in 1953 spoke in their report of a number of "limiting factors" on the expansion of agricultural

nothing new in Nigeria, but industrial development on a larger scale and with modern machinery is only now beginning, although considerable progress has been made in the past 15 years. Cement and plywood are the principal industrial products already turned out in Nigeria. Consumer goods include textiles from Kaduna and elsewhere, cigarettes, margarine, soap, soft drinks, beer and many others—well over 100 manufacturers will be showing their products in the "Made in Nigeria" section of the Nigeria Exhibition opened at Lagos on Independence Day. The opportunities for investment in Nigeria

are discussed elsewhere, but the author's conclusion that "they are almost limitless in a country that imports almost all its manufactures and is bent on raising its standards" points the way to the future. At this stage of Nigeria's economic development a self-generating impetus, with some help from outside, will probably take care of industrial development. Agricultural improvement, in all its many forms, and the improvement of internal communications, especially by road, rail and water, seem to be the fields in which the main efforts of the authorities should be concentrated.

**THE NIGERIAN PRODUCE MARKETING CO. IN LONDON**  
Left to right: Maccam M. Sulaimanu, R. O. Mant, Alhaji M. Sansusi, O.B.E., J. C. Anyansi, M.B.E., W. L. Bloomfield (Managing Director), Sir Odumegwu Ojukwe, O.B.E. (Chairman), H. H. Westall, F.C.A. (Secretary), S. L. Durosaro, the Rev. J. A. Iluyomade, R. J. K. Dibonge.



**Right: The slurry basin of the Tunnel Portland Cement Co. of the later stages of construction.**