

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
LAGOS



Guild of Stewards

40th

Anniversary

1946-1986

SOUVENIR BROCHURE

Chief E. O. Omoyele

Commemorative Brochure

to mark

FORTY YEARS OF STEWARDSHIP

in the CATHEDRAL CHURCH of CHRIST

PRAYER OF THE GUILD

*"Teach us good Lord, to serve Thee as Thou deservest, to give
and not to count the cost, to suffer and not to heed the wounds, to
labour and not to ask for any reward save that of knowing that we
do Thy will, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen."*



The Cathedral Church of Christ, Marina, Lagos.

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FOREWORD

"I am among you as he that serveth". In any place that a christian offers his service he ought to pattern it on the way in which Jesus Himself served.

It is with a thank ful heart that we join the Guild of Stewards to celebrate their fortieth anniversary. We are thankful to God that we have here a group of men who are dutiful and diligent, and who really enjoy giving of their time and energy to help towards making our congregation — and especially visitors at our services comfortable.

They serve without fuss, but with a cheerful countenance.

St. Paul bade his friends at Philippi to have the same mind as was in Christ Jesus. He emptied Himself. The word has the connotation of "divesting Himself of all privileges". It is only in so far as one can have "the mind of Christ" in this regard that he can be a good steward.

It is our joy that we are blessed with that group of men who have divested themselves of all privileges in order to serve. Consequently theirs is a truly Christ-like offering of themselves.

As they celebrate their fortieth anniversary we congratulate them and rejoice with them. We wish them many more years of service in our church.

Very Rev. 'SOPE JOHNSON
PROVOST.

PREFACE

The task of preparing a souvenir Brochure for an organisation, or a church society for that matter is not an easy one. This is because materials have to come from several sources together with photographs which in the light of present day technology have to be reprinted, particularly those that have seen "ages". There are other difficulties that were encountered, which gave members of the committee butterflies in their stomachs, but which through the grace of God were overcome.

At first, the committee thought of reducing the cost of the printing of this Brochure by soliciting for advertisements, but then a member of the Guild of stewards in his wise counsel spoke against it in the sense that a souvenir Brochure of a church society unlike any other magazine is undoubtedly for posterity. The member in his act of charitableness generously donated a sum of ₦2,500 (Two thousand five hundred Naira) to cut costs. We are very grateful to him and equally grateful to the elder members of the Guild who have come to our aid identifying most of the persons in the photographs taken some thirty or forty years ago, and some of the occasions at which the photographs were taken.

We would at this stage like to state that we have with all modesty, tried to cover a lot of the events which in our humble opinion should be recorded in this Brochure, but we know that there may be some records or documents not

available or not brought to our notice, and consequently some important personalities have been missed or incorrectly recorded. We sincerely apologise to those concerned, and solicit their forgiveness for these unintentional omissions and mistakes.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the memories of the deceased founding fathers of the Guild of Stewards of the Cathedral Church of Christ, and those still alive. We are extremely grateful for their valuable help in the publication of this Brochure.

I am also grateful to the Rt. Rev. S.I. Kale who was the first person to forward his article to us, a few days after informing him about the Brochure.

My special thanks are also due to those who have taken the pains to ensure the production of this Brochure, and at the risk of immodesty, the Chairman of the Guild of Stewards, Chief Makinwa, and indeed every member of the 40th Anniversary Committee and the Executive Committee for having toiled day and night for this purpose.

To our critics, we say thank you very much for spurring us on to achieve this laudable goal. It is our earnest hope that every reader will find this brochure informative and interesting and worth keeping for posterity.

(SGD) OLABODE PETERS
Chairman, 40th Anniversary Committee,
Cathedral Guild of Stewards.

THE CHURCH OF NIGERIA
(ANGLICAN COMMUNION)

THE MOST REV. T. O. OLUFOSOYE,
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ARIGIDI ST., BODUA ESTATE,
P. O. BOX 3075,
IBADAN, NIGERIA.
WEST AFRICA

Christmas19.85

The Guild of Stewards,
Christ Church Cathedral
PO Box 726
Lagos

Dear Christian Friends,

We Congratulate the Cathedral Guild of Stewards on the occasion of their fortieth anniversary celebration. We have ^{had} the pleasure of seeing the Guild function as Stewards in exemplary fashion on a number of occasions. Certainly one of the attractions in devotional worship in the Cathedral is always the service rendered by the Guild of Stewards.

It is our hope and prayer that the Cathedral Guild of Stewards will continue in their role of orderliness and discipline to the Glory of God.

T. O. Olufosoye
+ T. O. Olufosoye,
Archbishop and Primate.
L

THE DIOCESE OF LAGOS



TELEPHONE 636026

THE RT. REV. J. ABIODUN ADETILOYE

BISHOPSCOURT,
29 MARINA,
P. O. BOX 13,
LAGOS,
NIGERIA.

We rejoice with and congratulate the members of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Guild. Your Guild has indeed come a long way since its formation 40 years ago. One notable observation is the pleasant fact that membership though restricted to men cuts across all age groups. This we find really commendable. It is an action which confirms that statement from Psalm 84:10 "For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand elsewhere". You have therefore resolved to rather be a door keeper in the house of God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. Worshipping in the Cathedral, one can not but note the orderliness that runs through a service. This has contributed immensely to the high standard of worship in the Cathedral and is a source of pride to us all.

The years ahead of you are still challenging ones. You should not rest on your oars but continue to constantly seek ways by which we can improve our worship and praise of God Almighty. Above all you should seek ways to carry out the great injunction of our Lord, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you". It is our prayer that the Lord whom you serve will be with you always and put order in your homes and in your lives.

We wish you a happy anniversary.

J. Abiodun Lagos

+ABIODUN LAGOS.

24.11.86



*RT. REV. J. ABIODUN ADETILOYE
Lord Bishop of Lagos*

**MESSAGE FROM THE RT. REV. S. I. KALE
RETIRED ANGLICAN BISHOP OF LAGOS.**

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 10 which brought me the news of your forthcoming celebration of the 40th Anniversary of your Guild, and the request for a note or comment, by friends of the Society. First, let me congratulate the Guild as a whole and then those Foundation Members who are alive and are witnessing this anniversary. In the span of life, forty years for a Guild, is a sizeable length, because its members must be, on the average, above 50 or 55 years.

Forty years ago, I was only a young clerk in the Holy Orders. Now people count me among the old, so are some of you no doubt. But what is important is not the age or length of years any of us has lived, but the quality of the service given, and this I am happy to testify, has been good and satisfactory. It has set a good example for other congregations in the Premier Cathedral Church of Christ Lagos, which can today count over 25 offsprings here and there in the Federation. Praise and Adoration to God and his Son, Jesus Christ

our Saviour, and the Saviour of all mankind who accept to follow him, and bring others to serve him too.

Nigeria today stands in need of men, who know the value and importance of service in every way, not for gain or reward or show, but for the sake of giving our God the pleasure of a grateful heart, our friends a laudable example; and of gratitude to Him who has called us.

Well done all of you!! and especially those whom I know personally and grew up with together at the Broad Street Sacred Premises and 3 Odunlami Street of Pre – 1946.

God bless you all and make you gems in the Royal Diadem of our God and King.

Yours sincerely,

S. I. KALE
(RTD) BISHOP OF LAGOS.

**A CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FROM
A. O. OREDUGBA, M.A.**

As one-time People's Warden, Treasurer and Chairman of the Guild of Stewards, it gives me great pleasure to extend to the Guild of Stewards of the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos, my warmest felicitations on this great occasion of its 40th anniversary. It is gratifying to note the eminent role the Guild of Stewards has played and is playing in the spiritual life of our beloved Church – the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos – for the past 40 years.

Indeed, forty years in human existence is but a short span, but if we must cast a retrospective glance at the events of the past 40 years in the Cathedral, we will be alarmed at the vast progress and achievements that had been made by the Guild of Stewards through industry, discipline, team spirit, order, organisation, devotion to duty, sincerity of purpose and above all selfless service.

It is obvious that the duties of the Guild of Stewards are by no means easy in that they entail hard work and self-discipline. Rain or sunshine the Group on duty must serve its turn; and, besides, any Stewards could be called upon to assist at any time whether on duty or not. But it is gratifying to remark that the commendable response and the high degree of efficiency displayed when serving have placed the Guild of Stewards in the forefront. The Guild therefore deserves every measure of approbation that may be showered on it on this memorable occasion; and the same, I am sure, will serve as an added incentive to intensify its activities.

On this occasion our joys are great, but as we demonstrate our joy, let us also remember the erstwhile members who for one reason or the other are no more with us. In this connection please pardon me to make special mention of Mr. F. O. Campbell of revered memory, who had the singular distinction of having rendered the longest uninterrupted service ever known in the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos, as People's Warden and Treasurer. These past comrades had by their exemplary service for the Lord led the way for us to follow. It behoves us, therefore, as the present Guild of Stewards to show our gratitude by playing our part honourably and keeping the flag flying, believing that "Whatever ye do, do it heartily as to the Lord and not unto men." (Colossians 3 v 23).

In closing let me congratulate you once again on the 40th Anniversary of the Guild of Stewards. I wish the entire members of the Cathedral Church of Christ – Clergy, the Choir and the Laity in general – and the Guild of Stewards in particular many more years of spiritual progress and God's abundant blessings; and may this 40th Anniversary mark the beginning of yet another period of fruitful work.

A. O. Oredugba, M.A.
People's Warden, Treasurer, and
Chairman of the Guild of Stewards
(1970-76)

"FIVE YEARS AFTER"

On the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Guild and the publication of the Commemorative Anniversary Brochure, I deem it a great honour to be requested to give an overview of the Guild these past years. Before doing this, I must first congratulate the present members of the Guild for being living witness of this great event. Deserving tribute, must also be paid to our predecessors in office particularly those who had run their course and had crossed over to the greater beyond. They laid the foundation, passed the torch and made ours a noble heritage. May their souls find eternal peace with their Creator.

With only twenty three years as a Steward it will be presumptuous of me to attempt a discourse on a Guild that is as old as the Cathedral itself. That is left to Octogenarian Pa Sebanjo, who elsewhere in this brochure has done justice to the early history of the Guild. Mr. Adekunle the Historian of the Guild and our Treasurer for the past twenty nine years had supplemented Pa Sebanjo's effort with a write-up on the "Builders of The Guild".

From these our elders and from others we learnt that the Cathedral was served in those early days by only a handful of "sidesmen" as Stewards were then called. As late as 1942 or thereabout, we were told Sidesmen were actually elected at Vestry Meetings. This went on until 1946 when under the guidance of the then Canon (later Bishop) A. W. Howells, the GUILD OF STEWARDS was formally constituted - hence the 40th Anniversary this year. For a while the prerogative to select Stewards was that of the People's Warden who was also the Chairman of the Guild.

These days, candidates for Stewardship not only apply through completed Application Form if selected, they undergo a six month probation before they are then sworn in and admitted into the Guild right in the presence of the very congregation they undertake to serve. How times have changed!

Whilst the early history of the Guild is left to the Septuagenarians and the Octogenarians, a-pro-pos the current development in the Guild and specifically in the last five years during which I was privileged to take leadership position in the Guild. I dare say I am on 'terra firma' and can therefore speak with some authority.

Given the calibre of the members and the dynamism of the Guild in the fifties and sixties, it is not easy to account for the latter lethargy and indifference. One thing was clear, by the late seventies, things had surely fallen apart and the centre was no longer holding. Such was the situation that my address titled "Serving the Lord with all Gladness" at the end of my first year in office 1982/1983. I lamented in exasperation: "Are we Stewards really serving the Lord with all gladness?" Some of the noticeable lapses then included large scale absenteeism, persistent late-coming to services, poorly-attended meetings of the Guild, etc. Our finances were poor and in

shambles. In general, there was a care-free attitude towards stewardship. The only occasions that guaranteed a full house were the crowd-pulling events such as Remembrance Services, Funeral Outings, etc. when Stewards were to be seen at their finest from "CECIL GEE" and "CHRISTIAN DIOR".

As if things were not bad enough, one of the Groups was embroiled in protracted leadership tussle that kept it in disarray for a long period. Such was the situation that it was proposed to either send a Leader from another Group to re-organise the warring Group or disband it completely.

FIVE YEARS AFTER, with divine guidance, the resolution of the Stewards themselves and the dedication of the Leaders, one can look back and join M. Rinkart in his immortal hymn of thanksgiving "Now thank we all our God". To start with, the warring Group decided to put aside their bickerings and dedicate themselves anew. It is to the eternal credit of the Leader of the Group and the resolve of the rank and file that the warring Group of yesterday not only became the first winner of the GUILD'S SHIELD for the BEST GROUP, they had retained the SHIELD for two years running. All indications are that they are likely to have the Shield for the third successive year. Amazing Grace Indeed!

FIVE YEARS AFTER, the lack of concern had given way to dedication and commitment. Finances had improved so remarkably that except for last year, the Guild had topped for three successive years the list of Donor Societies for the Harvest. And since the Harvest Committee in 1983 introduced Societies as Chief Openers of the Harvest Bazaar, the Guild had donated the largest sum to date. The Brooch for which contribution started as far back as the early fifties was finally re-designed - thanks to Mr. V. A. Thompson now the Vice Chairman of the Guild and dedicated for use by the Provost in February 1984. Every Warden, Verger and Steward now proudly wears the brooch - an emblem of service and dedication.

Other areas of achievement include the resolution of the Constitution which had been stalled for years. One of the revolutionary provisions in the Constitution which reflects the current moral in the Nation is that which stipulates that every Leader and his Deputy must render account of their stewardship every four years after which they could be re-elected or otherwise. "RISE UP O MEN OF GOD" was adopted as the Guild's Hymn. The GUILD'S AND PROVOST'S SHIELDS respectively for the best Group and best Steward were introduced and the award of Prizes to other deserving Stewards were reinstated. The Publication of this Brochure is perhaps the climax of our achievement these past years. Certainly the Guild has come a long way. And every Leader, Deputy, Steward and Warden had made this possible. To us, these strides, these achievements are the Lord's doings and they are

marvellous in our eyes.

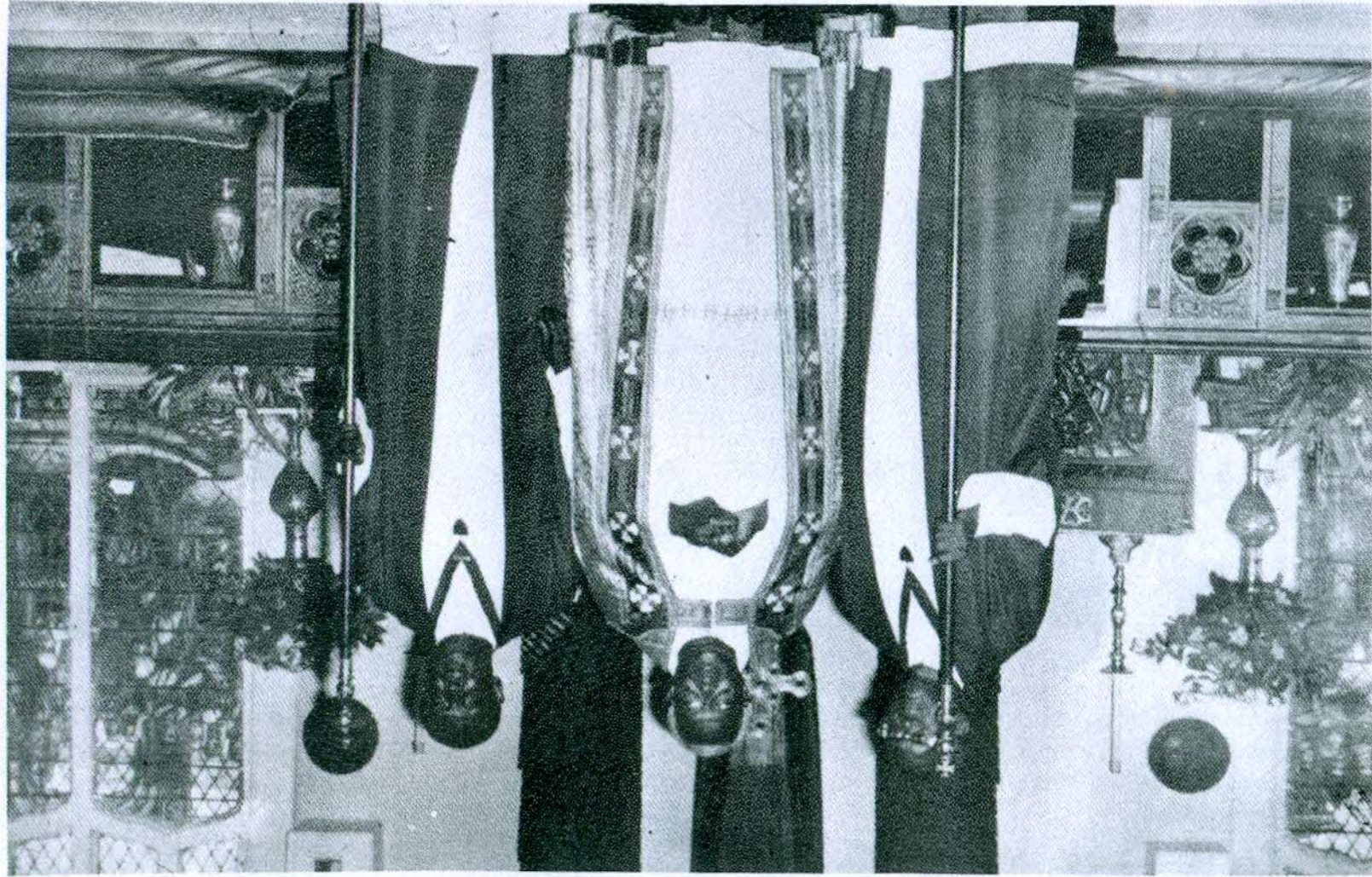
Having said all these, it is pertinent to remind us all that just as anniversaries are joyous occasions for thanksgiving and celebration, they are also time for sober reflection for stock-taking and for re-dedication. As we toast our 40th birthday in thankful and pleasant memories of those before us, and our own humble effort and contribution these past years, let us all resolve in quiet determination to put behind us those lapses and inadequacies of absenteeism, lateness at Divine Services, irregularity at meetings and care-free attitude towards visitors. All these detract from the quality of our stewardship. "Let everything be done decently and in order". That is our motto. That is also our command, to strive towards excellence in all our endeavours, particu-

larly in our humble duties as door-keepers in the House of God.

Rise Up O Men of God!
Have done with lesser things
Give heart and soul and strength
To serve the King of Kings.

WISHING THE GUILD OF STEWARDS MANY
HAPPY RETURNS AND CONTINUING FUL-
FILMENT IN THE SERVICE OF GOD.

S. A. MAKINWA
People's Warden and
Chairman, Guild of Stewards.



Very Rev. Sope Johnson (Provost) flanked by Chief S. A. Makinwa (Peoples' Warden and Chairman of the Guild of Stewards) on his right and Mr. V. Akin Thompson (Provost's Warden and Vice Chairman of the Guild of Stewards) on his left.

THE CHURCH OF NIGERIA
(ANGLICAN COMMUNION)

THE MOST REV. T. O. OLUFOSOYE,
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WEST AFRICA
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The Guild of Stewards,
Christ Church Cathedral
PO Box 726
Lagos

Dear Christian Friends,

We write to congratulate you for the excellent way in which your Guild performed during the Enthronement service of the new Bishop of Lagos The Rt. Revd. J.A. Adetiloye, B.D.

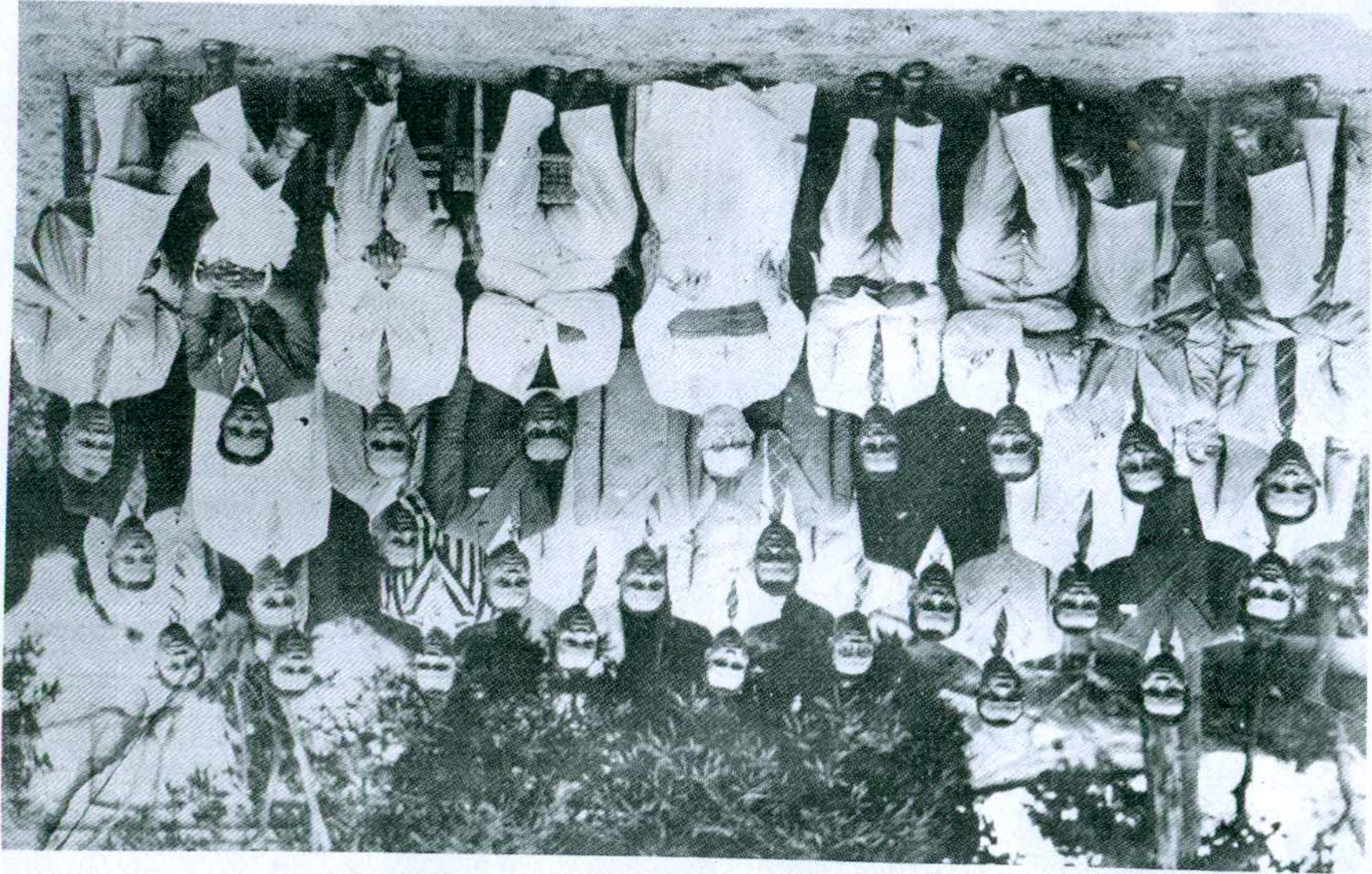
Visitors were received with smiles and ushered to their seats and were made to feel at home. The programmes of the service were given out reverently without any noise and an unnecessary fuss, that lent some dignity to the service.

I thank the members of the guild for their sacrifice and laudable service. May God bless you all abundantly.

Yours in the fellowship,

T. O. Olufosoye

The Most Rev. T.O. Olufosoye
Archbishop of Nigeria



Sitting Left to Right: E. Owo Samson, Obafemi, Mr. Okon, J. O. Senbanjo, Bishop L. G. Vining, Canon A. W. Howells, J. R. Curtis, A. C. O. Dawodu and J. A. G. Martins.

Standing Left to Right: Dr. Sotunde, J. O. S. Osisanya, N. A. Daniel, S. Ogungbuyi, Harold Martins, S. Bailey, S. A. Adefoye, C. Aina and P. G. Abbey.

Standing at Back Left to Right: Mr. Pratt, O. Martins, Harold Sanyaolu, ? F. A. O. Phillips, E. A. Babaniji, D. Olu Johnson and S. O. Laja.

A TRIBUTE TO THE DEPARTED STEWARDS



Mr. V. Akin Thompson

"With them still our hearts we raise
Share their work and join their praise
Rendering worship, thanks and love
To the Trinity above."

Throughout the Bible history, there was always the need for people to serve in the Church of God either as Ministers, Stewards or in any other capacity. They come to worship and serve God, and give Him the honour due to Him. In the Psalms, God's people worship Him for who He is, for what He has done in creation, for what He has done in redemption, rescuing and freeing His people; and for all His good gifts and blessings to individuals.

Worship is not simply a human activity on earth. In heaven, God's whole creation — humans and angels praise and worship Him.

The joy God's people have in Him is expressed in praise. Christians rejoice above all in the great act of Salvation brought about through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus identified Himself completely with mankind as He came to serve. The joy a true Steward has in Jesus is expressed in praise and rendering service in God's vineyard.

With grateful thanks to God, in celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards, our thoughts reach forth to those of our departed Stewards. Those men of the past who made such an indelible mark by their patient self-reliance, courage and perseverance in the pursuit of things noble and of good report. Those men of sterling qualities with spiritual inspirations, adherence to truth and devotion to duty. The men who served well their own generation. We, as their successors, cannot but be proud of their legacy and remember them for their good works.

"It is required in Stewards, that a man be found faithful." (1 Cor. 4:2). In keeping with the attributes of a faithful Stewards the composition of the Guild since its inauguration has always been made up of men of probity in private and public life. They are drawn from every sphere of human endeavour — law, medicine, science, business, public service, politics and other professions.

The departed members played well their part and left their foot-prints in the sands of time.

We thank God for their exemplary true — Christian life and the fellowship we once shared with them. So we remember these faithful servants of God who served him day and night in his temple:—

PAST STEWARDS: DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE GUILD.

1. Mr. J. R. Curtis (Chairman)
2. Mr. E. Owo-Samson (Secretary)
3. Mr. D. O. Johnson (Treasurer)
4. Mr. J. E. Ejemai
5. Mr. Olawale Martins (Treasurer)
6. Mr. S. G. Abimbola (Group Leader)
7. Mr. E. A. Babaniji
8. Mr. F. O. Campbell (Chairman)
9. Mr. I. O. S. Osisanya
10. Mr. C. A. Jackson
11. Mr. V. O. Wey (Secretary)
12. Mr. H. A. Martins
13. Mr. J. O. Phillips
14. Mr. S. A. Bailey
15. Mr. S. O. Ogunbamowo
16. Mr. J. G. Ayodele (Chairman)
17. Mr. R. A. Obisanya
18. Mr. E. A. B. Odusote
19. Mr. A. D. Majekodunmi
20. Mr. J. A. (Adeniji)
21. Dr. O. O. Sofunde
22. Dr. G. A. Ademola
23. Mr. D. Onabolu
24. Mr. M. E. Afelumo-Johnson
25. Mr. R. H. C. Sekyhyamah
26. Mr. E. N. A. Howells
27. Dr. S. L. Adesuyi
28. Mr. R. O. Fasanu
29. Mr. A. L. A. Alao
30. Dr. Taiwo Oluwole

It is remarkable and worth mentioning that some stewards in the years gone by were reputed to be impeccably dressed in well-tailored dark lounge or morning suits at divine services. Special occasions saw them dressed in "tails" (a semblance of the mode of dressing for Stewards at the Westminster Abbey and other Cathedrals in the U.K.) They served God with reverence and in the beauty of holiness.

Looking back forty years ago, it is comforting to note that all those who served here still continue to live in the hearts of members of the Guild "They shall not grow old as we are who are left behind. At the rising of the sun and at the going down of same, we shall remember them."

We salute the departed Stewards with these words from the book of Ecclesiasticus.

"Their prosperity is handed on to their decendants, and their inheritance to future generations.

Thanks to them their children are within the covenants — the whole race of their decendants.

Their line will endure for all time, and their fame will never be blotted out. Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name lives for ever.

Nations will recount their wisdom and God's people will sing their praise."

AKIN THOMPSON
Provost's Warden

"THESE I REMEMBER"

It gives me a great pleasure to be around to share in the joys of the 40th anniversary of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards. With gratitude to God, I hereby re-live those times when, in the fellowship of worthy members of the congregation who were lucky to be elected "Sidesmen", I had the opportunity of serving in the House of the Lord. You will no doubt pardon some rays of nostalgia that may creep into this my "history of the Guild".

I was fortunate to be elected a Sidesman in 1931, and served continuously in that capacity until the formal inauguration of the Guild of Stewards in 1946 when all serving Sidesmen became "STEWARDS". I served as a Steward until 1952 thus completing 21 years service when I decided to retire to give room for a younger man.

There were 3 groups, A, B, and C consisting of 8 members each i.e. a total of 24 members. I was the Leader of Group A, the late Mr. J. R. Curtis Leader of Group B before he was appointed the Peoples Warden and Group C was led by a gentleman I cannot now remember.

Sidesmen, as we were then called, were elected at the Annual Vestry Meeting until in 1942 when this procedure was abandoned as not being constitutional. It was then that the Peoples' Warden was mandated to select young men to fill the office of Sidesmen. It was not a Society and there was no question of application for membership at that time. Naturally with time more formal organisation of the Guild has taken place and I understand membership now stands at over 120!

I wish now to offer this piece of advice to those Stewards who are now old and have been long in office. They should give room for other young men to have the opportunity to serve the Lord. They should remember that we had been there and if we had not thought it wise to vacate early they might not have had a chance to be members. There are lots of young men who are itching to render service to the church as well. Give them a chance!

Thank you. May the Lord reward you abundantly for your service in His Vineyard. Below now is a list of my fellow Sidesmen and later Stewards of the thirties to fifties.

Mr. Lahanmi

A. O. Ransome-Kuti

Chief Akin Abisogun (D)

J. A. G. Martins (D)
J. R. Curtis (D)
A. C. O. Dawodu (D)
M. R. A. Obisanya
M. A. Ogun (D)
Reginald Martins (D)
Harold Martins (D)
D. Olu Johnson (D)
A. Fetuga
I. O. S. Osisanya (D)
G. O. Laja
S. O. Ogunbamowo (D)
Harold Sanyaolu
J. A. Ojo (D)
J. Alex Odulaja
E. A. Babaniji (D)
Dr. Sasegbon (D)
Dr. Sofunde
Mr. Okon
Mr. Abbey
S. O. Bailey (D)
E. Owo-Samson (D)
J. A. Adeniji (D)
Akin Williams (D)
S. O. Adefope
F. A. O. Phillips
O. Martins
E. D. Phillips
J. O. Phillips
J. B. Daramola (D)
Mr. Wilson
A. Oshodi
G. Olukoya
J. O. Olowoshola
Dr. Tunji Jones
J. A. O. Campbell
S. G. Abimbola
G. A. Ademiluyi
E. Adeoye Olumide
N. A. David
Mr. Aina
Mr. S. G. Ogungbuyi
Mr. Odubote (D)

J. O. Senbanjo
Sidesman/Steward/Leader
1931-1952.



Graceful indeed/
the Stewards of old.

akin thompson

CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS: ANCIENT AND MODERN

ORIGIN OF STEWARDS

From the second edition of the Bible Dictionary by Grant Rowley, we learn that the Hebrew word for the Guild was Nethinim which means 'Men who are given.' Stewards then were Temple Servants responsible for cleaning the Temple when the practice of offering large victuals as burnt offering within the walls of the Temple was prevalent. Their main functions was to prepare the Temple for the process and to clean it after each burnt offering.

2. Initially, they were servants in the strict sense. They then formed themselves into a Guild called Nethinim and were later admitted into Israelite privileges, holding official positions in the Church. Later, they rose in status and prestige until they became so completely established as a sacred official class practically equivalent to the Levites, sharing the privilege of immunity from Taxation with Levites, Singers and Porters.

3. It is believed that the statement credited in Acts Chapter 6, Verses 2-3 to the Apostles "It is not right that we should give up preaching the Word of God to serve tables, therefore, brethren, pick out amongst you, seven men of good repute full of the spirit and of wisdom, who we may appoint to this duty," was the first recorded call for ceremonial appointment and induction of Stewards. Accordingly, Stephen and six others, Philip, Procharus, Nichanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicholas, were appointed. The practice after such appointments was to lay hands on them as is done today at our induction and annual rededication services.

4. The Bible Dictionary described the Apostles as Managers of Mysteries and the Christian as a Steward of the Grace of God. The Steward in our Churches today, must, therefore, see themselves as belonging to a generation of men of good repute, full of wisdom and the Holy Spirit, dedicated in spirit and truth to the Service of God.

The Cathedral Guild of Stewards 1946-86

5. Although there had been Sidesmen in the Cathedral Church of Christ from foundation, the first concrete move towards establishment of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards did not materialise until 1946, when the first Constitution was drafted and approved. Late J. R. Curtis and R. A. O. Martins were the Wardens and E. O. Owo-Samson the Secretary

Appointment of Stewards

6. Before the establishment of the Guild, Appointment of Stewards was made by election at the Annual Vestry Meeting. It was keenly contested just as membership of the Standing Committee. Stewards then, as now, were drawn mainly from the cream of the Society in the Church. They were devoted fashionable and financial members of the Church, who were known to be regular and punctual in attendance. They included many men of distinction, Chief Execu-

tives in Public and Private Sectors of our economy, eminent Professionals and Successful businessmen. This practice continued until it was discovered that there was no Provision in the Constitution of the Cathedral for election of Stewards at the Vestry Meeting. It was, therefore, discontinued and a system of nomination by the Wardens and approval of the Provost was substituted.

The Groups

7. Up to 1959/60, Leaders and Stewards rotated between the four groups. In 1960, however, it was decided, for the purpose of better administration, discipline and to facilitate identifying each Steward or Leader with a particular Group to stop rotation and to make membership of each group permanent. This arrangement it was believed, would result in stimulating healthy competition towards improving services of the Stewards to the Church.

In 1951, the number of Stewards was increased from 24 to 40. The original 3 Groups of 8 Stewards became 4 Groups, each comprising 10 Stewards with a view to coping with an enlarged congregation few years after completion of the Cathedral Church Building. Today, the average number of Stewards in each Group is 32.

The Leadership

8. In 40 years, the Leadership of the Guild has changed from J. R. Curtis to F. O. Campbell, J. G. Ayodele, A. O. Oredugba, D. B. O. Ogotuga and currently Chief S. A. Makinwa. The first 3 mentioned above have joined the Court Triumphant and we believe that they have been counted worthy of joining the Saints in serving Him in His Temple above.

There is no doubt that as People's Wardens and Treasurers, each of them made significant contributions to the development of the Church. Some were outstandingly generous donors and the last two who happen to be Chartered Accountants, have performed their duties as Wardens with tremendous energy and professional expertise. As Leaders of the Guild of Stewards they were very progressive. Thank God for the Service they rendered.

Reminiscence

9. One important change which I recall was the practice of barring entrances against late comers after the 'General Confession and Absolution' during the Eucharist, because, the general confession and absolution were considered to be an essential part of the spiritual preparation needed for partaking of the Holy Communion. At that time, most members of the Cathedral Church of Christ lived on Lagos Island and Ikoyi, regularity and punctuality in attendance was easier and there was no traffic problem. Then came the phenomenal expansion of metropolitan Lagos and most members of our congregation moved with the newly developed estates: Apapa, Ikeja, V/Island, etc. When the Very Revd. Sope Johnson

B.D. became Provost of the Cathedral, he adopted a liberal attitude to late comers in order to avoid dampening the enthusiasm of those who lived far away from the Church, considering the fact that the desire to attend such services from long distances was in itself considered to be a measure of spiritual preparation. In the circumstances, the practice of barring the entrances against late comers during Holy Communion services was discontinued. The only Tradition which remains unchanged till this date is non-inclusion of Ladies in the membership of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards.

The Constitution

10. The 1946 Constitution was first revised under the Leadership of Late J. G. Ayodele and lately under the Leadership of Chief S. A. Makinwa who also added a Code of Conduct otherwise known as "What A Steward Must Know."

Highlights of the Revised Constitution

11. One significant highlight of the revised Constitution was the break with Tradition in the appointment of Group Leaders. Under the old Constitution, appointment of Group Leaders and their Deputies was based on seniority within the Group. Under the revised Constitution, the Leader of each Group and his Deputy are elected by Members of the Group by Secret Ballot. They have a 4-year-term of office although they may be re-elected. This was a welcome development because while the Leaders have responsibility for directing and assessing performance of members of their groups on a continuous basis, the Secret Ballot election procedure also affords the Members the opportunity of assessing performance of their Leader and expressing their approval or disapproval through the process of the Ballot Box at the end of his term of office.

Our Membership Today

12. As in the past, our membership today included Commissioners, Traditional Chiefs, eminent Professionals, Chief Executives and Successful businessmen. Admission is by application sponsored by two Stewards of good standing, but the main criteria are willingness and proven ability to give dedicated service, having regard to regularity and punctuality in attendance and support of the Church activities generally.

Motivations

13. It is gratifying to note that as the Guild approached this important landmark in its history, significant innovations were introduced especially during the last 6 years to motivate continuous improvement in the Service we render to the Church and the worshipping congregation. Notably –

(i) *Badges*

Although the idea of having Stewards Guild Badges was conceived about 20 years ago, it did not materialise until the time of Chief S. A. Makinwa as People's Warden. The Badges were then designed, ordered and delivered to the delight of all members of the Guild. Members of the Guild were

decorated with the Badges at a Colourful Ceremony on Sunday, 5th January, 1984. The Badges are now worn as a symbol of Honour, Service and togetherness by Members of the Guild while on duty in the Church on Sundays. Past Leaders also wear the appropriate Badges as Badge of Honour and recognition of their past services to the House of God.

(ii) *Annual Award of Prizes for Attendance.*

In order to motivate regularity and punctuality in attendance, beautiful Trophies were purchased to be awarded annually for individual as well as Group of best attendance at the Church Services each year. The Annual Awards, commenced in 1984, have been made at the usually Colourful Annual Party of the Guild. The Annual Award of Prizes has stimulated very keen competition in punctuality and regularity in attendance at Sunday Services and winners do celebrate their victory.

(iii) *Entertainment*

As part of its effort to stimulate regular attendance of Stewards to all Morning and Evening Services, the Guild decided to purchase a refrigerator for preserving refreshments for Stewards on duty every Sunday. In support of this noble objective, Dr. Arthur Nylander (SAN) a member of Group C donated a large size refrigerator to the Guild for preserving refreshment for Stewards on duty. We thank him for his generosity. The Guild finances regular supply of soft drinks and small 'chops' into the refrigerator through our indefatigable Social Secretary, Mr. Sangoyele, for comfort of Stewards on duty. The Stewards vestry itself has been redecorated, although it is still overcrowded and there is room for further improvement.

Positive Results of Motivations

14. Members of the Guild have in recent years become more regular and punctual in attendance at the Guild's Meetings, Church Services and have in several ways supported all projects relating to development or maintenance of the Church. The result was that the Guild of Stewards has in recent years consistently maintained a leadership position among all the Societies of the Church in respect of Annual Harvest Thank Offerings. Indeed, "the wise brought their learning, the rich their gold and the young ones, the Hearts that love Him."

16. Finally, I thank God for the grace given me to serve Him in Christ Church Cathedral as Steward, Synod Delegate and Group Leader during the period covered by this short History and lately as President of the Lagos Anglican

Diocesan Guild of Stewards. Also as a Foundation member of the Guild still in active service, I thank God for sparing my life to make this

humble contribution to the 40th Anniversary of the Guild. Praise the Lord oh my soul.

Chief J. O. Onabajo

BUILDERS OF CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS

Record has it that the Guild of Stewards was founded in 1946 with the approval and permission of the Chapter House, hence we are celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Guild this 1986.

To give honour to whom honour is due, I shall start this account by paying glowing tributes to our elders, the first generation of 'door-keepers in the Cathedral' — then called Sidesmen. It is on the solid foundation laid by them that our Cathedral Guild of Stewards was built and risen to its present eminent position as one of the vital supporting pillars of the Cathedral. Looking back, we may therefore well and truly say that the heritage has fallen to us on a fertile ground, and, because of this, we greatly rejoice and give much thanks to God for seeing this landmark in the life of the Guild. Our elders belonged to the 1929 to 1946 group, and they served the Cathedral with zeal and dedication. The following is a list of some of the elders:

Pa Abisogun

Messrs. E. A. Pearce, E. D. Phillips, E. A. Olumide N. D. A. Morgan, J. A. Adeniji, D. A. Bafunso, J. R. Curtis, E. A. Babaniji, R. A. Obikoya, S. O. Ogunbamowo, Alphaeus Martins, F. O. Campbell, Chief B. M. F. Inyang-Ito, Messrs. J. O. Phillips, I. D. S. Osisanya and Rego Martins. May God grant them eternal rest. We thank God that these other elders are alive and are witnesses to this great occasion:

Engr. Adeniyi-Williams, Messrs. A. A. Gooding, J. O. Senbanjo, G. O. Laja and H. A. Sanyaolu.

The People's Warden and first Chairman of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards was Mr. J. R. Curtis. He pioneered the Guild during its first decade. He must have had a happy memory of the leading role he played in the life of the Guild: for, he did not forget to mention the Guild in his WILL. He bequeathed a token amount to the Guild. I had the honour of receiving a cheque, drawn in favour of the Guild and dated 12th August 1981, through his daughter, Mrs. C. A. G. Ogotuga. The Guild appreciates his contributions to its success and honours his memory, especially at this time.

The late Mr. F. O. Campbell took over the mantle of leadership from the late Mr. J. R. Curtis. He too guided the Guild successfully for a little over another decade. The Guild mustered strong and paid deserving tribute to his memory during his obsequies on the 5th to 9th February 1986.

Past and present officers of the Guild have through selfless services raised its banner high. Mention is here made of some of them:

Chairmen: have been the late Messrs. J. R. Curtis, F. O. Campbell and J. G. Ayodele; A. O. Oredu-

gba, D. B. O. Ogotuga and Chief S. A. Makinwa.

Vice Chairmen: have been the late Messrs. Alphaeus Martins; E. V. Badejo (now Archdeacon), Dr. O. Asekun, Messrs. Olabode Peters, Ayo Otuyalo and V. A. Thompson

Secretaries: have been the late Messrs V. O. Wey and E. Owo Samson; Messrs. J. B. Adeluwoye, A. Oshodi, D. O. Ogun and G. O. M. Agbogidi.

Treasurers: have been the late Mr. Olawale Martins; Mr. E. A. Adekunle M.O.N.

Financial Secretaries: have been the late Mr. D. O. Johnson; Mr. E. O. Thorpe.

Auditors: have been Mr. J. A. Banmeke, Chief J. O. Onabajo, Chief S. A. Makinwa, Messrs. P. H. Vanderpuye and J. A. Balogun.

Leaders, Group 'A': have been Messrs. F. A. O. Phillips and E. O. Ekisola.

Leaders, Group 'B': have been the late Commander H. A. Martins; Chief G. Akin-Taylor and Mr. A. P. Olaomo.

Leaders, Group 'C': have been the late Messrs. R. A. Obikoya, S. O. Ogunbamowo and Chief S. G. Abimbola; Chief J. O. Onabajo.

Leaders, Group 'D': have been the late Chief Inyang-Ito; Chief S. O. Adefope and Mr. E. O. Thorpe.

It is gratifying to note that a good number of Stewards of the 1966 to 1986 period are children of Stewards of the previous generations. This is another cause for thanks to God. Their number, eighteen, entitles them to form a group of Stewards by themselves! The father/son Stewards are the following:

1st Generation:

1. Engr. Adeniyi-Williams
2. Mr. J. O. Senbanjo
3. Mr. H. A. Sanyaolu
4. Mr. S. O. Ogunbamowo (decd.)
5. Mr. Olawale Martins
6. Mr. H. A. Martins
7. Chief S. G. Abimbola
8. Mr. S. O. A. Bailey (decd.)
9. Mr. E. Owo-Samson (decd.)
10. Mr. M. A. O. Alao (decd.)
11. Mr. F. A. O. Phillips
12. Mr. E. O. Thorpe
13. Chief J. O. Onabajo
14. Mr. J. A. Oyebo
15. Mr. D. O. Ogun
16. Mr. E. O. Ekisola
17. Mr. F. Oyewole
18. Mr. J. A. Banmeke

2nd Generation

1. Mr. F. Adeniyi-Williams
2. Mr. A. O. Senbanjo
3. Mr. A. A. Sanyaolu
4. Mr. A. A. Ogunbamowo

5. Mr. S. E. Martins
6. Mr. H. A. Martins (Jnr.)
7. Mr. S. G. Abimbola (Jnr.)
8. Mr. S. A. Bailey
9. Mr. T. Owo-Samson
10. Mr. A. O. Alao
11. Mr. O. A. Phillips
12. Mr. J. A. Thorpe
13. Dr. B. O. Onabajo
14. Mr. O. O. Oyebode and
15. Dr. B. O. Oyebode
16. Mr. A. O. T. Ogun
17. Mr. G. O. A. Ekisola
18. Dr. O. Oyewole
19. Mr. E. A. Banmeke

Builders of Cathedral Guild of Stewards are not limited to Officers and Group Leaders. The floor members too: also have contributed, each in his own way, to making the Guild what it

is — one of the significant pillars of the Cathedral. As is seen from the list of past Stewards recorded elsewhere in this Brochure and of the present 130 strong members, the Guild has been fortunate in having the right calibre of men coming forward to serve as 'door-keepers in the House of God'. They have been drawn from different walks of life. They are imbued with the love to serve and to give of their time cheerfully, on Sundays and other occasions, in that service and moreover in the spirit of esprit de corps. I am much impressed that a good many Stewards, highly and well placed in life, never considered it *infra dignitatem* to come forward to serve.

Here then is wishing the Guild many, many more years of fruitful service in their chosen field of 'door-keepers in the House of God' — the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos.

E. A. Adekunle M.O.N.

THE EARLY YEARS (1971-1976)



Dr. Olu Asekun

I have chosen the above title for this article because I happen to have served as the first warden nominated by the Very Rev. Sope Johnson at the beginning of his tenure of office here as the Provost. When he assumed office in April 1970 the current Provost's Warden was Mr. E. V. Badejo (Later Rev.) who was nominated by the previous Provost, the Rt. Rev. F. O. Segun. At the vestry meeting held in April 1971, which was the first by the new Provost, I was nominated as the Warden.

The appointment of course took me by surprise. I had known the Provost very well and not once did he drop a hint or discussed it with me, may be he knew that if he had I would have prevailed upon him to choose someone else. However as the appointment was announced at the vestry meeting I had no alternative but to accept. One of the traditions which was passed down to us by my late father was never to refuse any appointments in the House of God and at the same time never to solicit or lobby for one. As a busy practising Obstetrician I knew it was going to be

difficult combining the duties of a Provost Warden with that of my profession, nevertheless I was prepared to cope with the new challenges. Well, the Provost started off with a new mode of worship and like everything new, it generated a lot of controversy between those who thought we were becoming as they put it 'Roman Catholic' on the one hand and those to whom it was a most welcome change. There was more participation by the laity than ever before in the mode of worship. The altar was brought down into the body of the Church at Easter and members took part during the celebration of the Holy Communion by reading the Epistle and saying the "Prayers of the Faithful." As time went on the new mode of worship was accepted by most members of the congregation although a few found it difficult to change.

The church was used almost exclusively for State Services and apart from that the then Head of State General Yakubu Gowon and his wife worshipped at Easter and Christmas and stayed in for Communication. These services were so colourful. At one of such services the choir of King's College Cambridge sang Mattins in the presence of General Yakubu Gowon. It was a most impressive service and the singing was divine. He thoroughly enjoyed it and played with the choir boys on the steps of the Cathedral at the Marina before a group photograph was taken.

There was also a consecration service conducted by the Archbishop of Northern Nigeria. It was a very colourful service full of pomp and pageantry as the Nigeria Army played a prominent part. Another special service which took place was the transfer of the bones of the Late Bishop Ajayi Crowther in the Cathedral grounds. He was previously buried at Ajele Cemetery but the then Lagos State Govt. compulsorily acquired the cemetery for the construction of its Secretariat. The service was held on the anniversary of the

Baptism of Bishop Ajayi Crowther; on the 11th of December 1971. The preacher was Canon Henry Sawyer from Freetown great scholar and a relation of the Bishop. It was a well attended service and both the Peoples' Warden and myself acted as Pall Bearers for the coffin in which the bones of the late Bishop was placed. The service was followed by the internment in the grave by Odunlami Street side of the Church.

Towards the end of my stewardship, a rather solemn but impressive memorial service was held for the assassinated Head of State, late General Murtala Mohammed. It was well attended and bore testimony to the high esteem in which he was held.

One of the most important events was the re-decoration of the Church. This was long overdue and no one thought it could be accomplished. However, members of the Church contributed towards the re-decoration fund. A club 100 was formed whereby 100 members of the church contributed One Hundred Pounds each towards the re-decoration. At the time it was a lot of money, but being God's work the redecoration was accomplished and the Cathedral took on a new look on the Marina.

Another innovation brought in was Caroling afloat. On Boxing Day, as many church members and others willing to buy tickets got on the boat and went carolling on the Lagoon. This was usually followed by a picnic on the grounds of the Federal Palace Hotel. Finally, we returned, to the Cathedral and on the grounds of Bishops Court sang carols before returning to our different homes.

The Harvest Bazaar also took a new shape with a Harvest supper. This also attracted a lot of members. After the supper, members danced until we dispersed home.

In all of the services the Guild of Stewards took an active part. As nothing is perfect improvements into the services rendered by the Stewards has always been a continuing process. However the Guild has always been up to the challenges.

Dr. D. Olu. Asekun
Provost's Warden
1971-76.

THE CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS 1970-1982



Mr. D.O. Ogun

Rooted perhaps in the division of labour within the Church Ministry introduced in the early Church in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 6) the function of Stewards had been established. They are variously called Sidesmen, Deacons and Stewards. They performed duties mainly related to good housekeeping, orderliness and record keeping in terms of attendance, and collections and do everything necessary to ensure maximum concentration and silent performance of spiritual worship during prayers, meditation, singing, Bible reading, and Preaching of the Word. Thus every Church has a body of devoted Christians who pass round collection plates or bags, count the money and the number of worshippers and assist in every way to ensure order, quiet and reverence during worship.

Recorded history indicates that whilst this essential function had previously, no doubt, been performed in the Cathedral Church of Christ, formal establishment of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards took place in 1946 from which year the anniversary of the Guild is taken to commence. This year therefore we celebrate our 40th Anniversary.

A study of the history of the Guild reveals interesting contribution by past and present devoted Christians not within the immediate purview of the functions of the Guild but also in other aspects of the Church and the diocese. For example, members of the Guild served on various Church and Diocesan Committees, Social Committee, the Diocesan Guild of Stewards, the Cathedral Social Hour etc. A Steward is thus expected to be prepared to perform whatever role Christian Service and Worship may require of him. Membership of the Guild is limited to Male Communicant members of the Cathedral who are financial and regular in attendance both in Church Services and in Guild meetings. A person becomes member by completing an application form which is approved by the Executive Committee of the Guild of Stewards.

On appointment Stewards are sworn in by the Provost at a Ceremony in the Church during which they say the Steward's pledge.

ORGANISATION:— Stewards are organised into Four Groups A to D, and each Group takes turns in serving every week. The Group on duty each Sunday serves at Services held throughout that week.

GUILD PRAYER:— In 1979 the Guild took a hard look at the performance of Stewards against the background of complaints from the Provost, and initiated a number of members to improve performance. One was a revision of the Stewards constitution which continued for a number of years, the other was to design Stewards brooches and the third, and perhaps the most important, was the adoption of a prayer which ran as follows:

“Teach us good Lord, to serve Thee as Thou deservest, to give and not to count the cost, to suffer and not to heed the wounds, to labour and not to ask for any reward save that of knowing that we do Thy will, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.”

By the grace of God I was Secretary to the Guild for twelve years during which period the Guild grew from strength to strength. Members increased from 51 (each subscribing a minimum of ₦7.00 (£:10s) per annum) to 127 (each of whom subscribed ₦150.00 for the Special Anniversary Levy this year). The Guild's image has grown tremendously to a stage when this body of dedicated and well dressed and active Christian gentlemen has attracted the attention of worshippers within and without the Cathedral Church of Christ.

Consequently there is considerable pressure from aspirants to multiply its membership many fold.

IN MEMORIAM:

It is necessary to remember some Leaders of the Guild who have passed to the great beyond after leaving their footprints in the sands of time. Admittedly this list cannot be comprehensive but would go some way to give honour to whom honour is due.

Names that readily come to mind are:—

Mr. J. G. Ayodele
Mr. F. O. Campbell
Mr. E. O. Onabolu
Commander H. A. Martins
Mr. S. A. B. Odusote

ANNIVERSARY

The Guild's anniversary is marked each year with Church service followed by a get-together held usually at the residence of the Peoples' Warden (Chairman of the Guild). Representatives of other Societies in the Church are invited so also are the Clergy, Choir and representatives of Church Sidesmen from other Churches within the Lagos Diocese.

D. G. OGUN
Secretary 1970-1982

STEWARDSHIP



Rev. Canon E.A.B. Adenuga

Our Lord taught His disciples about many aspects of life and appears to have left out nothing. He teaches us about the right attitude to service in the Gospel according to St. Luke chapter seventeen verses seven to ten. In teaching us about a hard worked servant who on returning

from a gruelling assignment was called upon by the master to do yet more for his comfort, He tells us what our attitude in the circumstance must be: “When you have carried out all your orders, you should say ‘we are servants and deserve no credit; we have only done our duty!’”

Some people regard their work as a calling, a divine summons to self-devotion, an impulse to do something as right. They bring into it a very high standard of professional conduct and because they regard it as a calling they are ever aware of a high claim on them personally for the service and duty which the work renders to society. They do not think it a sacrifice that they subordinate their purely personal interests to the obligations that the service lays on them.

In these callings, (and it is a privileged calling to serve the Almighty in His house, to be an ambassador for Jesus Christ) the individual member loses some of his personal freedom through his traditional obligation as a servant of society.

This does not lower his standing and honour among his fellowmen. On the contrary it raises it. The tradition of his calling becomes a platform under him that lifts him up. Such men do their work as well as it can be done and ask no credit for it except the satisfaction of knowing that they are being useful and are doing the will of God. They know they are but servants who have only done their duty.

This injunction of Jesus Christ in His teaching to the people in the conduct of their lives was not

meant for any privileged group but to be a personal principle for the guidance of all of us.

Our Lord had, on the occasion when He spoke these words, gathered around Him a group of men of whom He had asked an astonishing amount and got what He wanted — loyalty and service from His disciples. At His call they had given up everything. They, however, had asked what their reward would be for their fellowship and service.

Jesus in reply asked them how they viewed the services that other men rendered. They had answered that they took them for granted as we are all prone to do. In which case Jesus put it to them that, in fairness, they should take their own services for granted.

What else are we for but to serve the purposes of God. We are indebted to Him for all that we have and are. It spoils it all if we want reward or credit for every service we accomplish.

It is unfortunate that in our world of today duty is regarded as a dirty word and honest service a fool's fun. Only those however, who recognize their Master to whom they owe an undying allegiance can rise above their selfish

selves, and that only through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We are all familiar with Charles Wesley's well known hymn of dedication;

Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go,
My daily labour to pursue,
Thee only Thee resolved to know
In all I think, or speak, or do.
The task Thy wisdom has assigned
O let me cheerfully fulfil;
In all my works Thy presence find
And prove Thy good and perfect will.

Let the words of that hymn and our Saviour's teaching guide us in our stewardship. We must see God in all we do and serve men as if we serve God for we are privileged to be His hands and feet and eyes, and ears to carry His Service and His love to mankind.

Let us not do anything with mixed motives, either to do the right thing for wrong reasons or to use other people or even God. Then our service will be acceptable to our God and He who sees in secret will reward us openly.

The Revd. Canon E. A. B. Adenuga
Canon Residentiary.

MY REMINISCENCES OF GROUP "A" GUILD OF STEWARDS OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST LAGOS —



Mr. E.O. Ekisola

Group 'A' as the name implies is first among equals. I joined the Group when it was under the Leadership of the Late Mr. Babaniji and Mr. Sanyaolu as his Deputy. I was introduced into the Guild by my late Uncle Mr. Alex. O. Odulaja, a close friend of the late Bishop S. C. Phillips, himself a serving Stewards of no mean calibre always appeared in black over trousling Suits in 1950.

The number on the Roll was 12. Group 'A's' performances attracted the attention of Church dignitaries so much so that on any big occasion in the Cathedral, Group 'A' was posted to strategic positions along with the other groups. For instance, at the consecration of the late Bishop S. C. Phillips by His Lordship late Most. Revd. Derbyshire the Archbishop of South Africa, followed by the late Bishop A. W. Howells, Lord Bishop of Lagos, by the late Most Revd. L. G. Vinning the then Lord Archbishop of West Africa, Group "A" figured prominently in these memorable celebrations.

I recall the Retired Bishop of Lagos Rt. Revd. F. O. Segun specifically requested that he preferred Group "A" to man the fort on the day of his consecration and there was a rehearsal in which the Group took active part.

It is to the credit of the Group that ASCORT ties and white shoe spats were used on Christmas and New Year's eves to be in line with the practice at the Canterbury's Christ Church Cathedral.

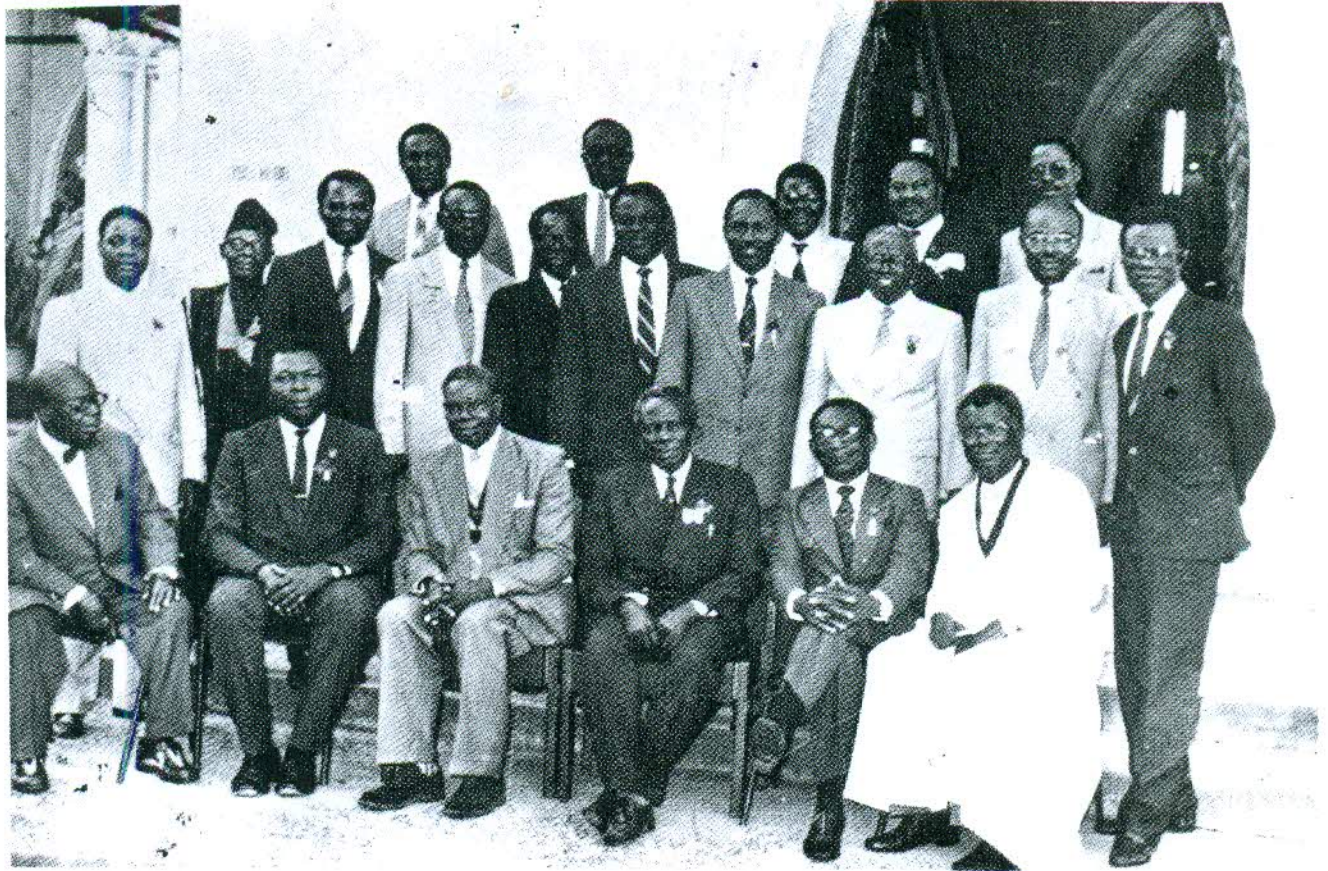
Let me here recall the memories of the following gentlemen of integrity among others, who, at one time or the other adorned the Group served in their lifetime in this Cathedral:— Late Chief Akin Abisogun of Iron gate fame, Late Mr. Alex. O. Odulaja of the Nigerian Railways, Chief M. A. Ogun of the Nigerian Bureau of publicity, Late Mr. Babaniji of former P & T, late Mr. Sanyaolu of the then Bank of British West Africa now known as First Bank Nigeria Ltd. and the

last but not the least Mr. F. G. Martins of the old Cable office with his two tail Coat Black over trousers suit with a Top hat to match. May the spirits of the faithful departed Stewards to date rest in perfect peace. Amen.

I assumed the mantle of leadership of Group 'A' when the incumbent Mr. F. A. O. Phillips indicated his desire to retire from active service

in the Guild – this was in 1975. I fervently hope that when the full history of the Guild comes to be documented, Group 'A' will continue to occupy a pride of place.
FLOREAT AD MULTOS ANNOS!

E. O. Ekisola Esq.
Group 'A' Leader 1975 to-date



Sitting from Left to Right: A. I. Obahiagbon, E. I. Odina, E. O. Ekisola (Leader), V. A. Roberts (Deputy Leader), A. A. Adeseye, Chief S. A. Makinwa (Chairman of the Guild).

Standing 1st Row: A. Balogun, V. A. Docosta, O. A. Phillips, A. O. T. Ogun, I. U. Maclean, A. K. Sagoe, J. T. Duncan, A. A. Oke, S. A. Oyekanmi, F. T. Durand.

Back Row:— M. A. Ogun, S. M. Johnson, Dr. B. O. Ajose, G. O. A. Ekisola, A. Okubajo.

Others not in Photograph: A. Adeosun, J. O. Coker, V. A. Onabanjo, O. O. Peters, Chief E. A. Shonekan, Chief A. B. Solanke, A. A. Williams, and A. Aleshinloye-Williams, Dr. T. P. Enodien.

THE CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS
HISTORY AND REPORT OF GROUP 'B'
TO 1986



Mr. A.P. Olaomo

"Let all things be done decently and in order" – 1 Corinthians 14:15. This injunction by St. Paul has been one of the basic guiding principles in our practice of Stewardship in our Cathedral, as it ought to be in all churches. The inauguration of our Guild of Stewards was held in December 1946 – but this was only a formalisation of the institution of "SIDESMEN" which was, of course, as old as the Cathedral itself.

Prior to 1946 there were 3 groups "A", "B" and "C" with Group "B" at that time of transition being led by Mr. J. R. Curtis who later became People's Warden and therefore statutory Chairman of the Guild. Subsequent Leaders of Group "B" have been:—

- Mr. H. A. Sanyaolu (retired 1967)
- Mr. H. A. Martins (died 1970)
- Mr. E. A. B. Odusote (died 1971)
- Chief Akin-Taylor (retired 1982)
- Mr. A. P. Olaomo (1983 to date).

Current members of Group "B" who are children of past Stewards are

1. Mr. Femi Adeniyi-Williams son of Engr. Adeniyi-Williams
 2. Mr. A. O. Senbanjo son of Mr. J. O. Senbanjo
 3. Mr. H. A. Martins son of Mr. H. A. Martins
 4. Mr. S. A. Bailey son of Mr. S. O. A. Bailey
 5. Mr. J. A. Thorpe son of Mr. E. O. Thorpe
 6. Dr. O. Oyewole son of Mr. F. Oyewole
 7. Mr. E. A. Banmeke son of Mr. J. A. Banmeke
 8. Mr. H. A. Sanyaolu son of Mr. H. A. Sanyaolu
- Also Late Mr. Olu. Babaniji was son of Mr. E. A. Babaniji

For a period in the history of Group "B", the performance of the Group was so lethargic and disappointing that the Guild contemplated disbanding the Group and distributing its willing members to the other three Groups! Luckily, a few dedicated members of the Group (here Dr. Olu. Asekun must be given special mention) pledged to reactivate the Group if given a chance. Luckily also, at that time the new system of election of Group Leaders and their Deputies by secret ballot by the members themselves resulted in 1983 in the election of Messrs. A. P. Olaomo and B. H. Cobham as Leader and Deputy Leader respectively. Dr. Olu Asekun, who had earlier returned to the Group after retiring as Provost's Warden led the other members of the Group in giving total support for the new leadership. Mr. Tunde Aromasodu was elected Secretary and Mr. V. B. Sangoyele – the Guild Social Secretary – of course, held that post in our Group

A lot of work was put in by all members and full team work was assured. Performance, attendance, financial status and fellowship improved so well that the Group rose "from Grass to Grace" right from the first year of the new leadership. A new incentive was inaugurated in 1984 in the form of shields and plaques (awarded by the PROVOST and the GUILD) to be won by the Best Group in the Guild, the best Steward overall, the best Steward in each Group and special awards for "special Stewards" for their performance. How happy we were that we were, to everyone's amazement, the first Champions in 1984! Mr. V. B. Sangoyele, won the "best Steward in the Group" award and Dr. Olu. Asekun was justifiably decorated in recognition of his immense service to the Group. To prove that this achievement was far from being a "flash in the pan", Group "B" repeated the feat in 1985. Mr. Sangoyele also held on to his award. We are trying for a "hat-trick" in 1986. However, we know the competition is getting stiffer but this can only lead to more general improvement. Our successes have shown what a fully supported leadership can achieve.

We were happy to celebrate our 1984 award by a reception attended by Leaders of the other Groups and the Clergy who rejoiced with us. To mark this we have presented a framed photograph of our 1984 victorious Group to the Guild for mounting in the Stewards' Vestry. It is hoped that an annual record will be displayed on a board in the Stewards' Vestry of the champions in all categories for posterity. Our Group, was entertained by our Leader (at his own expense) to a Christmas Party at his residence in 1983 and 1984, but the Group decided to bear the cost in 1985. We have a "Fellowship Fund" in the Group from which we draw in times of need in the interest of any deserving member of the Group

As individuals, we also had our joys and sorrows shared by the Group in every case. For

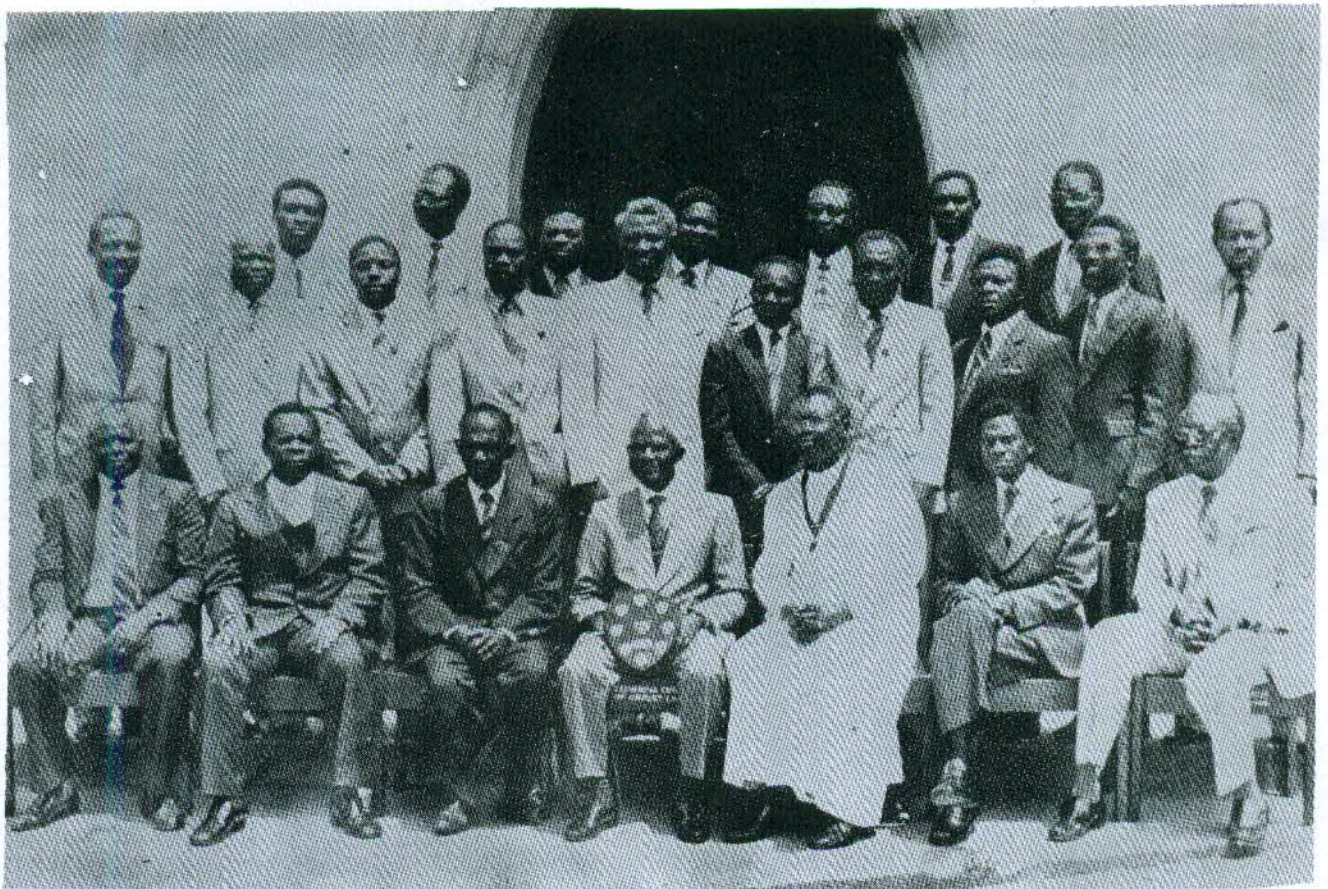
instance, our past member E. V. Badejo is now an Archdeacon in Benin — so also T. A. J. Oluwole — now a Canon, in Charge of All Saints Church, Yaba. Olasubomi Balogun, not only launched his First City Merchant Bank but was also installed an Otunba in his home-town Ijebu-Ode. Engr. (Dr) Soboyejo bagged a Chieftaincy title in Abeokuta. Mr. Femi Oyewole retired to Abeokuta and has been replaced by his son, Dr. Bode Oyewole in the group.

Of our current members, Mr. Adegoke Ademiluyi got a promotion at work; Dr. S. O. T. Akinluyi got a bouncing baby girl, Chief S. A. Durojaiye was installed a Chief in Ibadan. On the other side of the coin, however, Messrs. O. O. Onyide and H. A. Sanyaolu were victims of armed robbery, our immediate past Leader Chief Akin-Taylor was bereaved of his wife;

our Group was also bereaved of one of our members, Mr. A. A. Babaniji in 1983 while Mr. H. A. Martins suffered for long months in the hands of kidnappers. He is now back in service. This can not pretend to be a comprehensive list of the experiences — for “better or worse” — of all our members, present or retired. However, in all things, we must give Glory to God.

We hereby again dedicate ourselves as members of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards through in particular Group “B” — to the Service of our God, our Cathedral and in full fellowship with our fellow Stewards. May the future be always better in service and fellowship than the past and present.

A. P. OLAOMO — Leader, Group ‘B’



Back Standing Left to Right: E. A. Banmeke, O. O. Onyide, J. A. Ademiluyi, A. Ilori, S. A. Bailey, Dr. O. Oyewole, O. O. Aromasodu (Secretary).

Middle Standing Left to Right: K. Ramos, Dr. Soji Bewaji, Niyi Thorpe, S. E. O. Utomakili, A. Ademiluyi, L. A. Akinsehinwa, A. O. Sebanjo, V. B. Sangoyele (Social Secretary), J. P. A. Adeyemi-Cole, Femi Adeniyi-Williams.

Sitting Left to Right: Chief S. A. Durojaiye, A. A. Aderugbo, B. H. Cobham (Deputy Leader), A. P. Olaomo (Leader), Chief S. A. Makinwa (Guild Chairman), E. A. Banjoko, Dr. Olu. Asekun.

Others not in photograph: Prince A. Ademola, Dr. S. O. T. Akinluyi, G. R. A. Edegware, Yinka Lijadu, H. A. Martins, E. O. G. Moore, Dr. O. Okubajo, Seun Phillips, A. A. Sanyaolu, A. O. Sodeinde, P. H. Vanderpuye.

IN LEISURE HOURS

1. Mind Your Language

A curate, anxious that his bereavement should not disturb his clerical activities sent the following telegram to his District Chairman:

"Regret to inform you my wife passed away last night. Please send urgently a substitute".

2. In the spirit of Trinity

The Canon Residentiary of the Cathedral unit has warned the Junior Priests to adhere strictly to the traditional "Holy Ghost" and none of the modern day use of 'spirit'. At the end of the next service

Canon Residentiary — May the Lord be with You

Junior Priest — And with Thy Ghost.

3. Lost and Found

Worried that a member of his congregation must have stolen his bicycle, the Pastor informed his Assistant the text of his sermon for the following Sunday would be the Eighth Commandment.

The following Sunday, the Pastor started the sermon from the First Commandment and after the Seventh Commandment — "Thou shall not commit adultery" he stopped short. At the end of the service, the following dialogue ensued.

Assistant — "I notice you ended the sermon rather abruptly."

Pastor — "Yes, after the Seventh Commandment, I suddenly remembered where I left my bicycle"

4. What is in a Name

Pastor — What names do you intend giving these twin children?

Mother — Cherubim and Seraphim

Pastor — Why these esoteric names ?

Mother — Since they were born, they continually do cry.

5. It's only a Lamp

A Greek Philosopher carrying a lantern was reported to have searched in vain for a righteous man in the whole of Greece. Having read so much of Nigeria, he decided to continue his search in Lagos. At Ikeja Airport, they stole the lantern.

6. A Newspaper Cartoon

"There are ten million disabled Nigerians" reported the Minister.
That was before SFEM.

7. Overheard:—

(i) at a Choir practice

When the Tenors reach the gates of hell, the ladies join them.

(ii) at a record shop

"I have been waiting for the "MESSIAH" for three months now" complained the youngman. "He will come", retorted an elderly lady. "We too have been waiting all these days".

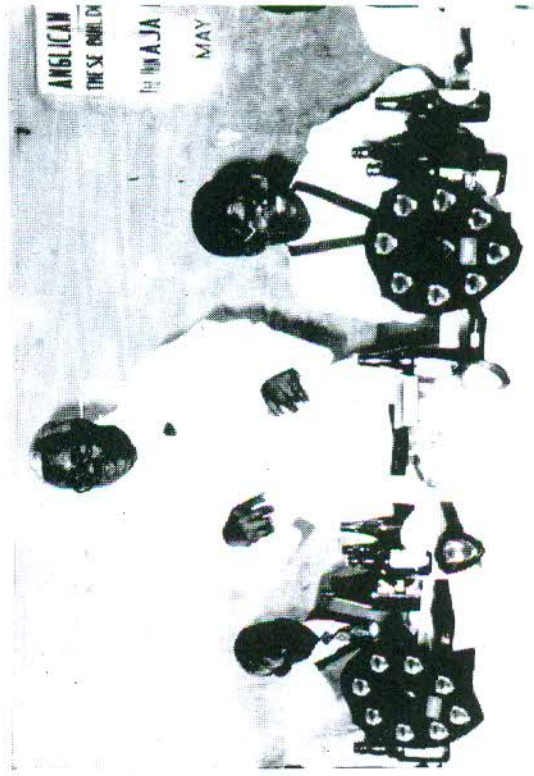
Compiled by S.A.M.



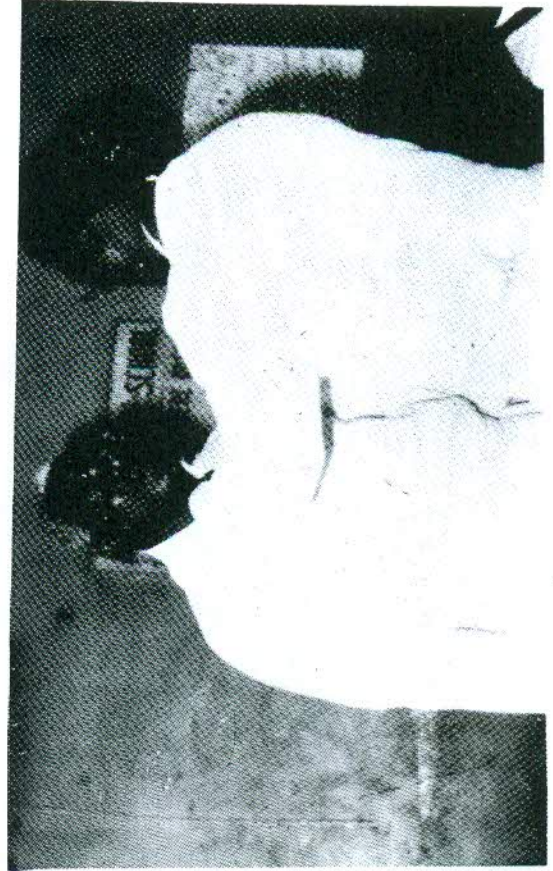
Happy Birthday to you!



Behold the daughter of a Warden



Provost in a lighter mood



Investiture in reverse



Sango the thunder



All in the same group



Then and now



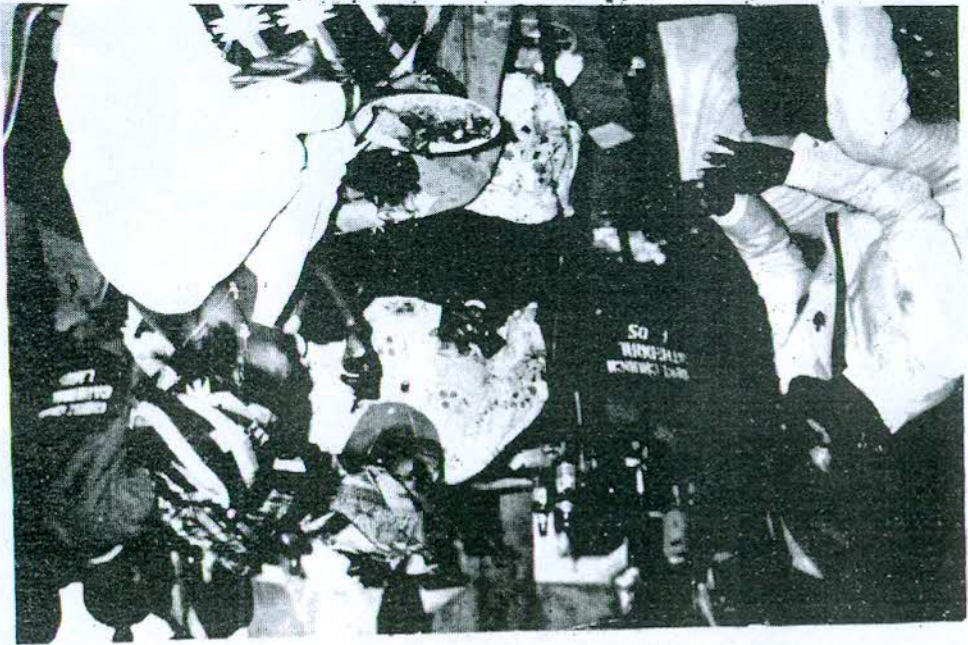
A warning from "Mama Yard"



Queuing for Claudius?



Heads, turn right to see the best of them all.



Explaining the way a conglomerate works



He really is in his element

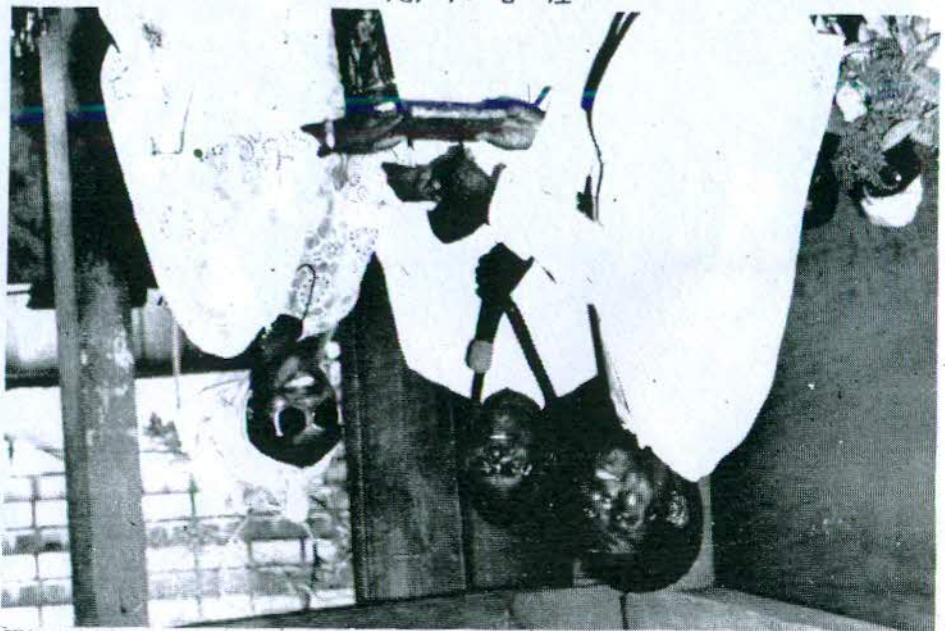
Lepeating the general mood



Genuses in deliberation



The Best in 'D'



What's she giving him?



CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS: GROUP C



Chief J.O. Onabajo

Traditionally, membership of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards either by election, invitation or application had always been drawn from the cream of Society in the Church. They include Top Government Functionaries, Traditional Chiefs, Eminent Professionals, Chief Executives and Successful Businessmen.

Under the revised 1946 Constitution of the Guild, admission is by application, which must be sponsored by two Stewards of good standing. The main criteria are a willingness and proven ability to render dedicated service to the Church. Our Code of Conduct requires that every Steward shall be an embodiment of decency, discipline, self-respect, regularity and punctuality in attendance and all that is due to Christian manliness. By sheer stroke of luck, Group C has the largest concentration of Traditional Chiefs compared with other Groups and a fair share of eminent Professionals in the Guild.

2. Leadership role in Group C

By 1960, when the leadership and membership of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards assumed the present permanent nature, Late Chief S. G. Abimbola was Leader of Group C, his deputy was Mr. E. A. Adekunle now retiring after serving the Guild faithfully first as Deputy Leader and later as Treasurer for the total period of about 29 years. The other members of the Group of 10 were Chief J. O. Onabajo, C. O. Harrison Obafemi (Late), Dr. S. L. Adesuyi (Late), R. O. Fasanu (Late), J. A. Oyeboode, A. A. Adediran (Retired), A. O. Alao (Late) and F. A. O. Atake. Chief S. G. Abimbola died in 1977 and Chief J. O. Onabajo

was appointed Leader of the Group. Out of 6 Treasurers elected as People's Warden of the Church between 1960 and 1986, two of them Messrs. D. B. Ogutuga (Retired) and Chief S. A. Makinwa (Current) both Chartered Accountants were from Group C. Mr. G. Olu Aboaba was also Provost's Warden Others like Dr. Arthur Nylander, Olu Falomo and the Leader, Chief J. O. Onabajo had the opportunity of serving several years in the Standing Committee. Lately, Mr. J. Adepoju Balogun has also been appointed one of the Internal Auditors of the Church. We thank God for the opportunity given to members of the Guild to serve in this Church.

Members on Sabbatical Leave

1. Chief S. A. Makinwa
People's Warden
2. Dr. B. O. Oyeboode
UK Post Graduate
Medical Course
3. Dr. B. O. Onabajo
USA Post Graduate Medical Course

Our Sorrows

The following members of the Group have joined the Court Triumphant within the past 20 years.

1. F. O. Campbell
People's Warden
 2. Chief S. G. Abimbola
Group Leader
 3. C. O. Harrison Obafemi
 4. Dr. S. L. Adesuyi
 5. R. O. Fasanu
 6. A. O. Alao
 7. Commodore E. O. Kentebe
- May their souls rest in peace.

3. The Organisation

The present officers of the Group are Chief J. O. Onabajo Leader, Mr. J. A. Oyeboode Deputy Leader, A. B. Adesanya Secretary, Dr. Arthur Nylander (SAN) Treasurer, and Mr. M. Olu Falomo Social Secretary. Our Group activities include the Leader's Annual Luncheon Party designed to enable the Leader express his appreciation to members of the Group for their cooperation, dedication and zeal in the rendering of their service to the Church. They are a Group of gentlemen endowed with a generous spirit and ready response to support financial needs of either the Church, the Guild or the Group according to the grace given to them individually and collectively. As part of our social activities, we award supplementary financial benefits to members of our Group in addition to whatever benefits they may be entitled under the Guild's Rules and Regulations.

4. Attendance

Notwithstanding the fact that a good number of the members are involved in International

Trade and frequent travels abroad, attendance in the Group is more than average. The group placed second in 1984 and 1985 for the Provost's Award for the best Group in attendance. However, special mention must be made of Mr. A. B. Adesanya, Secretary of the Group who in 1984 and 1985 won the Guild's prize for the best individual attendance Group, plus the prize for the best Steward in each Group in 1984 and 1985. I'm also aware that Messrs. G. Olu Aboaba, O. O. Otuyalo have also been consistently regular and punctual in attendance and should win the Guild's Award in the near future. In addition to the Group Leader and his Deputy we have a number of dedicated gentlemen who have been very regular in attendance both at the morning and evening services. These include Chief E. O. Omoyele, Chief M. O. Feyide, Dr. Arthur Nylander, G. Olu Aboaba, A. B. Adesanya and O. O. Otuyalo.

5. *Appreciation*

Through this medium I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to those members of Group C who by their generous donations made it possible for the Group to consistently and conveniently maintain a leading position among the other Groups in respect of financial support for the Guild.

My thanks also go to those members of the Group who in spite of distance and all odds have been outstanding in their regularity and punctuality in attendance. I refer particularly to Mr. A. B. Adesanya, who won the Individual Best Attendance Award in 1984 and 1985. In addition to regularity and punctuality in attendance, Mr. G. Olu Aboaba has demonstrated fine organisational ability in the performance of his duties as a Steward and the Group's social activities, Chief M. O. Feyide, Dr. Arthur Nylander, Chief E. O. Omoyele, Messrs. O. O. Otuyalo and M. Olu Falomo our indefatigable Social Secretary and Public Relations Consultant constitute our regular team for attendance at Evensong.

We thank God for His Grace which enabled the Group jointly and severally to lend financial support for the implementation of the Guild's projects.

6. *It is sweet to serve God.*

Concluding a chapter entitled "It is Sweet to Serve God" in his famous Book entitled My Imitations of Christ, Thomas Kempis wrote as follows:—

"It is a great honour, a great glory to serve Thee and to despise all things for Thee.

For they who willingly subject themselves to Thy most holy service shall have great grace. They shall find the most sweet consolations of the Holy Ghost, who for the love of Thee, have cast away all Carnal delights.

They will gain great freedom of mind, who, for Thy name, enter upon the narrow way and put aside all worldly cares.

O pleasant and delightful service of God, which makes a man truly free and holy!

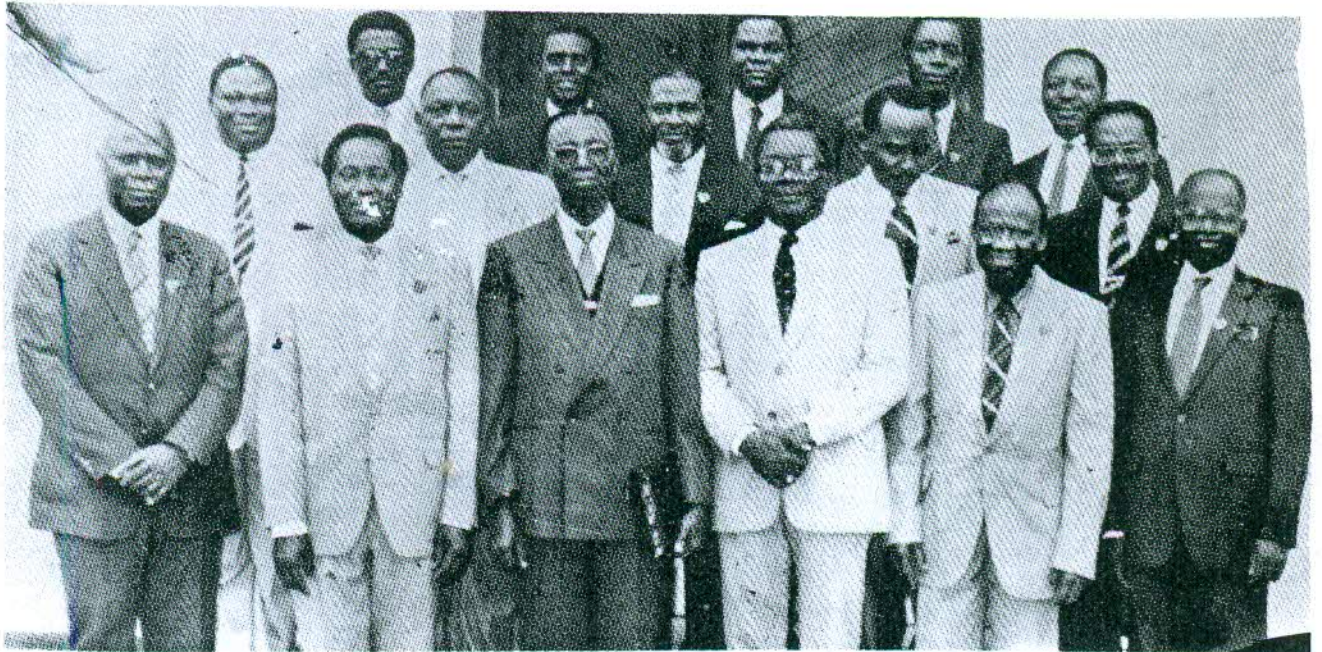
O sacred state of religious bondage, which makes men equal to Angels, pleasing to God, terrible to the devils, and commendable to all the faithful. O service worthy to be embraced and always wished for, which leads to the supreme good and procures a joy that will never end."

"As God's servants we try to recommend ourselves in all circumstances by our steadfast endurance We recommend ourselves by the innocence of our behaviour, our grasp of Truth, our patience and kindness; by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by declaring the truth, by the Power of God" — II Corinthians 6:3-10.

7. *Let us Pray*

Grant, O Lord, that those who are appointed to the office of Stewards in the Churches of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos and particularly in the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos, may know that they are appointed to serve Thee here on earth as the Angels serve Thee above, and be ever mindful that Thy house is holy. Direct their minds with wisdom and understanding, bless and sanctify the Service they render in your House. Help them to continue in purity in your House. Help them to continue in purity of Life so that at last they may be accounted worthy to serve Thee in Thy Heavenly Temple: Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Chief J. O. Onabajo
Leader Group "C"



Front: Chief, M. O. Feyide, Chief E. O. Omoyele, Chief J. O. Onabajo (Group Leader), Mr. J. A. Oyeboade (Deputy Leader), Chief Ezekiel Aduloju, Mr. C. G. O. Babatola.

Middle: Olu Falomo, S. O. Aboyade-Yebovi, N. O. Williams, G. Olu Aboaba, Chief Afolabi-Alu.

Back: O. O. Ladinde, E. O. Ogunbayo, Dr. Orija B. O., S. O. Olaleye, Balogun J. A.

Not in Photograph: S. O. Oyeboade, S. O. A. Olaomo, Dr. A. Nylander S.A.N., Dr. E. O. Akinsete, D. B. O. Ogutuga, T. B. Oshiyemi, Dr. J. O. Sonuga, Coker Abayomi, A. B. Adesanya, F. B. O. Olokun, Dr. B. O. Onabajo, O. O. Otuyalo, F. B. Osibo, Oniyide Bukola.

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST GUILD OF STEWARDS GROUP 'D'

1. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

(i) The Guild of Stewards was inaugurated in 1946 by the then Provost, later on Bishop A. W. Howells. The members were formerly called Sides-men. The Leader of Group 'D' was Chief Iyang-Ito, now deceased and the Deputy Leader then was Chief S. O. Adefope. When on his retirement Chief Iyang-Ito returned to his home town in Cross River State, Chief S. O. Adefope took over the leadership. In 1962, Chief Adefope was elected as a member of the Standing Committee; and so, he had to vacate the leadership for the next man. Mr. E. O. Thorpe was requested by the then People's Warden, Mr. F. O. Campbell, to take over the leadership. Mr. J. G. Ayodele then became the Deputy Leader. On the retirement of Mr. F. O. Campbell as the People's Warden, Mr. Ayodele stepped into his shoes. Mr. O. T. Fawole, who was next on the list, was appointed the Deputy Leader in succession to Mr. J. G. Ayodele.

(ii) It was Mr. J. G. Ayodele who, presiding over one of the general meetings of the Guild, decided that the third Sunday in Advent should be declared the Guild's Anniversary Date, and that it should be marked with an Annual Get-



Mr. E.O. Thorpe

together. The first Annual Get-together was accordingly held in the residence of Mr. F. A. O. Phillips, Railway Recreation Grounds, Ebute-Metta, Mr. Phillips was then the Leader of Group 'A'.

(iii) I am happy to say that all the past Secretaries and the current Secretary as well as the current Assistant Secretary are from Group 'D': the past Secretaries being Messrs. J. B. Ade-woye, Akinola Oshodi, H. A. Lahanmi, late O. Onabolu, and D. O. Ogun; and the current Secretary being Mr. G. O. M. Agbogidi, with his Assistant, Mr. O. O. Oyeboode.

2. ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

(i) *Annual Get-together (Group 'D')*

Although this is not a regular affair, efforts will be made to hold it yearly.

(ii) *Birthdays*

The following members of the Guild in Group 'D' have celebrated their 70th, 60th, and 50th Birthdays respectively:

Dr. F. O. Adewole, Messrs Akinola Oshodi, E. O. Thorpe, H. A. Lahanmi, O. T. Fawole, A. R. O. Oseni, D. O. Ogun, J. K. Cole, T. K. Sagoe, C. O. Dawodu, C. O. Onabanjo and B. O. Sowande. They have each received gifts from the Group, Individuals and in some cases the entire Guild.

(iii) *Marriages*

These were celebrated as follows:

Mr. O. O. Oyeboode (Self) A. R. O. Oseni (Daughter), Mr. J. Akintoye (Daughter), O. T. Fawole (Daughter) and Mr. D. O. Ogun (Daughter), O. T. Fawole (Daughter) and Mr. D. O. Ogun (Daughter). They also received gifts from Individuals, the Group and the Guild.

(iv) *Deaths*

Regretfully, we lost by death Messrs. S. B. Peters, O. Onabolu, J. G. Ayodele, who were all members, also the wives or relations of the following members:

Akinola Oshodi, Dr. F. O. Adewole, C. O.

Dawodu, Prof. O. Akinla, F. A. Adewunmi, D. O. Ogun, T. K. Sagoe, S. G. Abimbola, O. A. Claudius-Cole, E. O. Thorpe, C. T. Olaomo, S. E. Martins, J. K. Cole, O. T. Fawole and L. Sanya.

(v) *Prize*

The prize for the Best Steward for regular attendance in Group 'D' was awarded to Mr. M. A. Borisade.

(vi) *Benefits*

In past years, ad hoc contributions were made to meet donations to members of the Group for such occasions as Marriages, Birthdays Bereavements etc. Early this year, however, it was agreed that an annual amount be levied to cater for such eventualities occurring during the year concerned. This innovation is proving successful.

(vii) *Attendance*

In principle, it is understood that all members are expected to attend all Services on those Sundays when the Group is on duty. In practice, however, it was observed that attendance of members, particularly, at Early Communion and Evensong was poor. Accordingly, a new system was introduced, about three years ago, whereby a Roster was drawn up to make it mandatory for a minimum of six specified members to attend such Services. This new arrangement is achieving its objective of ensuring that at Holy Communion and Evensong members of the Group turn up in sufficient numbers to serve.

3. CONCLUSION

As we look forward to the next decade, after forty years service, we pray that, with God's Grace, we would continue to be worthy of the service, which HE has called us to render in the Cathedral Church of Christ. Amen.

By:

Mr. E. O. Thorpe
Leader, Group 'D'



*Front Row from Left to Right: S. G. Abimbola, G. O. Ogunlami, I. O. Aina, J. Akintoye, O. T. Fawole, E. O. Thorpe, A. Otuyalo, H. A. Lahanmi, T. H. Norman
Back Rows: S. E. Martins, Dr. O. Ogunmekan, J. A. Banmeke, O. O. Oyebode, C. O. Dawodu, M. A. Borisade, A. R. O. Oseni, F. A. Adewunmi, B. O. Sowande, G. O. M. Agbogidi, Mr. O. A. Claudius-Cole, J. K. Cole, T. K. Sagoe, C. T. Olaomo, D. O. Ogun, V. O. A. Amaechina.
Not in Photograph: Prof. Akinla, O., Dr. Adewole F. O., Kehinde M. A. O., Oshodi, Akinola, Sanya L., Agbebi O. A., Okanrende, V. O. Dr. Ajomo S. O.*

CHAIRMAN, LEADERS AND DEPUTIES (1984/85)



*Sitting:— E. O. Thorpe, E. O. Ekiola, Chief S. A. Makinwa, Chief J. O. Onabajo, Ayo Otuyalo, A. P. Olaomo.
Standing:— O. T. Fawole, A. A. Adeseye, J. A. Oyebode and B. H. Cobham*

TOAST OF THE GUILD OF STEWARDS

Chairman
The Provost
Ladies & Gentlemen,

It is a great honour and pleasure for me to propose the toast of your Guild

The writers of the New Testament used a number of pictures to describe God's peoples as they sought to serve Him – a frequent description is that of a slave or a servant. In Bible times, slaves were common in society. They worked for one man and while some of them had a great deal of personal freedom, they were bound to their masters, that is, they could not leave their services.

As you will recall, Paul regarded himself as the slave of Jesus and he also said that Christians were to live as if they were slaves of God.

Another familiar description which Paul frequently used is that those who serve God should be regarded as "Stewards" who were Managers of Houses and Estates and were also required to be honest and faithful to their employers. Paul always thought of himself as a builder laying the foundations of faith in Jesus or as a farmer, who planted "seeds" which others tended and helped to grow to maturity.

When two of Jesus' twelve apostles came to him to ask for the best seats in Heaven, the rest of the group were naturally upset but Jesus took the opportunity to explain to them that in God's Kingdom, the greatest person was in fact the one who was a slave to the rest – in other words, service to God was more important. So it is in the Church that there must be some organisation to bring order out of chaos – have you ever imagined what our Services during Easter and Christmas and all the other festivals would be like if we did not have Stewards?

I have not come to bury Caesar I have come to praise you Gentlemen for the work that you have done and are continuing to do for the good order of our Cathedral and as is well-known, without the reward of a kobo. I hope that you will be satisfied that your reward is in Heaven!! God will not look you over for your personal high offices outside our Church – Medals, Degrees or Diplomas but for the scars of your service here in the Church and outside for the benefit of mankind. What nobler declaration of

honour can any man seek than his scars of service, his losses and sacrifices for the crown, his reproaches for Christ's sake, his being worn out in his Master's service?

Your selfless service here in the Cathedral brings to mind a short story. It is told that a visitor once saw a nurse attending the sores of a leprosy patient. "The patient said 'I would not do that for a million dollars'. The visitor replied, 'Neither would I, but I do it for Jesus for nothing'".

If I may quote from 1 Corinthians, Chapter 4 verses 1 and 2, "Let a man so account of us as of the Ministers of Christ, and Stewards of the Mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful".

In this connection, I must also read an extract from a book which I recently read on the faithful servant:—

"It is not great things that God requires of us, unless our mission is to do great things; He asks only that we be faithful in the duties that come to our hand in our commonplace days. That means that we do all our work as well as we can; that we serve well in the varied relationships of life in which from time to time we find ourselves, that we stand heroically in our lot, resisting temptation and continuing true and loyal to God; and that we fulfil our mission in all ways according to the grace given unto us, using every gift and talent for the glory of God and the good of the world. The world crowns 'success', God crowns 'faithfulness'".

Finally, one point that is frequently forgotten is that the Church does not consist merely of the building and the structures or the ornaments. The fact is that we are the Church; the Church is people, it is its members and if we remember our NTA Programme, Andrew decided to check back to Nigeria because he found out that only the people could make a country!

Only the members of the congregation of this church can make this Church a living organisation by their individual and collective contributions! I ask all the guests to rise and drink to the toast of the Guild of Stewards in the celebration of their Anniversary.

Thank you.

Henry Omenai



OMENAI – TOAST MASTER.



RECEIVING THE BEST GROUP AWARD

ARTHUR REMEMBERS



Dr. Arthur Nylander, SAN

I remember I was a reluctant steward.

I arrived for Mattins one Sunday morning late in 1958 and went to my usual seat. After a few minutes, one of the Stewards, came and whispered to me that the Group Leader wanted to see me as "our Group was serving that day". I told him I had never applied to be a Steward and I did not want to be one. The Stewards left and must have taken my reaction back to his Group Leader. Five minutes later, the Group Leader himself came. It was no less a personality than Mr. F.A.O. Phillips. He tapped me on my shoulder, ordered me out of my seat and requested me to

follow him to the rear of the Church. I obeyed. When we got to the rear of the Church, he pointed to a seat and told me to sit down there. I tried to raise a protest but all he said was "We will talk about that later on... but you sit down there". I stayed there till the end of the service when Mr. Phillips came to me and said "You have to come to the vestry with us. Remember, we are serving this evening and I want to see you here at 6.30 p.m. prompt. Don't be late". I can still remember that dignity in his voice and that must have compelled me to obey and forever to hold my protest. Furthermore, watching the other Stewards performing their duties that Sunday morning and taking directives from Mr. Phillips must have so impressed me that I thought that if I could not beat them, I might as well join them.

Looking at the events of that Sunday morning when I was "forced" by Mr. Phillips to join Group A, I sometimes wonder whether I had not cherished an innate ambition in my subconscious mind to be a Stewards This must have been due to the influences during my formative years when as a five year old rascal in the early thirties I always sat with my father at the rear of the Church and watched with admiration the sidemen of yesteryears perform their noble and honourable task.

Dr. Arthur Nylander SAN.

N.B. Dr. Nylander has since been transferred to Group C.

MUSIC IN THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, LAGOS

The History of the Christ Church Cathedral Lagos can never be complete without the musical life of the Church forming the Pivot around which all other stories would be built.

On November 1986, the Choir celebrated its 68th Annual Choir Festival. This by no means gives you an idea of the age of the Choir. The Choir Festival is only an annual event that brings back to memory the historically known father of the Choir - the late Dr. T. K. E. Phillips M.B.E., F.T.C.L., Ph.D(Hons) Nsukka. It was he who in his 48 years as Organist, Choir-master and Master-of-The-Music of the Cathedral (1914 - 1962) established this event which today has spread to all Churches throughout the Country. The event brings out the best in Choirs in terms of performance, and their role as the centre of worship.

The Christ Church Cathedral Choir has always traditionally been about 50 strong about half of this number, that is 25, boys. It is not possible in a short write-up like this is to take a roll call of Men and boys who have passed through the Choir. However, it is also equally not possible

to skip some names however short the write-up may be. Through the Choir have passed as Choir Boys late Modupe Phillips, Percy Nylander, in fact virtually the whole crop of the Nylanders, Tinu and Bukola Morgan, Santos, Ajose, late Modupe Johnston, Olu Bajulaiye, Ade and Muyiwa Bajulaiye, Jimi Bajulai (still in the Choir), Femi and Edward Davies (fatty), Kayode Johnson the Owo-Samson, Muyiwa and Bolu Dacosta, late Deinde Lijadu, Femi Adeniyi Williams, Afolabi, Femi and Seye Olumide, Yewande and Delu Lipede, Lufadeju (London Boy), Babatunde Gooding, Dayo and Tayo Gibson Roberts, Taiwo and Kehinde Phillips and their elder brother, Tunde (still in the Choir) Basola, Jaiye and Deinde George, Yemi and Yinka Lijadu, Richard and Oluwole Bucknor, Modupe (now Art) Alade, Akin Euba, the Sagoes, Ayo Otuyalo, Bode Peters and his two sons, Wole and Seun, all the sons of Bishop Oluwole, Segun, Yinka Faji, 'The Nyingifas', Erembo Alagoa, all the Harrisons - brilliant Soloists they all were, all the sons of late J. B. Daramola, all the Rosijis, all the Adekunles Tosin and Segun Brown (their

only sister Tolu is currently the Assistant Organist of the Cathedral).

All the Ojemuyiwás – Sina, Akin, Bóye, Niyi and Femi, all the Adeboguns, all the Osunsanyas, Yemisi and Dayo Sowunmis, Bunmi Sowande, the Babanijis, Gbenga Kayode – Smith, all the Aboabas, Demola Cole (still in the Choir), Michael Idowu Onakoya, Olu Sokunbi, late Deinde Lijadu, Laide Pratt, Alu, Pelu Johnson and his brother, the Ola brothers, the Fawole brothers, and a whole list of other very good boys whose names have been inadvertently left out.

Mention must be made of some past Organists and Asst. Organists of the Choir such as late T. K. E. Phillips, Metzgar, Sowunmi, Prof. Percey Nylander, (popularly known as PPS) Akin Oshodi, late Ayo Bankole, Prof. Fela Sowande, and of course currently in service – Mr. C. O. O. Phillips – Organist and Master of the Music since 1962, Mr. Yinka Sowande, Prof. Akin Euba and the current Assistant Choir Master, Mr. Soji Lijadu. Through the Choir have also passed great men (musically) like late Mr. Dixon, late Chief P. A. F. Ojemuyiwa (PAFO) late Femi Majekodunmi, late Mr. Osunsanya, Sola Sosanya (Choir Warden), late Mr. Cole, late J. B. Daramola, late C. Ola, Mr. Harrison (Choir warden), Mr. Payne, late Mr. Adebimpe, Papa J. T. Adebogun, late Pa Osibo, late Mr. Olumuyiwa, Prof. Laz Ekwueme, Christopher Oyesiku (Tarzz), late Olu Sowande, Mr. Nwuba, Mr. Okwosa of FRCN Enugu, Prof. Sam Akpabot, Dr. Steve Rhodes, late Mr. Allagoa, late Taiwo Phillips, Mr. Odugbesan, late M. O. Williams and a whole lot of others whose names have been inadvertently left out.

There is no doubt that the Choir on its own could never have recorded all the successes it has behind it, without the support of a number of Priests and distinguished members of the Cathedral congregation.

Here I will like to recall members of the Clergy such as the late Archbishop L. G. Vining, who singularly gave all the Choirboys one shilling each every Christmas day till he passed away in 1954. He also bought balls and other toys for the boys, and physically kept the goal at football matches before Choir Practices. He knew all the boys by 1st and last names and was in everyway part of the Choir. He also taught the boys to swim, invited them informally to dinners and really cared for them. Such men, of course, will never die. Other Priests who also made notable contributions to the Choir were Archdeacon Adelaja, late Bishop A. W. Howells, Bishop F. O. Segun, Rev. (now Archbishop) Olufosoye, Rev. F. O. Ogunbanjo, Archdeacon Victor Badejo, late Rev. Earnshaw Smith, Rev. S. H. Rowe, Mr. (now Rev.) F. G. Silby, and of course the current Provost of the Cathedral, Very Rev. Sope Johnson.

Among those members of the congregation who have always supported the Choir in all ways possible may be mentioned the following:—

Late Pa Adeniyi Jones (the man with the red roses) late Magistrate Morgan, late Chief Baju-

laiye, late Chief Abisogun, late Pa Sagoe, late Chief Auntie Ayo Manuwa, late Mr. Pearce, Dr. Akinola Maja, late Dr. Sofunde, Pa Sasegbon, late Justice Ajeigbo, Mr. Adeniyi Williams, late Mama Ada Williams, late Mama Mrs. Sowande, late Mama Mrs. Agbebi, late Mrs. Phillips (and her cold ginger beer boys will never forget), late Mrs. Aduke Howells, late Mr. & Mrs. C. T. Olumide, late Papa Onabolu (the Artist) and his wonderful wife, Mama Mrs. Morgan, late Mrs. Wey (who never missed both Mattins and Evensong till her last day), late Chief Lufadeju, late Sir Adeyemo Alakija, late Mr. N. O. Martins, late Mr. Lawale Martins, late Mr. Abimbola, late Mr. Petgrave, late Mr. Dacosta, Mr. Sebanjo, Mrs. Karunwi, Dr. Mrs. Silva, Mrs. Busola Olumide, Mrs. Adunni Phillips, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Majekodunmi, Mrs. Ola, Mrs. Ogunsanya, late Mrs. Williams (wife of late M. O. Williams) late Oyinade Sobande, Mr. & Mrs. S. W. K. Ogungbade, late S. B. Peters, late Mr. Curtis, late Mr. Mabo, late Mr. Onajobi and hundreds of others one cannot possibly remember nor recount. These are the friends of the Cathedral Choir, and the Choir is indeed grateful to them for their support.

People who visit from other Churches often ponder over singing in the Cathedral and have always asked two questions:

1. Why worship is always in English and
2. Why are there no women in the Cathedral Choir.

The answer to the first is that the Cathedral is designed to cater for the cosmopolitan nature of the Lagos Society. Visitors from outside the country, diplomats, all the tribes in the country who understand English language are catered for musically and spiritually. Other Parish Churches should really fill any other gap created.

To be second question – Cathedral traditions in most parts of the world are the same, male Choirs take the services. Moreover there is a school of thought that believes that women can rarely fit into the rigors of choir rehearsals and performances required to keep Cathedral Choirs in top form all the time. Nature could share part of the blame for this.

The Cathedral Choir renders settings, anthems, responses by world-renowned Composers, motets, Choral work as well as lead normal Sunday worship – thus in a normal week each Chorister comes into the Cathedral at least 4 times with a total time expenditure of at least 8 hours (this does not include travelling time). Of course each chorister lives like other folk and faces the same social and economic problems as others do. It is a calling, and the choristers do not mind it at all. They are richly blessed for it! The boys go through all the rigors of choir training and still face all other problems other boys face at home and in school. Still they survive it all. The good Lord God rewards them accordingly. The

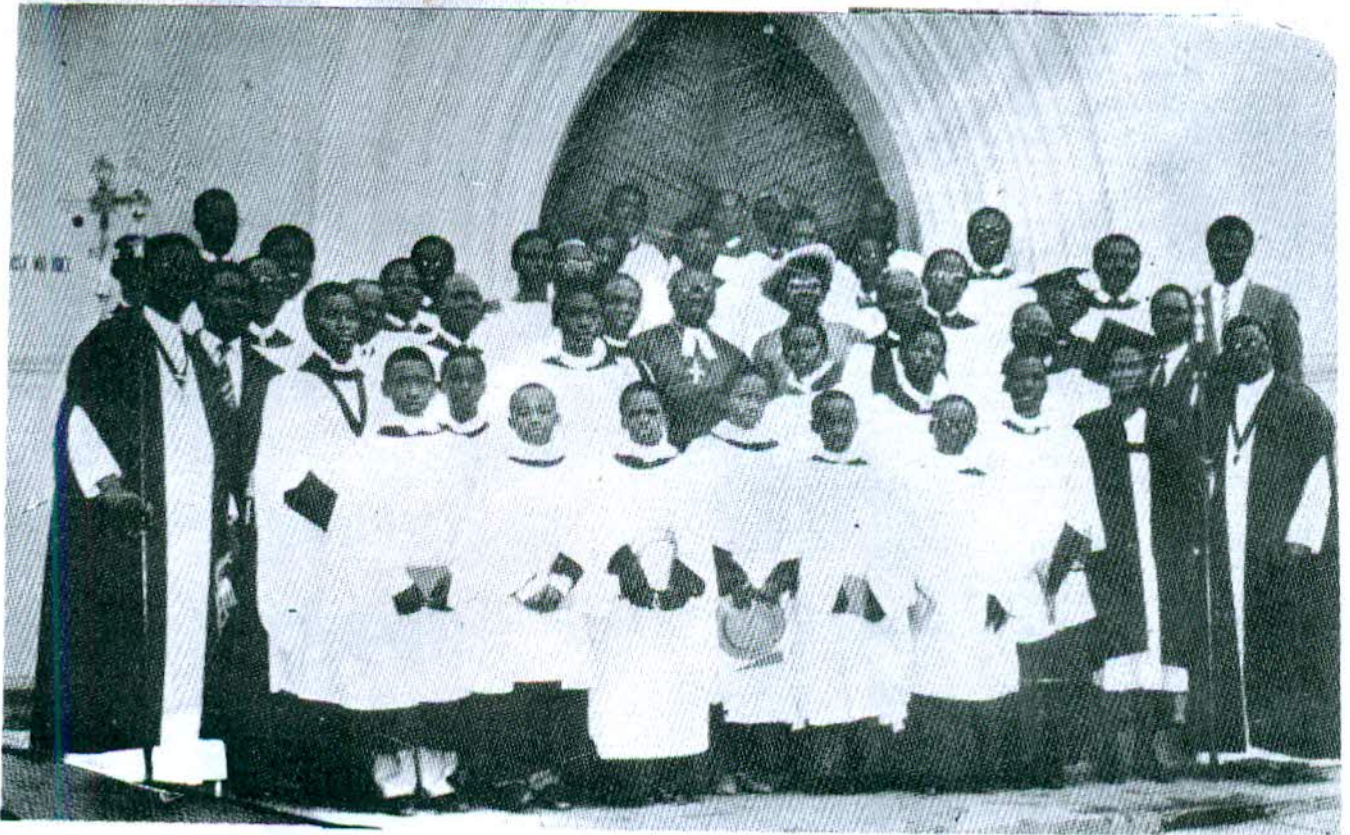
future of the Choir is akin to the future of Christianity itself in our Society. With the mock-up the educational system has passed through, it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep the boys for too long in the Choir. As early as 7 years they join the Choir, and by 10 they are off to Secondary Schools some to far-away places such as Sokoto – strange environment, culture and of

course religious climate. Can the Choirs survive?

The only way out is for the Anglican Diocese to quickly set up its own Schools – Primary and Secondary—as the Catholics have done, from where all Choirs will be fed and the Church would hold its own.

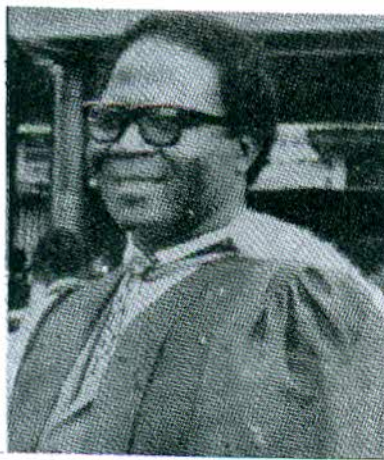
There is no other way out.

Sina Ojemuyiwa.



THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR

PROFILE



MR. CHARLES OBAYOMI PHILLIPS — Organist and Master-of-the-Music, Christ Church Cathedral, Lagos.

Born in Lagos on the 28th September, 1919, Obayomi Phillips belongs to a family which can aptly be referred to as rare breed of musicians. His father, late Dr. T. K. E. Phillips an outstanding Composer, a brilliant Organist and a dexterous Choirmaster was for 48 years the Organist and Master-of-the-Music of the Christ Church Cathedral, Lagos. His mother, daughter of the late Bishop Oluwole, was also a brilliant pianist and musician. He has a sound educational background. First he passed the Cambridge School Certificate examination with exemption from London Matriculation in 1936 after his formal secondary School education at the C.M.S. Grammar School, Lagos. He later proceeded to Durham University, England, from where he obtained the Bachelor of Commerce degree (with distinction) in June 1946.

On his return from the U.K. in December, 1946 he had a brief spell in his father's business as a Deputy Manager and Accountant until September 1950 when he joined the Civil Service where he served as follows:

1. Commercial Officer — Department of Commerce & Industry 1950-1955.
2. Trade Officer — Nigeria High Commission London. 1955-57.

3. Ag. Principal Commercial Officer — 1957 — June 1959 — Department of Commerce & Industry, Ibadan
4. First Secretary (Commercial) and later Deputy Commercial Counsellor, Nigeria High Commission, London 1959-62.
5. Senior Assistant Secretary — Ministry of Economic Development, and later Federal Ministry of Transport, 1962-1968.
6. Deputy Permanent Secretary —Lagos State Ministry of Education, June 1968 — 70.
7. Deputy Permanent Secretary—Lagos State Ministry of Health, April 1970—June 1972
8. Permanent Secretary,—Lagos State Ministry of Education, July 1972—December 1975.

He has, since retirement, served Government in several capacities and held appointments in the private sector.

He commenced his musical career when, at the age of 5 years, he abandoned his toys and took to the piano. The keen eyes of his father caught this phenomenon, and he therefore encouraged him on by teaching him how to play the piano. His talent was further developed as a Choirboy in the Cathedral Choir, and later when he gained admission into C.M.S. Grammar School, Lagos he rose to the enviable position of the School Pianist.

His talent having been discovered and developed to an appreciable level, he was appointed Assistant Organist of the Cathedral in 1933. He was easily spotted on admission into Durham University, and he studied Organ playing under the Senior Lecturer in Music — the late Dr. J. A. Westrup (later Professor of Music at Oxford University). Again, as a student at the Royal School of Church Music in 1976, he did an advanced Course in Organ Playing under Mr. Christopher Herruck, the Assistant Organist of West Minister Abbey. A dexterous Organist and adroit Choirmaster he was well-liked by all members of the Cathedral Choir in which he served as Assistant Organist from 1933-62 (even with all the interruptions imposed by his professional career). He was appointed the Organist and Master-of-the-Music in 1962 in succession to his late father.

No doubt one of the wisest decisions taken by the Standing Committee of the Cathedral, his appointment as Organist and Master of the

Music has witnessed a tremendous development in the standard of music in the Cathedral. He has maintained to the letter the traditions of the Cathedral Choir, and developed new ideas that have kept the Choir, going marching on. In spite of the tremendous changes that have taken place in the entire economic and religious life of this country since Independence in 1960, music in the Cathedral continues to be the centre of inspiration and worship.

As Diocesan Organist & Choirmaster, Obayomi Phillips plays such a vital leadership role that has welded into one not just the Anglican Choirs in the Diocese of Lagos but also Choir of other Churches.

He is the President of the Association of Organists and Choirmasters (Anglican Mission Lagos) which organisation has set itself the task of ensuring that high standard of music is maintained in all member Churches.

Obayomi Phillips has no doubt made his mark not only in Nigeria's church music scene, but has also earned for himself International recognition and reputation for which we are all proud of him. His patience, fatherly love, clean and upright spirit are no doubt assets from which all lovers of church music have fully benefitted. He has truly built a future for church music in Nigeria.

He is happily married to his wife Adunni, and both are blessed with five children – three sons and two daughters. He leads an active social life – a member of the Lagos Dining Club of which he was joint Secretary for seven years. He is also a member of the Royal College of Organists, London.

He is by all standards a chip off the old block.

by 'SINA OJEMUYIWA

POPULATION PROBLEM IN NIGERIA: FACT OR FICTION?



Dr. T.P. Enodien

In recent months, top functionaries of our Governments have been preaching against an indiscriminate population growth in Nigeria. The Mass Media have been playing prominent role in the campaign; radio and television jingles have often sermonized on the need to check the growth of our population, advising viewers and listeners to plan their families and urging them to go to the nearest family planning centre to procure birth control devices.

It is common knowledge that some of our country – men and women feel that the campaign against uninhibited population growth is in conflict with the wish of God. People in this school of thought readily refer to the early injunction of God. In the book of Genesis Chapter 1 verses 26-27 "..... and so God created man in His image and said he should be fruitful and multiply". They therefore wonder whether man has the right to attempt to modify the injunction of God. A further evidence to support the viewpoint of this school of thought, is a

reference to Christ's teaching against man worrying about tomorrow, implying that God will take care of man's needs irrespective of man's anxiety for tomorrow. In Mathew Chapter 6 verse 31, Jesus spoke against worrying about the future. "..... Therefore, take no thought, saying what shall we eat or what shall we drink or wherewithall shall we be clothed for your Heavenly Father knoweth that Ye have need of these things". This school of thought also points out that with every additional mouth that comes into the world, there are two additional hands to work and produce and that the talk of over-population is an unnecessary alarm and anxiety. Therefore the case against a deliberate action to check population growth appears at first sight to be overwhelming and convincing. But should we really leave things as they are and allow population to continue to grow without any check?

The point is that God created man in His own image and also endowed man with knowledge and wisdom. In fact, in the same Chapter one of Genesis it is clearly stated that man was made to have dominion over everything on, under and above the earth. The power given to man by God was intended to be used for the good of humanity. We should thank God for giving man the wisdom and knowledge to create many things for his benefit and comfort: bicycles, motor vehicles, ships, aeroplanes, etc. to facilitate movement from place to place; telephones, telegrams, telex etc. to facilitate messages being relayed from one place to another, cloth to cover our backs, paper to translate and communicate our thoughts, water to run in pipes to many places and homes, electricity to run through wires to many homes, etc. In modern world these gadgets determine the standard of living of a country. Whether or not a country is over-populated is a function of the resources and infrastructural facilities available within the country.

For many years now, the world Bank has never relented in calling attention every year in their "World Development Reports" to the fact that over-population is a severe deterrent to economic development efforts of most developing countries. In the past two decades, the population of the (poor) developing countries has been growing at historically unprecedented growth average rate of 2.5 per cent a year. In the case of Nigeria, the rate of growth is above the average for developing countries; the actual growth rate being 2.7 per cent per annum. This rate of growth is substantially faster than the population growth rate – (typically about 1 per cent a year) – that the now developed countries had to contend with during the period of their industrialization.

The growth of population in developing countries over the past twenty five years illustrates the complexity of the interactions among various factors of development. The decline in mortality that was the prime cause of the acceleration in population growth was the result of the earlier efforts at improving living standards, including the establishment of public health centres and mass inoculation campaigns against such major diseases as yellow fever, small pox and cholera. But the increase in life expectancy was not accompanied by a decline in fertility. Indeed, in Nigeria, the improvement in public health and nutrition led to an increase in birth rates.

The point is that any viable economic development policy should not ignore the effect of

population. Unfortunately, until recently population control in Nigeria was something of a "Sacred Cow"; no one was prepared to tackle it with determination. It was claimed that this should be so, either on religious grounds or the dubious claim that it is against African culture to interfere with the birth of babies, through any means. Yet daily, there are complaints of the filth in all the big towns in Nigeria. The demand for electricity and water far outstrips the supply; there is no uninterrupted supply of electricity and the taps are dry most of the time. It does not seem to be fully appreciated that the root cause of this state of affairs is the excessive number of people requiring these services at the same time. Some of the excess population in the big towns have no shelter, they sleep in the streets or under the bridges. The industrialised nations can afford to forget or ignore the warning of Thomas Malthus against the ill-effects of over-population but Nigeria cannot afford and should not fail to take the dangers of excess population seriously.

It is therefore not Religion and definitely not Christianity that forbids imposing a check on population growth rate. God intended that man should enjoy the fruits of the knowledge He gave to man to invent and create a number of contraceptions and labour saving devices. The devices and gadgets so created must be commensurate with the number of people desiring them otherwise the purpose would be defeated.

by Dr. "Tee Pee" Enodien.

FROM PEWS TO CHAIRS

The Guild of Stewards at the Cathedral Church of Christ have had a long tradition of services and good turn-out in their appearances, and forty long years have not in any way changed that. One of the main functions of the members of the Guild is ensuring that the Parishioners and visitors are comfortably seated during services. This was not as easy a task as it sounds, because until less than ten years ago, individuals paid annual charges for the reservation of particular pews in the Cathedral; and visitors were not usually able to fill up the unoccupied seats, as family members usually reserved these places for their relations who would come late to service. Worse still was the plight of visitors or even parishioners who came early to services and sat on other people's pews! A funny event to recall was a drama that occurred on a Sunday morning in respect of one of the pews in the front part of the Church. There was a gentleman already seated when the 'owner' of the pew arrived. As the owner stood in the aisle waiting to seat at the end of the pew, he moved his head, to indicate that the visitor should move down the pew, but the visitor would not budge at all, he in turn motioned the "owner" to enter and sit himself somewhere along the pew. This drama of asking the visitor requesting the 'owner' to enter and sit somewhere other than at the end with the arm rest had gone on for a few minutes and the owner of the pew could no longer tolerate the

'insult' to his person by being asked to sit elsewhere than at the head of the pew. He got hold of the intruder's felt hat and gave it a good fling towards the Bishop's Gate, i.e. the entrance through which the choir normally file into the Church.

The visitor must have been very surprised, but then he knew that the game was up. He got up quietly to follow and pick up his hat, and of course the 'owner' of the pew was able to sit himself comfortably in his usual place – at the head of the pew!

The chairs which fill the Church now, were provided not by individuals, but out of the coffers of the Church and in addition to their aesthetic value, they have removed the barest chance of a repeat of the incident narrated above. How more comfortable those chairs are! One man, one seat!!

I congratulate the members of the Guild of Stewards for 40 years of meritorious service to the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos, and also remembering all those who had served and gone to the great beyond. It is indeed for me a great privilege to have been a member of the Guild and for a period of six years to have the honour of being the "Chief Steward".

DELE OGUTUGA.

Peoples' Warden and

Chairman Guild of Stewards 1976-1981.

THE NOT TOO DISTANT PAST – A LITTLE GLANCE.



Mr. G.O.M. Agbogidi

Could I have joined the Guild more than five years ago? Probably not. No. I don't think so. You can see why I am not competent to write the History of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards. I am not even equipped to tell you the milestones – at least not all of them. I will therefore leave that to those better equipped to do so.

However, at the risk of repetition of what you may read elsewhere in this 40th Anniversary Brochure, I'd like to highlight some of the important milestones of the Guild these five years gone.

In 1982 the Guild had a new Chairman in the person of Chief S. A. Makinwa, and assisted by Mr. Ayo. Otuyalo, by virtue of their appointments as Peoples' and Provost's Wardens respectively. Both gentlemen are also long-serving Stewards. This was the year in which some long-standing issues were either resolved or brought to a point of near resolution. More and more of the members showed a greater interest in rendering service to the Church and desired to know how this service should best be rendered befittingly. Increased turnouts at meetings and while on duty were recorded – evidences of the greater sense of duty exhibited by members.

It was in 1982 that I joined the Executive Committee as an Assistant Secretary. Mr. D. O. Ogun, who had served as the Guild's Secretary, had to move to Port Harcourt on official duties.

The design of the Guild's Brooch was finalised and approved for manufacture in 1982. During the same period admission into the Guild became regularised – by application on prescribed forms and in accordance with the Guild's Constitution.

The Constitution of the Guild, commonly called "The Rules and Regulations" underwent several debates and revisions ready for adoption in 1983. To better acquaint Stewards with their duties, the document "What a Steward Should Know" was revised and distributed to all Stewards.

It was also in 1982 that, for the first time, the Guild went up the aisle, to give thanks during the

Adult Harvest, singing lustily, a hymn of its own choice. That hymn "Rise Up, O Men of God!" has now become the Anthem of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards, to be used not only during Harvests but also during meetings and other occasions.

Perhaps the most important milestone of 1982 was the resolution of the leadership problem that confronted Group "B", following the retirement of the erstwhile Group Leader, Chief Akin Taylor. The present method of choosing Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders evolved from the resolution of the Group "B" case. It is interesting to note that this Group today ranks among the best organised, thus vindicating the method and the choices made.

Said Mr. L. A. Akinsehinwa, and I quote: "Having regard to the fact that the draft Rules and Regulations laid before this Annual General Meeting have been duly reviewed and amended as found necessary, be it resolved, and it is hereby resolved, that the Rules and Regulations so amended are adopted". The motion was seconded by Mr. M. A. Borisade. All were in favour. That was how the Guild's "Rules and Regulations", as we have them today, came into effect on the 20th of February, 1983.

The adoption of the "Rules and Regulations" ushered in a new era of Stewardship. Group Leaders and Deputy Group Leaders were elected for a four-year term, while other members of the Executive were elected for a one-year term, in accordance with the "Rules and Regulations".

It was in 1983 that, probably for the first time, a comprehensive Steward Directory was published. It showed that the numerical strength of the Guild stood at a staggering one hundred and twenty-three!

Came Adult Harvest and the Guild once again topped the table of thank-offerings – an indication that members had been abundantly blessed by the Almighty and they came out to show it.

Eleven applications for membership were received by the Executive, which considered nine. Four were approved for probationary membership.

Indeed, 1983 was a year of better performance than previous years, which performance set the stage for the new year, 1984.

The Executive remained unchanged and the Guild, for the second year running, topped the table of thank-offerings at the Adult Harvest. Undoubtedly we will always remember 1984 as a year of consolidation of the efforts of the previous years, a year of innovations and achievements. And why not?

It was in 1984 that for the first time new members, who had completed their six-month probationary membership and who had obtained positive reports from their Group Leaders, were inducted into the Guild in the full glare of the congregation at Mattins. During the year thirteen applications for membership were received. Of

the eleven applications considered only one was unsuccessful. This mode of induction of new members into the Guild has become a tradition.

The manufacture of the Guild's Brooch was completed in 1984. They were duly blessed and distributed to Stewards subsequently. A design of the long-talked-about Membership Certificate was received for consideration.

In this year of innovations the PROVOST'S and GUILD'S AWARDS were instituted. The Provost's Award goes to the BEST GROUP, while the Guild's Award goes to the BEST OVERALL STEWARD for the year under review. Attendance was used as the sole criterion for determining recipients of the Awards. In 1984 the Provost's Award went to GROUP "B", while the Guild's Award went to MR. I. O. MACLEAN of GROUP "A". The BEST STEWARD in each of Groups "A", "B", "C" and "D" were MR. I. O. MACLEAN, MR. V. B. SANGOYELE, MR. A. B. ADESANYA and MR. M. A. BORISADE respectively.

It was also in 1984 that, for the first time, Stewards from other Anglican Churches in the Lagos Diocese were invited to celebrate our anniversary with us. This was a reflection of the proposed formation of a LAGOS ANGLICAN DIOCESAN GUILD OF STEWARDS (LADGOS).

Chief J. O. Onabajo and myself were delegated to represent the Cathedral Guild of Stewards at a meeting of representatives of Stewards of Anglican Churches in the Lagos Diocese. The meeting, held on the 12th of February, 1984 at St. Peter's Church, Faji, Lagos was to herald a series of such meetings. Suffice it to say here that the seeds sown on that memorable day have begun to bear fruits. Indeed, fourteen Churches were represented at that first meeting. Today, over forty Churches have registered as members of LADGOS. 1984 was indeed a year of history!

1985 was a year of quiet activity. Although no dramatic events were recorded a consolidation of the achievements of the previous years were very much in evidence. Thirteen applications for membership were considered with all but one succeeding.

Although the performance of the Guild at Harvest was better than in 1984 it was however not good enough for the Guild to retain the pride of place. The Guild conceded, with a smile, first place to another Society. However, we took consolation in the fact that the Guild opened the Adult Harvest Bazaar with an unprecedented twelve thousand five hundred Naira — the highest so far by any Society.

Messrs I. O. MACLEAN, V. B. SANGOYELE,

A. B. ADESANYA and M. A. BORISADE repeated the feat of being the BEST STEWARDS in their respective Groups. However, MR. A. B. ADESANYA became the second Steward to win the GUILD'S AWARD. On the other hand, GROUP "B" clung fast to the PROVOST'S AWARD — a real challenge to other Groups.

Significantly, 1985 brought the Guild to the doorsteps of its 40th Anniversary.

Yes, 1986 will be a year to be remembered for long by all. IT IS THE YEAR OF OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY, FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR BELOVED CATHEDRAL AND TO OUR GOD. It is a year to be celebrated as none other before it has been celebrated. We will score a few firsts. In fact, we already have a few to point at.

Chief J. O. Onabajo, who had been elected a Protem Chairman of the LAGOS ANGLICAN DIOCESAN GUILD OF STEWARDS was, in 1986 elected the first ever PRESIDENT of LADGOS. He will hold office for two years in the first instance. The inauguration of LADGOS came up on 30th. November, 1986 at All Saints Church, Yaba. We are publishing an ANNIVERSARY BROCHURE — the first time a Society of the Cathedral will do so. Our Membership Certificates will be distributed to all Stewards, serving and retired, on the day of our 40th Anniversary.

We have passed through a lot as a Society and as individuals. We have had our share of sorrows and joys. But this is a time for celebration and giving thanks to God for granting us grace to serve in His vineyard. We therefore set our hearts on joyful things, thanking God for all His Blessings and in the knowledge that we have, by the Grace of God, started something for others after us to build upon for the greater glory of our creator. So,

"Rise up, O Men of God!
Have done with lesser things;
Give heart and soul and mind and strength
To serve the King of Kings.

Rise up, O Men of God!
The Church for you doth wait,
Her strength unequal to her task;
Rise up, and make her great.

Lift high the cross of Christ!
Tread where his feet have trod;
As brothers of the Son of Man
Rise up, O Men of God!"

G. O. M. Agbogidi
Secretary 1982 to-date

PROFILE: MR. E. A. ADEKUNLE M.O.N.
Retiring Treasurer of the Guild of Stewards.



Mr. E.A. Adekunle M.O.N.

"Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the most High and abideth under the shadow of the Almighty shall say unto the Lord: thou art my refuge and my stronghold: my God in whom I trust. (Psalm 91).

This is the christian word of hope and faith. There is a great man who has held on to this saying of reciprocal thanks for God's bountiful mercies: the retiring Treasurer of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards — Mr. E.A. Adekunle M.O.N. Mr. Adekunle has served the Lord in many capacities. Once as a Choirboy, then as a Steward, and later as the Treasurer of the Guild of Stewards for the past twenty-nine years. After forty-seven years of active service in the house of the Lord, there is no doubt that Mr. Adekunle deserves a rest.

Mr. Adekunle is a tireless septuagenarian, who in his forty-three years of service as a Sidesmen (4 years), and thirty-nine as a Steward has served the Guild for the better part of his active life with no regret or controversy. To a man who has served the Guild of Stewards and the House of the Lord, it is only proper and right to give honour and thanks to a perfect, humble Soldier of Christ, especially as he has seen us to a milestone as the oldest Society in the Cathedral. It is also justifiable to look into the life of Mr. E.A. Adekunle both as the Treasurer of one of the strongest pillars of the Cathedral Church of Christ and also as a christian gentleman. I was given the honour of getting from our beloved septuagenarian the story of his life, experiences and hopes for the Guild and the Church in general.

The interview started at Mr. Adekunle's house in Yaba. The serenity of the surrounding and the occasional laughter of the little ones in the garden made one feel very comfortable. The christian atmosphere of the living room and the surrounding award and books on the shelves gave one an insight into the life of our guest.

I proceeded on the format of an interview which would be a journey through the memory lane for the elderly septuagenarian and a thing or two for us to learn as youngmen and up and coming servants of the Lord. From Mr. Adekunle's answers to our probing questions, the following brief profile on him has been written. This does not, of course, do more than give a general view of the life of a wonderful man.

Mr. Adekunle was born in 1914. Even though his parents were members of St. John's Church, Aroloya, his father brought him to join the Cathedral Choir in 1924 and he sang with them for eight years, after which he became a Sidesman for four years (1933-37). He was transferred out of Lagos for ten years, so it was not until 1947 that he was able to rejoin the Stewards. He became the Treasurer of the Guild in 1957 and now twenty-nine years later, he has decided voluntarily to retire, "to enable younger Stewards to have a chance to serve and do better than I have done so far."

Mr. Adekunle attended St. John's School, Aroloya (1920-23) C.M.S. Grammar School, Lagos (Jan. 1924 — Nov. 1929), then King's College, Lagos (Nov. 1929 — July 1933). Among his friends at the C.M.S. Grammar School were the late Mr. Ariyo, Mr. Latunde Johnson, Mr. Babatunde Jones of Alli Street, Lagos, Mr. M. A. S. Robbin and late Mr. Harold Martins.

To fulfil his ambition he started teaching at St. Jude's School, Ebute Metta in 1933, but his interest did not last more than four years. So in December 1937 he joined the Meteorological Services where he found his calling. He worked there for thirty-two years before retiring in 1969 at the age of fifty-five. He was rewarded for his devoted service with a National Award — M.O.N. — in 1965 and part of the citation at the Award ran thus "I am glad that your signal contribution to the Service of Nigeria has been recognised by the award of the honour of the Member of the Order of the Niger (M.O.N.)..."

Mr. Adekunle readily acknowledged the contribution of his parents to his success in life. Apart from educating him, they guaranteed him a background of discipline and christian upbringing. So also did he acknowledge the happiness and support granted him by his wife "who has given me no cause for regret because we pulled together and that too assured my progress in life".

Mr. and Mrs. Adekunle are blessed with four children — a son, and three daughters. His son's nature of work has so far hindered his becoming a Steward. What problems did he encounter in his service as the Treasurer of the Guild? He pointed out that in the early days contributions were small and so accounting for them was simple. However, these days annual subscriptions have gone into the 3-figure bracket and various programmes are embarked on, so that it is a more taxing job rendering accounts. These have included annual get-togethers, part-funding the redecoration of the Cathedral, opening adult Harvest Bazaar etc. Thank God the Guild has been able to pull its weight in all these calls. So far the Guild has got by with occasional levies to meet specific demands. However, Mr. Adekunle hoped that, in future, investments might help to ease the burden.

Mr. Adekunle has advised future generations to learn to give of their best in their work. They should depend on the legitimate returns from their efforts and shun the tendency to look for "god fathers". Education and spiritual attainment of a man together make his life complete. They should be practising Christians and serve the Lord

fervently and honestly in whatever capacities they are called upon. They should strive to qualify to be "Soldiers of Christ".

For recreation Mr. Adekunle said, with pride, that he spent a good deal of his time looking after the interests of his children and grand children. He enjoyed going to Church and sharing christian fellowship. He cherished his monthly meetings of a Society of which he has been a member for over fifty years. He has also kept up physical exercises to keep his body fit.

Mr. Adekunle noted the mushrooming of Churches in the country, this being a challenge to the orthodox Churches. He believed that salvation did not depend on one shouting himself hoarse but on dedication to one's Bible, prayers and sincerity of worship. In addition priests should ensure that they show interest in the spiritual growth and well-being of their congregations.

Once more referring to the Guild of Stewards, Mr. Adekunle noted the giant strides made over the years and especially in recent times. He praised particularly, Chief S.A. Makinwa the Chairman, and Mr. G.O.M. Agbogidi, the Secretary for their dedication to duty which has inspired member Stewards to higher achievements. Mr. Adekunle remembered as his greatest grief in life in the death of his wife in December 1972, and his greatest joy lay in watching his grand-children grow.

Finally Mr. Adekunle, not surprisingly, would like to be remembered as "someone who has

tried to identify himself with Christ and as a Steward who has done the little he can to serve his Lord." But most importantly he would like to be remembered as "an ordinary member of the Church."

"My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour". This should be the song of Mr. E.A. Adekunle, M.O.N., who has lived a God-fearing life to a ripe age of 72 years and blessed with children and grand-children.

Pa Adekunle, M.O.N., is an epitome of humility and moderation who can be relied upon for wisdom and accountability. Pa Adekunle's good deeds will always be remembered by all people who have known him, the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos and in particular, the Cathedral Guild of Stewards whom he has served to gloriously for so long. To be honoured by one's own Country is a deviation from the popular parable of the "Prophet not being recognised in his own Country", it also gives the young ones coming after Mr. Adekunle the hope and courage to say - "Nisi Dominus Frustra". (With God nothing is impossible").

As the Guild of Stewards is celebrating its 40th Anniversary and Mr. E.A. Adekunle, M.O.N. is retiring from active service as a Steward, we heartily wish him a longer life and continued blessings for having served the Lord with all his strength and might.

INTERVIEW BY KUNLE AKIN-MARTINS.

THE VERGER



Mr. V. Akin Thompson

Apart from leading the Priests in procession during Church Services, the Verger holds a unique and important position and performs specific assignments as directed by the Provost or the Vicar of the Church. He is involved in the arrangement of the Church before the commencement of divine services. It is his duty to see that all manuscripts and materials relating to a particular service are placed in their proper places.

Because of his commitment to the programme of the Church generally, a Verger is expected to be punctual and regular at divine services. Devotion to duty, Courage and Perseverance to serve are the attributes of a good Verger.

He should be constantly inspired by the words of the psalmist -

"For one day in thy Courts is better than a thousand;

I would rather be a door keeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness".

by Akin Thompson

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE LAGOS ANGLICAN DIOCESAN GUILD OF STEWARDS

In February, 1984, the Guild of Stewards of St. Peters Church, Faji, Lagos, invited two representatives each of the Guilds of Stewards of about 15 Anglican Churches in Lagos Diocese to a meeting in their new Church Hall to consider the advisability of establishing a Diocesan Guild of Stewards. The meeting was well attended. After an exhaustive debate, the meeting agreed by a unanimous resolution that a Diocesan Guild of Stewards was necessary and the aims and objects should be:—

- (i) To provide opportunity for the promotion of uniformity amongst its members in the orderly conduct of Church Services and all other Traditional functions of Stewards/Sidesmen and women in the Church.
- (ii) To encourage interaction amongst member branches of the Guild.

The meeting then appointed a Working Committee consisting of Chief J.O. Onabajo (Cathedral Church of Christ) as Protem Chairman, Mr. T.A. Meletoyitan (St. Peters Church) as Secretary. Other members of the Committee were Messrs. Olu Akinyemi (St. Judes Church, Ebute-Metta), Yinka Mosanya (All Saints Church, Yaba) as Legal Secretary, Mr. Wole Falodun (St. Peters Church, Faji), Stanley Aiyegbusi, Diran Oyeleye, A.O. Segun and Mrs. O.A. Salami and Mrs. Bisi Ramos to prepare draft constitution for the Guild for consideration.

In arriving at the above decision, the proponents took the following points into consideration:—

- (1) It had been discovered that there were differences in practice in the conduct of Church services as relate to functions of Stewards or Sidesmen in Churches of the Anglican Diocese of Lagos in respect of:—
 - (a) Some Churches still practice barring or locking of doors or entrances to Churches against latecomers during Sermon or after the "Confession and Absolution" during Holy Communion Services.
 - (b) The order of priority for invitation of members of the congregation to receive Holy Communion during the Eucharist vary.
 - (c) Although it is the duty of Stewards to maintain order during services, noise making arising from side discussions

during services still persist in some Churches, often detracting from the peace and tranquility essential for a meaningful spiritual meditation.

(d) It is essential that comportment of Stewards taking collections, or attendance or ushering of worshippers to the altar for Holy Communion or blessing at all times should be with due decorum so as to enhance the dignity and solemnity of Worship. In these and many other ways, we found lack of uniformity in the Code of Conduct of Stewards in our Churches.

(e) We also recognised the fact that in a situation in which we are faced with indiscipline and spiritual decadence in several aspects of our nation's life, we need co-operation, co-ordination, interaction and a determined effort for improvement in every aspect of our services to the Church, and the Diocesan Guild of Stewards was determined to do just that.

- (2) Consequently, it was decided to establish a Diocesan Guild to provide opportunity for the promotion of uniformity amongst our members in the orderly conduct of Church Services in relation to the duties of Steward.

THE UNIQUE POSITION OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST.

By virtue of its position as the Mother Church of the Anglican Province of Nigeria and also Mother Church of the Lagos Diocese, our colleagues in the other Churches in the Diocese looked up to us for guidance and inspiration.

ORGANISATION

(a) The Guild consists of all registered member Churches. We thank God that today about 42 Churches with a total membership of 1,300 Stewards have registered.

(b) There is a Council of Representatives consisting of two nominees of each member branch. The Council is responsible for dealing with matters relating to general interest of the Guild or any member branch thereof.

(c) There is an Executive Committee made up of all the officers namely; 1 President, 1 Vice-President, 1 General Secretary, 1 Assistant Gene-

WHAT A STEWARD SHOULD KNOW

1. A Steward serves in the House of God, he is therefore the embodiment of decency, discipline and orderliness. He must give of his best at all times.
 2. A Steward is expected to attend all services during any week his group is on duty and must be at the Church at least 15 minutes before the start of a service. When unable to attend any service, he must endeavour to give adequate notice to his Group Leader or the Deputy.
 3. On arrival for a service, a Steward checks that all notices, Programmes, etc. are available in adequate number and well placed at the entrances. If the books for use are not out, he removes such books from the Cupboard and places them as appropriate at the entrances.
 4. Visitors should not be allowed to wander around the Church. They should be met at the entrances, provided with the appropriate books, notices, programmes, etc. and ushered to their seats.
 5. Doors should be barred and movement within the Cathedral restricted:—
 - (a) When singing the Introit.
 - (b) When reading Lesson
 - (c) When saying the Creed
 - (d) During all prayers.Doors should be thrown open during the sermon!
 6. All late-comers who wish to occupy central aisle chairs should be conducted to their places through either the North or South transepts of the Cathedral.
 7. Stewards are not expected to wander round the Cathedral during any service as all services are expected to be conducted with the greatest reverence. In particular, movement of Stewards and worshippers should be severely restricted during the Creed and Prayers except in cases of absolute emergency.
 8. Distribution of letter, circulars, and notices should be restricted to periods of hymn singing.
 9. Other duties such as taking collection, attendances, ushering of communicants to the altar should be conducted with the greatest reverence. Particular attention must be paid to the elderlies, the infirm and the younger worshippers.
 10. At the end of every service, some stewards on duty retire to the Stewards' Vestry for the counting of the collections. Leaders must ensure that the roll-call is taken after the collection have been counted.
 11. Stewards must take active part in the present campaign to reduce noise inside the Cathedral — particularly in-between services. Remember those who are having their silent prayers. They too are worshipping and should not be disturbed.
 12. A good steward should always be prepared to serve on any Sunday other than that in which his group is on duty.
 13. A good Steward co-operates with his Group Leader, the Deputy and his fellow Stewards in the observances of all the above.
 14. Remember all those things that are noble, pure, gracious and honourable. Stewardship is one of them. It is therefore a privilege to be a Steward.
- May the Good Lord help us all in the discharge of our duty in His Service.
- Revised and updated. July, 1982.

LANDMARKS IN CHRIST CHURCH

- | | | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| 1867 March 29 | – Laying of the Foundation Stone of Christ Church – the first brick Church in Nigeria. The foundation stone was laid by Captain (later Sir John) Glover – popularly known as Oba Goloba – Foundation Stone Document Signed by:

Rev. J.A. Lamb
Mr. Henry Doherty)
Mr. John Ogunbunmi)
Wardens
all three from St. Peter's Church. | 1933 April 6 | – Introduction of Duplex Envelopes for Church collections |
| June 10 | – Dedication of the completed Church by Bishop Ajayi Crowther. Total cost was £2000 | 1936 Oct. 7 | – Inauguration of Harvest Committee |
| 1871 March 12 | – First Ordination by Bishop Ajayi Crowther | 1939 June 7 | – Abandonment of the Practice of appointing ladies as Sideswomen. |
| Nov. 30 | – First confirmation in the Church. | 1942 Aug. 2 | – First fully Choral Communion |
| 1916 Dec. 6 | – First Carol Service | 1944 Dec. 6 | – Introduction of Canon A.W. Howells as Canon Residentiary. |
| 1918 April 18 | – Introduction of Rev. S.M. Abiodun as Pastor in charge of the Church | 1945 April 25 | – Decision by the Standing Committee regarding the selection of Wardens and Sidesmen by ballot. |
| 1919 Jan. 1 | – Introduction of Rev. (later Bishop) A.W. Howells as the first Vicar. | 1949 Nov. | – Organ recital by Dr. Albert Schwitzer. |
| 1920 | – The status of the Church raised to that of a Pro-Cathedral by the Lambeth Conference. | 1951 April 17 | – Inauguration in Freetown Sierra-Leone of the Province of West Africa. Dr. L.G. Vining elected as the first Archbishop. |
| May 9 | – Rev. M.S. Cole as the Vicar of the Pro-Cathedral. | Aug. 19 | – Installation of Canon A.W. Howells as Provost. |
| Nov. 1 | – Turning of the First Sod of the Pro-Cathedral. | 1952 June 24 | – Consecration of Bishop A.W. Howells. |
| 1925 April 21 | – Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Pro-Cathedral by HRH, the Prince of Wales later to become King Edward VIII. | 1955 Oct. 4 | – Completion of Provost's House at a cost of 5,000 pounds. |
| 1929 June 15 | – Dedication of the First Section of the Pro-Cathedral by Bishop Jones assisted by Bishops Oluwole and Smith. | 1956 Jan. 28 | – Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip worshipped at the Cathedral. |
| 1931 Jan. 12 | – Approval of the statute of the Cathedral.
– Introduction of Rev. S.C. Phillips as Canon Residentiary. | 1958 Sept. 10 | – Inauguration of Youth Fellowship |
| | | 1960 Nov. 20 | – Installation of Rev. F.O. Segun as Provost. |
| | | 1962 Aug. 27
Sept. 17 | –
– Tour of Churches in the Diocese by Cathedral Choir. |
| | | 1963 Nov. 20
Dec. 1 | – Consecration of Bishop S.I. Kale
– Enthronement in the Cathedral. |
| | | 1967 March 28
April 8 | –
– Centenary Celebration |

- | | | | |
|---------------|---|--------------|---|
| 1970 April 25 | – Installation of Rev. S.H.A. Johnson as Provost. | Dec. 26 | – Enthronement of Bishop J.A. Adetiloye as Bishop of Lagos Diocese. |
| 1975 Feb. 22 | – Enthronement of Bishop F.O. Segun as Bishop of Lagos Diocese. | 1986 Dec. 14 | – Fortieth Anniversary – Guild of Stewards. |
| 1983 April | – Inauguration of Healing Service | | |
| 1984 Feb. 5 | – Dedication of Brooches and Collarettes for the use of Stewards, Vergers and Wardens. | | |
| Sept. | – Resuscitation of Mothers Union | | |
| Dec. 16 | – Induction of New Stewards at Mattins | | |
| 1985 Sept. 29 | – Thanksgiving Service to mark the completion of the First Phase of the Redecoration of the Cathedral | | |

Compiled from (i) *Centenary Souvenir Brochure (Ed. Dr. E. N. O. Sodeinde)*
(ii) *History of Cathedral Church of Christ 1867 – 1931 by Rev. M. S. Cole. M.A., L.TH.*

Reviewed and Updated by Chief S. A. Makinwa (People's Warden).



CHIEF S. A. MAKINWA
Peoples' Warden and Chairman, Guild of Stewards

CHAIRMEN OF THE GUILD OF STEWARDS
CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
1946 - 1986



Mr. E. A. Pearce
1946-1947



Mr. J. R. Curtis
1948-1952



Mr. Adeniyi-Williams
1953



Mr. J. A. Adeniji
1954



Mr. F. O. Campbell
1955-1966



Mr. J. G. Ayodele
1966-1970



Mr. E. A. Oredugba
1970-1975



Mr. D. B. Ogutuga
1976-1981



Chief S. A. Makinwa
1982 to-date.

PROVOST'S WARDENS

Mr. R.A.O. Martin (Deceased)	1946 - 50	Dr. Olu Asekun	1970 - 75
Mr. G.O. Laja	1951 - 55	Mr. Bode Peters	1976 - 80
Mr. Alphaeus Martin (Deceased)	1957 - 61	Mr. Ayo Gtuyalo	1980 - 86
Mr. (now Very Rev.) E. V. Badejo	1962 - 70	Mr. Akin Thompson	1986 -

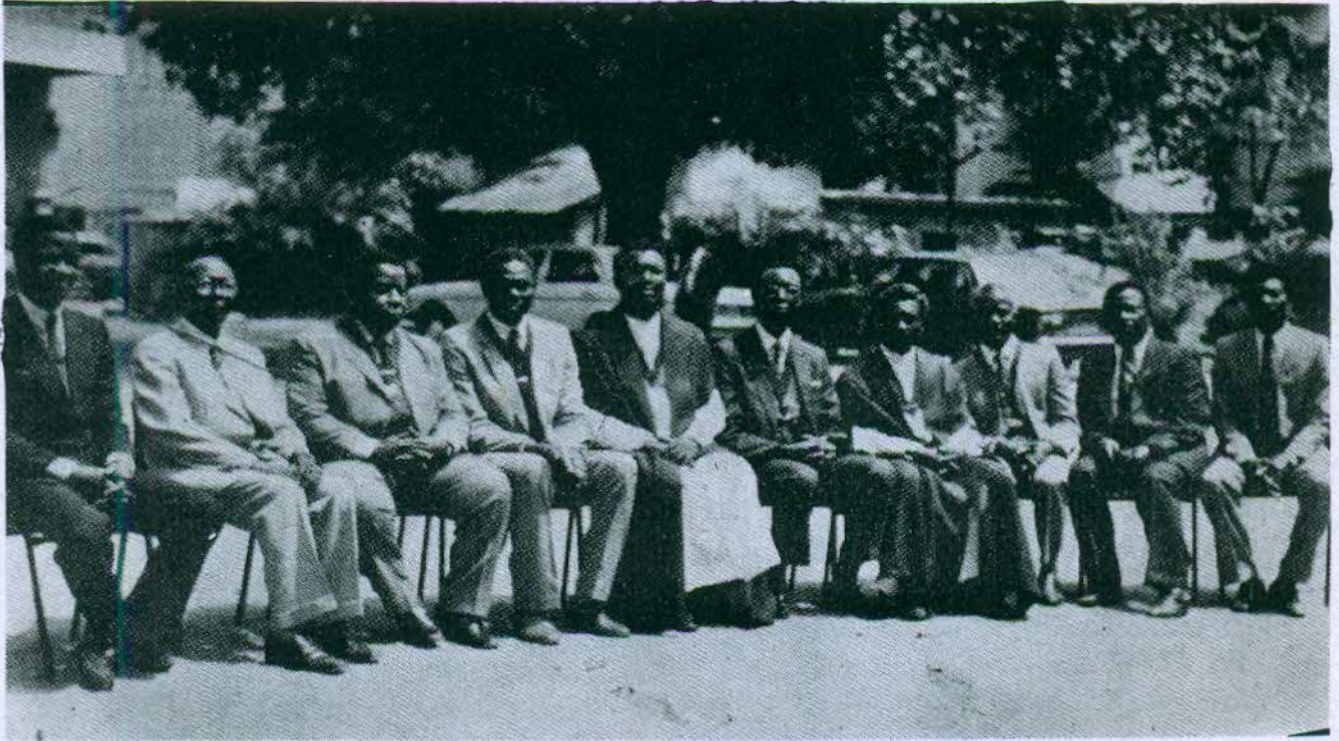
LIST OF STEWARDS WHO HAVE SERVED FOR THIRTY YEARS AND OVER

<p>GROUP "A" Mr. E. O. Ekisola Mr. A. A. Adeseye Mr. A. A. Williams Chief A. B. Solanke Chief T. A. Otubanjo Mr. V. A. Roberts ;</p> <p>GROUP "B" Mr. A. P. Olaomo Mr. B. H. Cobham Mr. E. S. D. Banjoko Mr. P. H. Vanderpuye Mr. A. A. Aderugbo Mr. S. E. O. Utomakili Mr. V. B. Sangoyele Dr. Olu Asekun</p>	<p>Chief S. A. Durojaiye</p> <p>GROUP "C" Chief J. O. Onabajo Chief J. A. Oyebode Chief C. G. O. Babalola</p> <p>GROUP "D" Mr. E. O. Thorpe Mr. O. T. Fawole Mr. H. A. Lahanmi Mr. J. A. Banmeke Mr. Akin. Oshodi Mr. A. R. Oseni Mr. J. Akinfeye Mr. O. A. Claudius-Cole Mr. O. A. Agbebi</p>
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LIST OF RETIRED STEWARDS, CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS, LAGOS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engr. Adeniyi-Williams 2. Mr. J. O. Senbanjo 3. Mr. A. A. Gooding 4. Mr. G. O. Laja 5. Mr. H. A. Sanyaolu 6. Justice E. A. Morgan 7. Engr. F. A. O. Phillips 8. Chief S. O. Adefope 9. Dr. E. A. B. Adenuga (Now Rev. Canon) 10. Mr. G. A. M. Reffell 11. Mr. J. B. Adeluwoye (Secretary) 12. Mr. S. D. A. Ogungbuyi 13. Mr. S. H. O. Pratt 14. Mr. J. A. O. Doherty 15. Chief G. Akin-Taylor 16. Chief M. A. O. Kuti 17. Mr. G. O. Olukoya 18. Mr. M. A. Pearce 19. Mr. C. O. Harrison-Obefemi 20. Mr. Justice S. O. O. Okunribido 21. Mr. A. O. Oredugba (Chairman) 22. Mr. R. A. Fani-Kayode 23. Mr. M. O. Abiodun 24. Mr. J. McEwen 25. Mr. E. S. J. Moses 26. Mr. Justice F. O. M. Atake 27. Rev. S. W. O. Doherty 28. Mr. O. Adeyinka 29. Mr. V. H. Haffner | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 30. Rev. E. V. Badejo (now Archdeacon) 31. Mr. Justice A. A. Adediran 32. Chief O. I. A. Akinyemi 33. Otunba M. O. Balogun 34. Mr. C. S. O. Phillips 35. Rev. T. A. J. Oluwole (now Canon) 36. Dr. M. S. G. Douglas 37. Mr. T. O. Balogun 38. Arch. A. O. Craig 39. Mr. Femi Oyewole 40. Mr. Dotun Oyewole 41. Chief (Dr) A. B. O. Soboyejo 42. Mr. Thos. O. Johnson 43. Mr. A. O. Soyawo 44. Mr. A. F. J. Alufohai 45. Mr. R. B. Adewunmi 46. Mr. M. O. Akintobi 47. Mr. J. O. Adekoya 48. Prince D. A. Ademiluyi 49. Mr. E. A. Fabanwo 50. Mr. G. O. Samakinwa 51. Mr. B. O. Soetan 52. Mr. E. I. Aigbe 53. Mr. Alpheus Martins <p>Compiled by:
 E. A. ADEKUNLE, M.O.N.
 Treasurer
 20/5/86</p> |
|--|--|

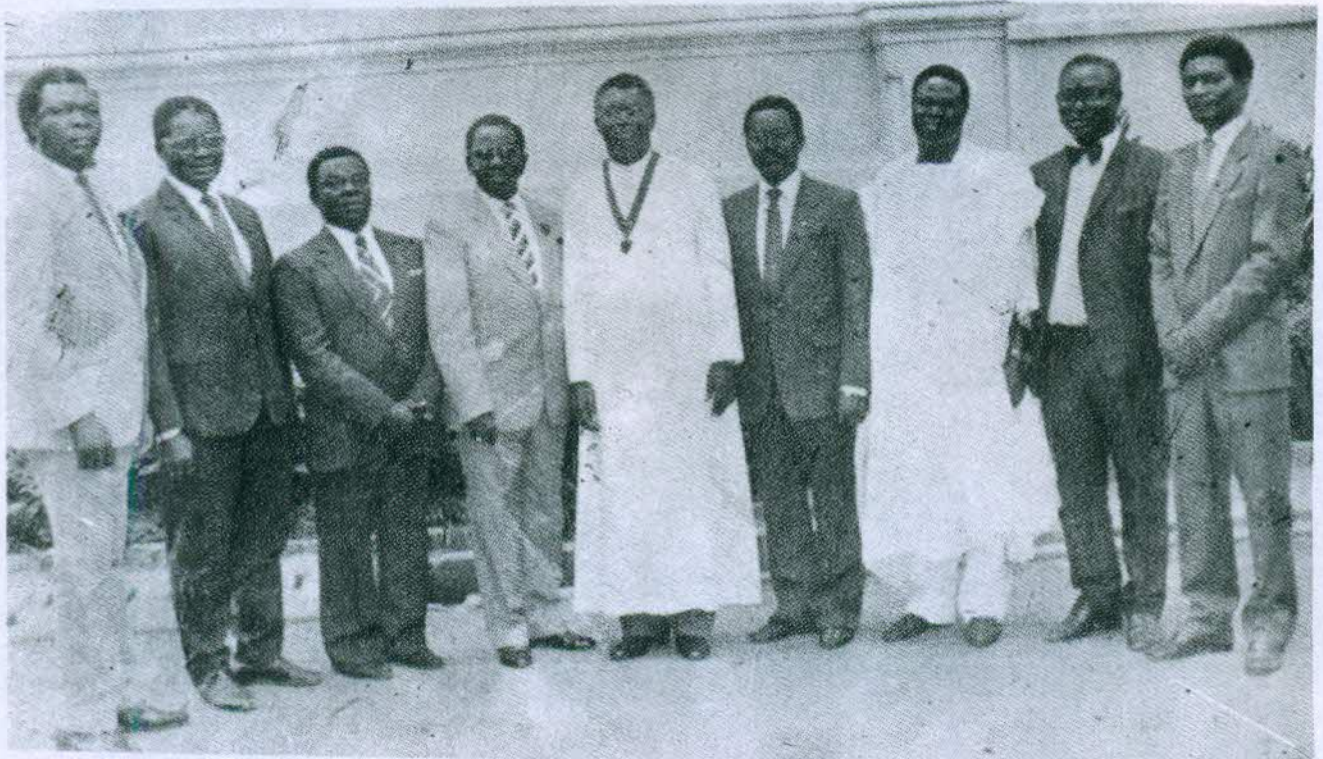
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1984



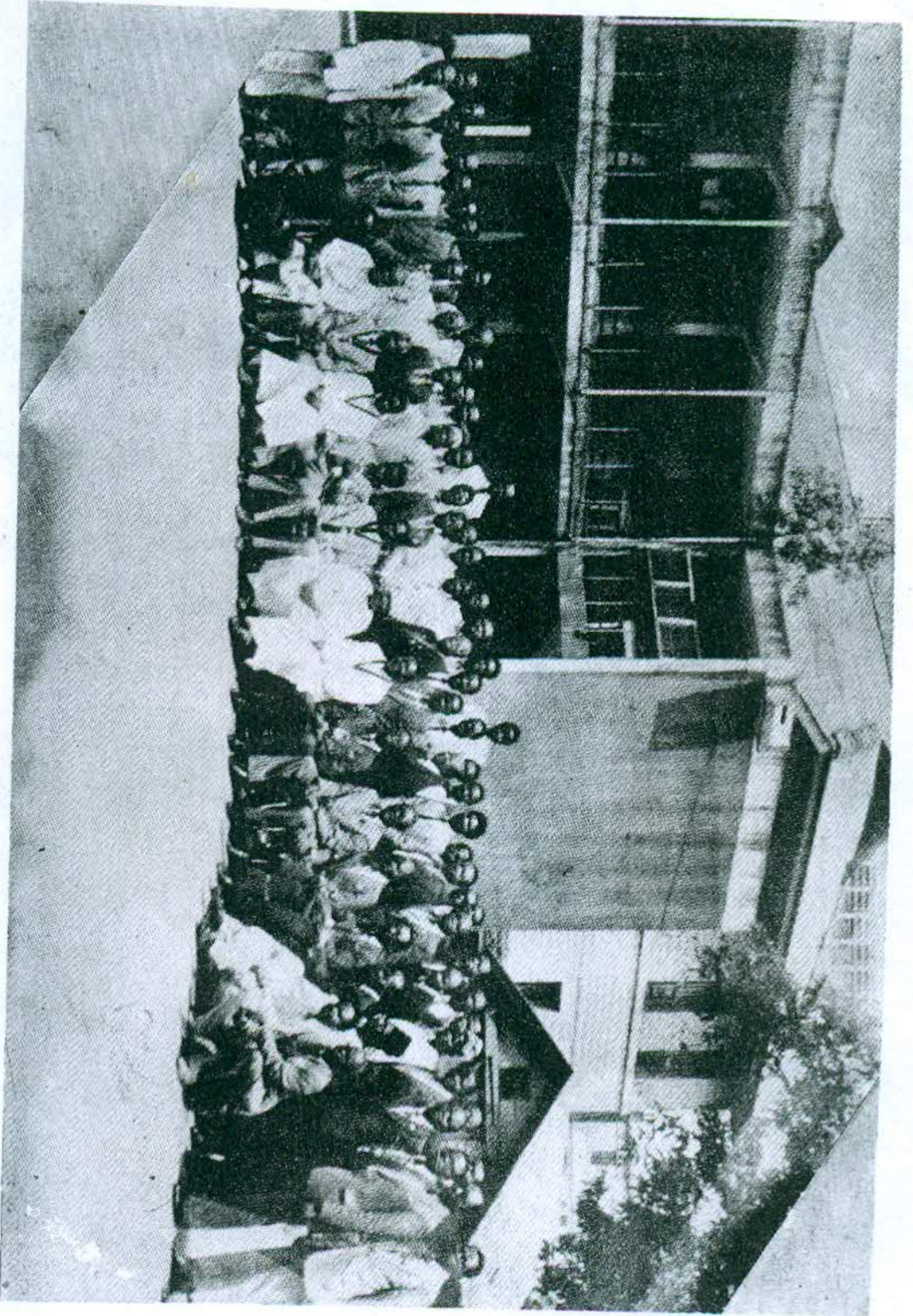
LIST FOR 1984 O. O. Oyebode, E. A. Adekunle, E. O. Thorpe, E. O. Ekisola, Chief S. A. Makinwa, Chief J. O. Onabajo, Ayo Otuyalo, Mr. A. P. Olaomo, V. B. Sangoyele, G. O. M. Agbogidi.

LIST FOR 1986 Substitute Akin Thompson for Ayo Otuyalo

MEMBERS OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE



Standing Left to Right: Emman I. Odina, O. O. Aromasodu, V. B. Sangoyele, O. O. Peters, Chief S. A. Makinwa, Victor Amaechina, Olu Falomo, O. A. Claudius-Cole, G. O. M. Agbogidi.



THE CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS

MESSAGE FROM A NON-STEWARD

Hearty Congratulations! Noble Stewards of the Vineyard of God. You are mixing well as brothers in our Lord Jesus Christ as you all come from various walks of life to God in His Sanctuary and in His Sacred House with loving gratitude.

Your stewardship should be rendered without fear or favour but nevertheless in a most tactful manner.

You are regarded as highly honoured and privileged selected sons of God and much is indeed expected of you in your simple but smart appearance, your amicable and quiet approach to the numerous congregation you do come across, especially visitors to the Cathedral. Your honesty of purpose in accounting for the pecuniary assets of the Cathedral which you might have to handle and above all Respect for our Creator and Love for your fellow men.

May I remind you that "every task, however simple, sets the soul that does it free.

Every bit of human kindness done to man is done to Him".

Bravo! Noble Stewards of God Ye who will "work and work and labour always in the vineyard of God".

May God Himself reward you appropriately in Heaven. Amen.

Angelica Yewande Oyediran (Mrs.)



Late Mr. T.H. Norman

STOP PRESS

We announce with deep regret the demise of MR. THEOPHILUS HENRY NORMAN, cruelly cut down by a hit-and-run driver on Sunday 23rd November, 1986. Significantly he served on that fateful Sunday with his Group and was present at the Guild's meeting on that same Sunday. Dying on active service? Very definitely.