

PREFACE



PRINCE ADEGOKE ADEMILUYI

THE 50th Anniversary of any individual or society or institution is usually a worthy Landmark, and it is an occasion to be celebrated. It is often times referred to as the Golden Age when full maturity is already taken for granted and one is on the threshold of the Age of wisdom.

The Guild of Stewards of the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos, is celebrating the Golden Anniversary of its creation. By 1996, the Guild had been serving the Cathedral for 50 long years and therefore, one will be permitted to suggest that the Guild has cut its wisdom tooth and has arrived into full blown maturity.

In this situation, a lot of celebration is called for. However, in our mood of jollity, we ought to consider 3 important phases in our Golden Anniversary year. First, we should go into reminiscences. We should ask ourselves the question - what has been our heritage? Some of the contributions in this Brochure indeed address these. Secondly, we should consider how the duties of the Guild are being performed by the present generation. Have we sustained the standards of our forefathers or have we allowed decay to set in? These issues were also considered by some contributors in this Brochure. The third phase we should address during this Golden Anniversary is the challenge of the future. The question to pose is what efforts are we making to ensure that the golden torch is passed on to the future generation in a much brighter state than it was passed on to us?

I am encouraged with the fact that the contributors of this Brochure fully addressed the 3 phases herein-before referred to. I

am confident that this Golden Jubilee Anniversary Brochure will for ever remain a veritable reference book in the libraries of all those who will come into possession of same. The age curve of the contributions covers the ancient and modern stewards and there is plenty of food for thought in this publication. I am therefore, eternally grateful to all who spared the time to write for posterity which will not only appreciate their effort but also record their names in the Book of Life. May the Good Lord whom we all try to serve faithfully, reward us a hundred fold and daily shower His blessings on us and on our families.

I also thank the non-stewards who were kind enough to contribute to this Brochure. I start from the top. His Grace, Archbishop Abiodun Adetiloye, the Primate and Metropolitan of the Anglican Communion of the Province of Nigeria was kind enough to send us a goodwill message not only in his capacity as the Lord Bishop of the Diocese of Lagos to which our Cathedral belongs, but also as the Archbishop of the whole province of Nigeria. We are also grateful to our Provost, Very Rev. Dr. Segun Okubadejo for writing the Foreword to the Brochure. The number of past stewards who had graduated into the Holy Orders and had contributed to this Brochure is appreciated for the incisive and thought - provoking articles.

My gratitude cannot be completed without referring to the untiring efforts of the members of the Publicity and Publications Sub-Committee who ensured we are able to deliver to you the high quality of Brochure now available to you. I hope you will all agree with me that their efforts had not been in vain. We have not only improved on the quality of the contents of the Golden Anniversary Brochure but we have also included some advertisements. The owners of the products or services advertised were very kind in their support of the Brochure.

When one considers the number of stewards who have passed onto the Great Beyond between our 40th Anniversary and our current Golden Jubilee Anniversary, we who are alive must continuously give thanks to Almighty God for His Goodness and daily blessings on us. We, who are therefore privileged to celebrate, must resolve once again to re-dedicate ourselves for the un-alloyed service to the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos.

"I will rather be a door keeper in the house of God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness."

PRINCE ADEGOKE ADEMILUYI

*Chairman, 50th Anniversary
Golden Jubilee Committee,
Cathedral Guild of Stewards.*



**GOODWILL MESSAGE TO THE CATHEDRAL GUILD
OF STEWARDS ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR
50TH ANNIVERSARY (GOLDEN JUBILEE)**



HIS GRACE, MOST REV. ABIODUN ADETILOYE

Beloved Servants of the Most High God,

I congratulate you most warmly on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the formation of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards.

I remember today, with gratitude to God that ten years ago, during your 40th Anniversary, I was privileged to challenge you to continue to constantly seek ways and means of improving your commitment to the service of God.

The joy of serving your Lord and Master is clearly seen in all Cathedral Guild members in all divine services. This is because

you are all matured and committed Christians, who have voluntarily resolved to make serving the Lord in His holy temple, your Christian calling.

May the good Lord continue to energize and invigorate you in His worship and service.

“So then dear brothers, stand firm and steady, keep busy always in your work for the Lord, since you know that nothing you do in the Lord’s service is ever useless”

1 Corinthian 15:58.

We thank God for the efforts of the past and present members of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards for the very high standard of dedication and commitment in serving the Lord. It is perhaps appropriate here to remark that the immaculate (yet modest) style of dressing typical of your Guild, has brought added dignity to the services in the Cathedral. No wonder many would now rather prefer to be “door keepers in the Cathedral”, than be special guests at social parties. Please continue to maintain the high standard already set by your Guild until your better become best. May you grow from strength to strength in Jesus name. Amen.

The recommended areas of future attention will be to make the congregation more comfortable yet more attentive during divine services, and to ensure improved security to worshippers’ belongings during and after divine services.

We thank God for your dedication and commitment to serve in this capacity and we pray that you may all be filled with joy and gladness whenever they say unto you “Let us go in the house of the Lord”.

We wish you a joyous Golden Jubilee anniversary celebration and many more years of meritorious service in the Lord’s vine-yard. Amen.

Happy Christmas in advance.

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for: Abiodun Lagos.

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



MR. F. A. ADEWUNMI

IT is a great honour and rare privilege for any one, any time, anywhere to have such a golden opportunity as I have, to be the Chairman of such a great 'institution' as the Guild of Stewards of the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos, on the historic occasion of her GOLDEN JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY, now being celebrated with deserved fan-fare, pomp and justifiable, merited pride.

On a personal note therefore, well may I echo and re-echo the psalmist's refrain; "It is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes".

I wish to thank God who has willed it so; for, when 33 years ago I joined the Guild, little did I for once ever envisage that this propitious situation, with its attendant honour and privilege, would be mine. Indeed, "to God be the glory".

The history of the Guild is well documented on several pages in this brochure. So also, that of our beloved Cathedral. The two are closely welded together because, on every great occasion in the Cathedral the Stewards were there to serve and to ensure orderliness. To the young, these historical excursions should provide beautiful enlightening, interesting and useful information. To the old, they would engender reminiscences of 'golden' days gone by.

We, the present generation of Stewards, have a two-fold

responsibility, like the two sides of a coin. The first is to honour the founding fathers of the past by keeping the flag flying - high, bright, clean and endearing. The second is to hand over this flag to succeeding generations in a reassuring and inspiring manner.

This could only be achieved if we continue the noble tradition to discharge our duties with utmost commitment, diligence and humility. Therefore, we need to re-dedicate ourselves and for which we pledge, annually, to do to the best of our abilities.

In this regard, the theme of two stanzas in the Guild's song ought to be a constant reminder and motivator:

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.

That theme certainly goes beyond serving on Sundays alone; it touches on our financial and moral obligations to the Guild and to the Church as well. So, as we jubilate, rejoice and congratulate ourselves over our achievements these past fifty years, let us thank the Almighty God, to whom be all honour and glory and pray to Him to grant that there may never be wanting a supply of fit persons who with purity of faith and singleness of intention will so devote themselves to His glory that they may prosper in the work entrusted to them, and by their example win others to use their lives for the benefit of the church and mankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen". May he grant us grace and strength so to serve Him in the work to which he has called us that we may be worthy inheritors of His heavenly kingdom.

Happy celebrations to all of us and our well-wishers.

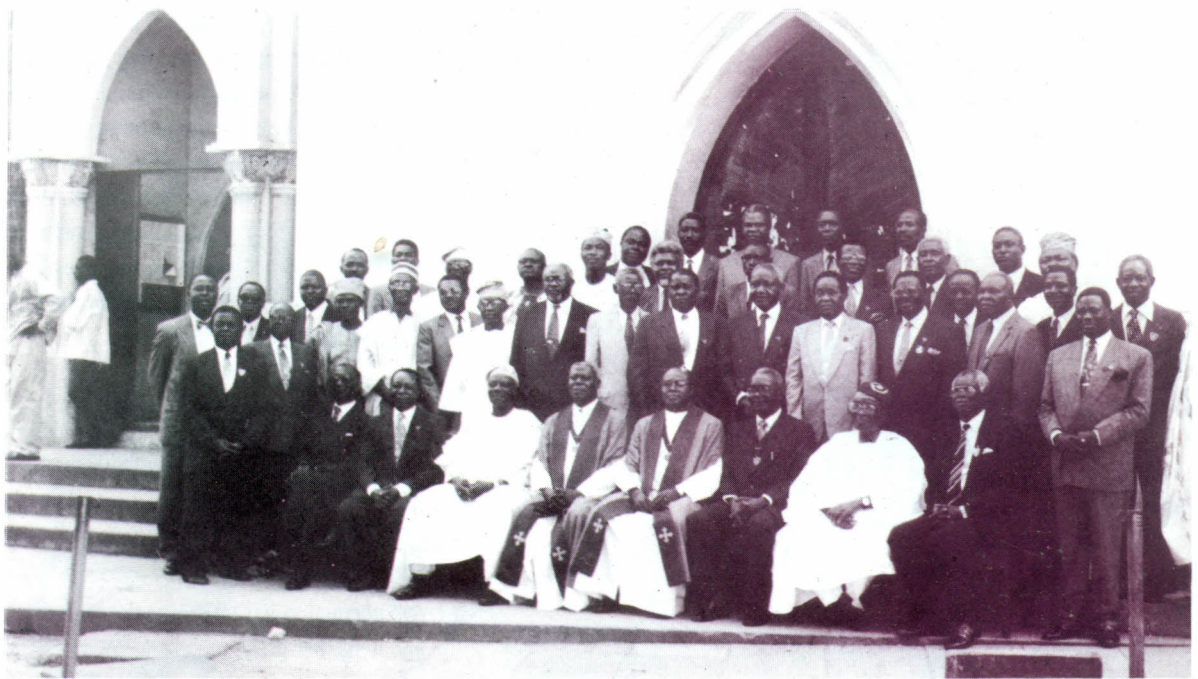
Long live the Guild of Stewards; Long live the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos.

*Long live the Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion);
Victory to the Church terrestrial and Blessings to the Church Triumphant.*

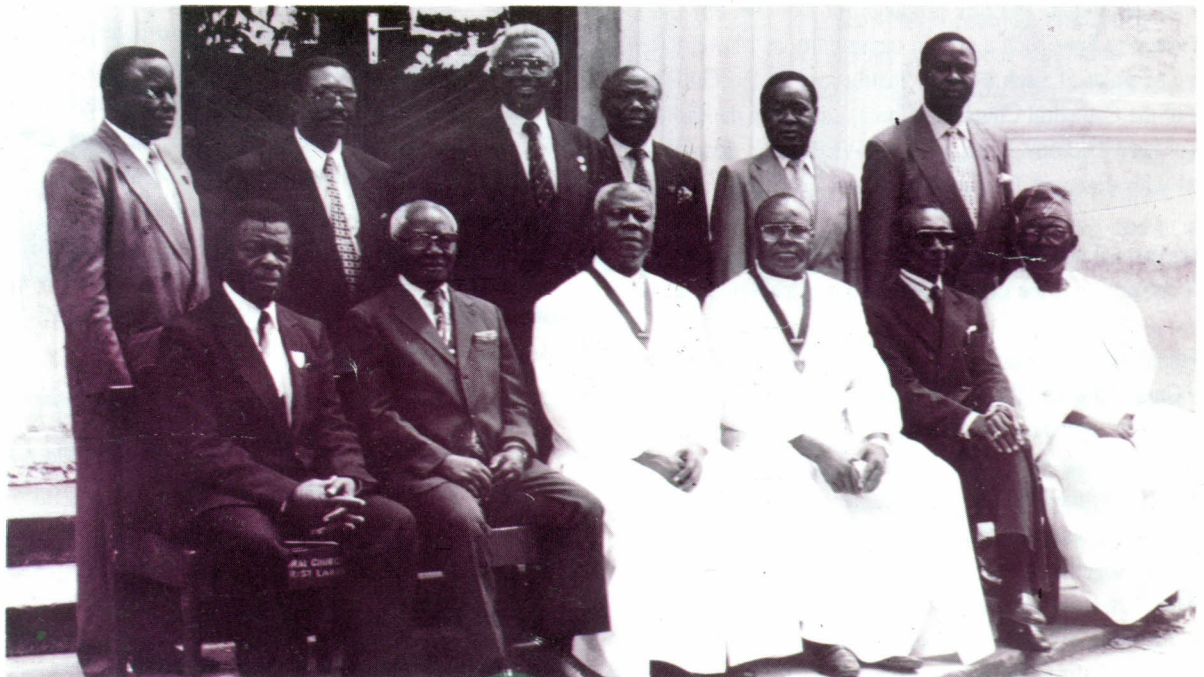
F. A. ADEWUNMI

*People's Warden and Treasurer Chairman,
Guild of Stewards.*

**50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION -
CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS
CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE *(Cont'd)***



The Guild of Stewards



Standing: L to R - Mr. M. A. O. Kehinde; Dr. V. A. Dacosta; Prince Adegoke Ademiluyi; Dr. T. P. Enodien; Chief B. O. Omoyele; Mr. J. A. Akinola (Guild's Secretary). Sitting: L to R - Mr. V. B. Sangoyele (Social Secretary); Mr. O. T. Fawole (Group Leader); Mr. F. A. Adewunmi (Chairman, Guild of Stewards); Mr. E. O. G. Moore (Deputy Chairman); Mr. A. A. Adeseye (Group Leader). Executive Committee of the Guild of Stewards.

TRIBUTE TO THE GUILD



VEN. VICTOR BADEJO

IS it already ten years since your fortieth anniversary when I was given the privilege to preach the sermon? Indeed, time flies I am very grateful for being given a part in your golden jubilee. Although I started attending services in the Cathedral in 1940 it was in 1945 I formally registered as a member in the reign of the Rev. Canon A. W. Howells who was Canon residentiary.

It was in early 1960 that the People's Warden, Mr. Felix Olatunde Campbell, recruited me into the Guild. When on transfer in Ibadan, he had noticed that I was a sidesman in the Cathedral Church of St. James. I recall that at Ibadan Mr. Oyebajo, an active sidesman here taught us to take attendance of souls rather than of man, women, boys and girls.

My time as a steward here was only two years, because, on the retirement of Mr. Alpheus Martins in 1962 the Provost, the Very Rev., F. O. Segun, appointed me Provost's Warden and I had to attend

meetings of the Guild.

When you talk of a Cathedral Church as a place of excellence, the Guild of Stewards of this Cathedral is second to none in providing that excellence. We thank God for their sense of duty and responsibility, shown by their punctuality and regularity at services. Their sartorial appearance is very inspiring. It is part of their discipline to mount duty in lounge suits, their appearance being most noticeable when they file to the altar rails as the last to communicate at Holy Communion services. Their sartorial appearance is very inspiring. It is part of their duties. After service, they wait behind to count and record the various attendances and collections. It is no light duty doing these after their inside-church duties which they do with cheerfulness and dignity.

The impressive way in which they do their duties is a salute to their sense of organisation and the appropriateness of organising church life in societies rather than as individuals. It was to a society, the apostles, and not to individuals, that our Lord handed over His church before withdrawing from the earthly plane.

When I finally retired as a parish priest here last year, I applied to Sir John Balogun, the People's Warden, to re-recruit me into the Guild but, supported by Dr. Arthur Nylander, he turned it down! But the Guild is worth one's membership, their anti-feminism notwithstanding. They are not alone though, as our fine choir is also anti-feminist.

Hearty congratulations to the Guild. Many thanks for past services and every blessing for now and the future to continue their labour of love in the Lord's vineyard!

May I ask the members to give serious consideration to evening services. I know it costs a lot to come to Church twice these days because of increasing distances of our houses from the Church, but, let me remind you of one of the noblest things King David said. "neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing".

VICTOR BADEJO

**THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE
THE CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS
CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, LAGOS.**



REV. CANON (DR.) E A B ADENUGA.

My dear brothers in Christ,

IT gives me great pleasure to be able to accept your kind invitation to contribute to your Golden Anniversary Souvenir Brochure. As a former member of the Guild it is an honour.

In earlier times in the Cathedral a monthly sheet was published containing hymns for the month. The motto on the sheet was "Let all things be done decently and in order" 1 Cor 14:40. The first group to assure that decency and order are maintained are the stewards. They are also an important point in evangelism from the quiet cheerful reception offered to visitors and new members and your guiding them to vacant seats. Such members feel welcome and are likely to come again.

Stewards are proud to say "I would rather be doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness" Psalm 84:10, and therefore take their duties seriously. I congratulate you on your golden anniversary and pray that the Good Lord whom you serve continue to accept the humble offer of that service at your hands.

It is not for nothing that in the first half of this century the

Cathedral Church insisted on proper dressing to worship. It honours God and honours fellow human beings. There is no doubt that clothing speaks. The people we serve have certain expectations.

Stewards must be well dressed or people will feel slighted. They will say 'If he cares about us he will care about how he looks. Respect and care for a situation is reflected in care over the individual's appearance. Such care, whatever its stylistic manifestations, will be revealed in cleanliness, good condition and obvious signs of considered choice.

One is pleased to note that most stewards take great care in their dressing but one or two are little careless and leave room for improvement. One of the people who inspired me to join the Guild was the late Mr. Daniel of blessed memory, who I usually referred to as the 'Vergers of vergers'. He was so well dressed. He brought a quiet dignity to that office and without any ostentation. May his soul continue to rest in peace.

Let us remind ourselves always of the words of the hymns A & M 361 and A & M 336:

- a. Take my life and let it be
Consecrated Lord to Thee;
Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

- b. 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 hath assigned
O let me cheerfully fulfill;
In all my works Thy presence find,
And prove Thy good and perfect will.

May the Lord bless your service and celebrations.

REV. CANON (DR.) E A B ADENUGA.

**GOLDEN JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY
OF THE GUILD OF STEWARDS,
CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, MARINA, LAGOS.**



ENGR. F. A. O. Phillips

IT is with great joy in my heart that I give glory and thanks to God by whose grace I write these few words to congratulate the Officers and all the retired as well as the serving members of the Guild of Stewards on this happy occasion of the Golden Jubilee celebrations.

I remember those Stewards who faithfully served in the Cathedral before and after the Guild was formed 50 years ago and who are no more, and thank God for their services and the example

they left for those who came behind to follow.

Many of us may not know these Stewards but I would like to mention the name of my good friend, the late Mr. Eric A. Adekunle who, though he was not a group leader, served as the Treasurer for 29 years before he handed over to the late Mr. Thorpe who also gave selfless service. I am happy that the Cathedral appreciated their services by giving them the Parish Award. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen.

I decided to retire as the leader of Group A when I did, because I considered it fit to give those coming behind a chance to lead the Group. I was able to influence other leaders to give way for younger ones.

The duties of Stewards are clearly laid down in the Constitution of the Guild but I will like to take this opportunity to draw the attention of the Group Leaders and all the Stewards of the need to continue to provide excellent service to the congregation, especially the visitors, because the Church is judged by the welcome visitors receive from the Stewards.

Let everything be done decently and in order to the glory of God and his church.

Again I say heartiest congratulations, happy celebrations and may God bless all of us. Amen.

F. A. O. PHILLIPS

TO GOD BE THE GLORY A TRIBUTE TO THE CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS



MR. ADEMOLA THOMAS

TIME ticks on relentlessly. Within a twinkling of an eye today becomes yesterday and so our life continues in an endless cycle. Now the Cathedral Guild of Stewards is 50 years old. Fifty glorious years of unequal service in the Temple of God.

I warmly salute the Guild of Stewards on this occasion. Indeed every member of the Guild both past and present deserves the thankfulness of the entire members of the Cathedral. Severally and collectively the Cathedral Stewards have ensured that those who come daily, weekly and on occasions to worship in the Cathedral do so in an atmosphere of orderliness, tranquillity and beauty.

That the Guild of Stewards has endeared itself to the hearts of those who regularly worship in the Cathedral is rooted in the self discipline, dedication, selfless service and human submission of its

members to the call of God to render service in His holy Temple. The cherished achievements of the Guild is a lesson in service. Individual members of the Guild, conscious of their divine calling, come regularly and punctually on Sundays and at times on week-days to render service in God's Tabernacle and make available a congenial atmosphere and condition in which worshippers can enjoy their worship.

Theirs is an indisputable expression of the type of unflinching confidence, trust and dedicated service which Christians are expected to have and give in any area they are called to serve in the Church. It is my hope that the Guild will continue to be choosy in the admission of new and young cadres so as to ensure that only those who are truly called and who are willing to undergo the traditional and inspired training and preparation fill the vacant places that may be created by old age or death. This is the only guarantee for the maintenance of the qualitative service of Cathedral Stewards which is second to none in the whole of the Province of the Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion).

I join other members of the Cathedral in thanking God and giving glory to Him for the great things He has done in the Cathedral through the selfless devotion and service of members of the Guild of Stewards.

I am proud of your glorious past. Herein lies the inescapable challenge for the succeeding generation.

God has certainly done great things. I rejoice with you to-day.

May the Cathedral Guild of Stewards continue to flourish in the years ahead. Amen.

TEN YEARS AFTER — TRIBUTE TO DEPARTED STEWARDS



MR. V. AKIN THOMPSON

*“A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone
short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.”*

IT is ten years since the Cathedral Guild of Stewards celebrated the 40th Anniversary. The reminiscence of the prestigious celebration still fills the air. It seemed as if it was yesterday. Indeed, time flies!

We fill our hearts with grateful thanks to God for His boundless mercies, bringing us to this important milestone the Golden Jubilee. It is certainly a momentous and joyous occasion for the members of the Guild.

At the 40th Anniversary, ten years ago, our hearts had reached forth to the departed erstwhile stewards in thanksgiving to God for their lives among us. Many more have joined the saints triumphant since the 40th Anniversary. We shall again treasure their memory as we celebrate the Golden Jubilee. “To live in the hearts of those we love is not to die.”

We ought to remember the stewards who gave of their time and energy to serve in this great Cathedral. Those dedicated men who paved the way for us to follow. We commend them for their courage and perseverance in pursuit of things noble and of good report. We

are proud of their legacy. Happily, some of their children are keeping the flag flying as members of the Guild. This is a true testimony of what is recorded in Ecclesiasticus, 44:10-12 “But we will praise these Godly men whose righteous deeds have never been forgotten. Their reputations will be passed on to their descendants and this will be their inheritance. Their descendants continue to keep the covenant”.

The devotion to duty and selfless service which they conscientiously demonstrated shall remain indelible for many generations to come.

The Poet, Rudyard Kiplin had written:

“Lives of great men remind us
we can make our lives sublime
“Departing, leave behind us
Foot prints in the sands of time.”

For those of us still on the terrestrial plane, the active stewards the Golden Jubilee Anniversary calls for a rededication to faithful and selfless service. Jesus Christ said “I am among you as he that serveth” A real leader of all time. He had a servant’s heart and appreciated other’s worth. He realised He was not above any duty. These are good examples to follow. Therefore a good steward should have the mind of Christ in discharging his duties. Serving the Lord faithfully is an investment that pays eternal dividends. May we be worthy of our calling. Amen.

Before the close of the anniversary celebrations, let us spare a thought for the nation and the Church as they stand in need of honest and unselfish leaders as stewards devoted to service and care of the citizens.

J. G. Holland had a suitable prayer to offer. “O God give us men like these demand, strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands. Men whom the lust of office does not kill, men whom the spoils of office cannot buy, men who possess opinions and a will. Men who have honour and will not lie, men who can stand before a demagogue and scorn his treacherous flatteries without winking. Tall men, sun - crowned who live above the fog in public duty and in private thinking”.

Let us proclaim the message throughout the country —

Wanted: Faithful stewards in the service of the church and the Nation.

May the Golden Jubilee mark the beginning of yet another period of fruitful stewardship in the Church of God.

CHEERS, THE GUILD OF STEWARDS AT 50 !

V. AKIN THOMPSON

*Provost’s Warden
1986 - 1991*

DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE GUILD

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|---|----------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. J. R. Curtis | — | (Chairman) | 29. | Mr. M. A. O. Alao |
| 2. | Mr. E. Owo-Samson | — | (Secretary) | 30. | Dr. Taiwo Oluwole |
| 3. | Mr. D. O. Johnson | — | (Treasurer) | 31. | Mr. J. A. G. Martins |
| 4. | Mr. J. E. Ejemai | | | 32. | Mr. A. C. O. Dawodu |
| 5. | Mr. Olawale Martins | — | (Treasurer) | 33. | Prince M. A. Ogun |
| 6. | Mr. S. G. Abimbola | — | (Group Leader) | 34. | Mr. Reginald Martins |
| 7. | Mr. E. A. Babaniji | | | 35. | Dr. Sasegbon |
| 8. | Mr. F. O. Campbell | — | (Chairman) | 36. | Mr. Akin - Williams |
| 9. | Mr. I. O. S. Osisanya | | | 37. | Mr. J. B. Daramola |
| 10. | Mr. C. A. Jackson | | | 38. | Mr. S. D. Ade Ogunbuyi |
| 11. | Mr. V. O. Wey | — | (Secretary) | 39. | Mr. Odusote |
| 12. | Mr. H. A. Martins | | | 40. | Mr. J. O. Senbajo |
| 13. | Mr. J. O. Phillips | | | 41. | Mr. E. O. Thorpe |
| 14. | Mr. S. O. Bailey | | | 42. | Mr. J. A. Banmeke |
| 15. | Mr. S. O. Ogunbamowo | | | 43. | Mr. E. O. Ekisola |
| 16. | Mr. J. G. Ayodele | — | (Chairman) | 44. | Mr. S. O. Aboyade - Yebovi |
| 17. | Mr. R. A. Obisanya | | | 45. | Engr. Adeniyi - Williams |
| 18. | Mr. E. A. B. Odusote | | | 46. | Chief S. O. Adefope |
| 19. | Mr. A. D. Majekodunmi | | | 47. | Mr. E. A. Adekunle M. O. N. |
| 20. | Mr. J. A. Adeniji | — | (Chairman) | 48. | Mr. V. A. Onabanjo |
| 21. | Dr. O. O. Sofunde | | | 49. | Commodore E. O. Kentebe |
| 22. | Dr. G. A. Ademola | | | 50. | Mr. C. O. Harrison Obafemi |
| 23. | Mr. D. Onabolu | | | 51. | Mr. S. B. Peters |
| 24. | Mr. M. E. Adelumo - Johnson | | | 53. | Mr. L. Sanya |
| 25. | Mr. R. H. C. Sekyhyamah | | | 54. | Mr. T. H. Norma |
| 26. | Mr. E. N. A. Howells | | | 55. | Chief Adeyola Balogun |
| 27. | Dr. S. L. Adesuyi | | | 56. | Mr. Akin Abisogun |
| 28. | Mr. R. O. Fasanu | | | | |

MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THESE



CHIEF S. A. MAKINWA

THE publication of this brochure commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Guild of Stewards affords many of us, past flag bearers of the Guild, the opportunity of reflecting on some of those events during our incumbency which bring very pleasant memories. With the passage of time, some of these events may now look ordinary and incapable of undue excitement. Given the background of each case however they all certainly arouse a lot of emotion.

1. GROUP B WON THE GUILD'S SHIELD

I remember the great excitement and rejoicing the day Group B was declared winner of the Guild's Shield as the best Group for attendance and punctuality at Church services, payment of Guild dues, etc. in 1984. It was no mean achievement. Here was a Group on the verge of being disbanded. The Group had been embroiled in leadership crisis for quite a while. Members were in disarray and performance by whatever standard had degenerated considerably. Some of suggestions to resolve the problems included transferring a Group Leader or Deputy from amongst the three other Groups to re-organise the Group. Another idea mooted was disbanding the Group outright and spreading members over the other Groups. Then with divine guidance, a new leader from within emerged, the Group settled down rapidly and within two years,

it emerged not only as the best group for 1984, but had a repeat performance for two other years running. And since then, it has been forward ever for the Group.

GOD MOVES IN A MYSTERIOUS WAY, HIS WONDERS TO PERFORM.

2. THE GUILD WAS THE HIGHEST HARVEST DONOR

I equally recall Harvest '84 when at the end of accounting for the proceeds for the day (Adult harvest), the Guild of Stewards topped the list of societies as the highest donor. This was against the background that late into the Seventies and early Eighties, the Guild was not doing well at all. There were many lapses amongst which, according to one report, were poor finances, large scale absenteeism at church services and poor attendance at meetings. Then the good Lord touched us all. The Guild began to shape up. Its image soared. And in 1984, the Guild which had then been out of reckoning in previous harvests, topped the list of society donors for the Annual Harvest Thanksgiving and repeated the performance in 1985. In 1986, the Guild donated the largest sum ever by any society as Chief Opener for the Harvest Bazaar. Since then the Guild has been playing a leading role in the affairs of the Cathedral.

TEACH US GOOD LORD TO SERVE THEE AS THOU DESERVEST TO GIVE AND NOT TO COUNT THE COST

3. DEDICATION OF BROOCHES AND COLLARETTES

At the fiftieth anniversary of the Guild, one cannot but recall the event of that Sunday 5th January, 1984 when the new brooches and collarettes for five groups were brought into the church for dedication. Both Stewards and the congregation were excited. One Group Leader was nearly moved to tears. "We started contributing for badges and brooches over twenty years ago", he explained. "It was one problem after another. We finally gave up hope that Stewards will ever have their own identity labels".

He was therefore happy to witness the dedication of the beautiful brooches for stewards and verges and the introduction of collarettes for Group Leaders and Wardens. To him, the collarettes were a special bonus to compensate the long wait. As stated by Chief Onabajo in his write-up on the Guild of stewards in the fortieth Anniversary brochure, the brooches and collarettes "have become symbols of honour, service and togetherness' by those privileged to wear them

MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THESE (Cont'd)

AND THIS SHALL BE MY SIGN.

4. REDECORATION

With another Redecoration coming on stream very soon, the last redecoration of 1985 readily comes to mind. Every member attending the Standing Committee that evening of September 1985 was ecstatic when the Provost announced that Bouygues Nigeria Limited had completed its work on the redecoration of the Cathedral including the reconstruction of the Tower Block. The Tower Clock had also been mounted and had started chiming. It was congratulations galore.

Some two or three years earlier, the cathedral had been subjected to very scathing remarks at successive synod sessions on account of the deterioration of the cathedral both inside and outside. At the completion of the redecoration, Bouygues had virtually given us a new Cathedral. In its fresh chlorinated paints, the Cathedral glowed in the sun across the vast expanse of the Lagoon and stood out in the evenings like a star even amidst the taller high rise buildings that adorned the Marina skyline. Inside, the congregation rejoiced that after a long wait, they were worshipping the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

A delighted congregation held a thanksgiving service on 29th September, 1985 to mark the completion of the redecoration whilst a very satisfied synod burst into prolonged applause when the report of the redecoration was presented to the 23rd session in May 1986.

HOW BEAUTIFUL IS THY DWELLING PLACE O LORD

5. FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY

The Guild celebrated its 40th Anniversary in December, 1986 with pomp, pageantry and thanksgiving to the Almighty. In the process of the celebration, a number of firsts were recorded.

- i. For the first time, two Stewards who had served the Guild with distinction were honoured as "STEWARDS EMERITUS". They were:-

Mr. E. A. Adekunle who had been treasurer of the Guild for 29 years. Advancing age notwithstanding, Mr. Adekunle performed the duties of Treasurer with enthusiasm and joy. He was at one time a Deputy group Leader and a Chairboy in his younger days.

Chief J. O. Onabajo - who had served as Group Leader, Synod Delegate, member of the Standing Committee and

first President of the Lagos Diocesan Guild of Stewards. It is remarkable that both Mr. Adekunle and Chief Onabajo went on to win the Cathedral Parish Award the very year it was instituted in 1990. Mr. Adekunle had since joined the Stewards on the other side of the veil at the ripe age of 80 whilst Chief Onabajo had retired to his home town Agbowo-Ikosi where he is a king maker.

- ii. The Guild donated N12,000.00 to the Diocesan "TRAIN A PRIEST (TAP) FUND". The Guild was the first (church, society or individual) to donate to the Fund.
- iii. A 60-page brochure was published to commemorate the anniversary. Apart from Cathedral Centenary brochure, the Guild was the first society in the Cathedral to publish a brochure of this magnitude.

PRAISE TO THE ALMIGHTY FOR THE OPPORTUNITY OF SERVICE

6. LANDMARKS

Also on the fiftieth anniversary of the Guild, we must note with gratitude and inspiration some of the landmarks of Stewardship or Sidesmen/women in the Cathedral.

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1939 | Appointing Ladies as Side women ceased at the Cathedral |
| 1945 | Election of Sidesman by Secret Ballot was declared unconstitutional and therefore ceased. |
| 1946 | Inauguration of the Guild of Stewards to replace Sidesmen. |
| 1951 | The Guild was increased from Three Groups of Eight to Four Groups of Ten each. |
| 1960 | Rotation of Leaders and Stewards between the four Groups ceased. |
| 1984 | Induction of new stewards at Mattins inaugurated. |
| 14th Dec. 1995 | 40th Anniversary of the Guild. |
| 8th Dec. 1996 | 50th Anniversary of the Guild. |

Yes, indeed, memories are made of these.

RISE UP O MEN OF GOD

Many Happy Returns.

CHIEF S. A. MAKINWA

People's Warden and Chairman Guild of Stewards 1982 - 1988.



ADDRESS BY THE PROVOST ON 1ST DAY OF THE YEAR MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST, 1996 CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, LAGOS.

Text: Hebrew 1:1-4.

This passage from Hebrews talks about the changing years but the unchanging Jesus.

This passage also offers opportunity to think about the changing of the years and the naming of Jesus at the same time.

It is a good thing therefore, to remember that while the years may change, and we witness all around us, change and decay - the incomparably Supreme Jesus never changes. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Solid rock of the hardest type will yield to the steady drip of water - and in no time the drips on the same spot year after year will grind a hole.

The passing of the years takes its toll on us as human beings too.

The years wear on us, grey our hair (or cause its absence).

The passing of the years will double our chins, change our contours, sap our strength, chisel away our life span.

But the changing years do not change Jesus.

Rather, time meet the Eternal. His person does not change and His word endures for ever. His promises are always sure.

This is why the name of Jesus must mean so much to us - He is the one eternal Protection, Security and Hope that we can have.

- Therefore, if we see Christ as the one who possesses all things, we can be sure that he will care for them.
- At the beginning of this New Year, we can lean strongly on His promises- Ps. 91:10 says - "No evil shall befall you no scourge shall come near your tent".

- And in 2 Tim. 4:18, we have yet another promise - "The Lord will rescue me from every evil and save me for His heavenly Kingdom - therefore, to Him be the glory for ever and ever Amen."
- We approach the New Year with expectancy.
- We plan for great things - we hope for improvement and success.
- But, we must also prepare for any eventuality.
- I want you to note that the ocean liner does not carry lifeboats for decoration, but for preparedness.
- Therefore, as we launch into the New year, let us take the unchangeable Jesus with us, not as a decoration but as Protector and as a sure reference against any trouble.
- Let us take Jesus with us our Creator, our Owner, our Source and our Power.
- Nobody knows what tomorrow may bring. The sailing during this year may be uneventful, or it may be rough, or it may be smooth, but, He who stilled the wind and waves will come to us at such unfriendly moments and say "Peace, be still" and say "It is I, do not be afraid".
- Therefore, this New Year, let us be strong under Christ, and say that, "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom. 8L38-39).
- At times we may be tempted to doubt the protection and care of Jesus.

ADDRESS BY THE PROVOST
ON 1ST DAY OF THE YEAR MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST, 1996
CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, LAGOS. (Cont'd)

- But I ask you - Do you see the sun during the night? Nevertheless it shines.
- In the night of trouble and perplexity should we doubt the protecting care of God? No! in as much as we know that, "All things work together for good to them that love God".
- This New year, let us ask God to satisfy us early with His mercy. Let us implore His forgiveness for our many sins in the past year, especially for those sins that still haunt our memory.
- At the beginning of this New year, let us ask God to make us glad - To make us glad according to the days wherein He has afflicted us and the years wherein we have seen evil.
- The sorrows, afflictions, sicknesses, trials, poverty, hunger, betrayals of 1995 are many. Let us ask God to send us in this 1996, happiness, comfort, consolation, economic buoyancy and social ease, that we can say with David - "That the bones which you have broken may rejoice".
- In the New Year, let us make up our minds never to part with Jesus, so that we may experience spiritual physical progress.
- Do not allow yourself to dwell on past mistakes - these will only slow down present and future progress.
- Rather than doing this - promise yourself not to allow such mistakes to repeat themselves this New Year, but go forward with confidence and hope for better things to happen this New Year.
- Always remember that each passing year reminds us how short our time is here. Every illness, every hospital and every graveyard, speaks boldly of our need for Jesus, the incomparable and only Saviour.
- So make Jesus your way, your truth and your life. He alone can lead you to victory over the destructive forces of this world.
- He alone can assure our glory in Eternity.
- He alone can lead us to conquer sin, to overcome spiritual death, and to resist the damning power of the devil.
- You can make it, and you will make it this 1996, if only you make Jesus your scaffold.
- * May the good Lord bless you and your home this New Year.
- * May he pour down upon you and your family the abundance of His grace.
- * May goodness and mercy continue to follow you and may He lead you to waters of comfort.
- * May He be to you a tower of strength in the face of your enemies.
- * May he be your hope and strength and a present help in time of trouble. Amen and Amen.

VERY REV. DR. SEGUN OKUBADEJO

The Provost.

THE VALUES OF A CATHEDRAL

FIRST, a Cathedral is a continual witness to the majesty, power and love of God. As we gaze up at it, we cannot help thinking of God; and the glory of the building teaches us that only the best that can be given is worthy of Him. So we remember that in all things we must give our best to God.

A Cathedral has to be an example to all Christians and church people of how to worship worthily. The worship in Worcester Cathedral for example, is continuous: every day there is Holy Communion and Morning and Evening Prayer sung by a most glorious Choir. While this is not possible for every Cathedral, at least the cathedral can provide a pattern of reverent worship as an ideal to be aimed at by other Churches. The music must be rendered in the most dignified, sincere and beautiful way possible. Sometimes lovely music beyond the scope of ordinary choirs will be given to benefit those to whom such music appeals. It is the hope, however, of many that the Cathedral will have a Choir which will not, on normal occasions, monopolise the singing and chanting but will lead it in such a way as to help all to join in with a true spirit of worship and reverent care. And whether there is a large congregation or not, it must not be allowed to affect the rendering of the service - it is not to man but to God that we offer praise, prayer and worship. In a Cathedral particularly, whether there are few or many people in the building, we are offering worship on behalf of the whole Diocese.

Another value of the Cathedral is that it may be a great Centre of fellowship. From all over the Diocese people belonging to different sections of the Community come for corporate worship. And all these occasions help to link people together in fellowship, help them to recognise the need of looking to God in all the affairs

of life and by acknowledging the Fatherhood of God, they remember too the brotherhood of man, especially when they join together from many different towns and villages to render their act of worship.

A Cathedral should of course, be a source of inspiration and upliftment. One great means of achieving all these is if the Cathedral is recognised and used continually as a place of prayer. It is hoped it will be practicable to leave the doors of the Cathedral open in the day time and that people will make a habit of entering for private prayer and meditation. Thus there will be created an atmosphere of prayer about the building which will mean much, and exercise a deep silent influence on all who enter for whatever purpose.

A Cathedral may be a home of religious learning. It is hoped that from time to time lectures may be given on the principles of our belief, on deep subjects affecting our lives here and hereafter.

Last, a Cathedral, as the years go by, becomes a storehouse of history and a shrine of remembrance. All around are memorials of the past, and the records of what they were and did speak to all who come there. Here too are expressions of generosity and gratitude through various gifts, decorations, adornments and commemorations.

No man could do more good or confer a more lasting benefit with the means God has given him than by helping to beautify the great Temple of God which will stand long after other buildings around have fallen into decay, and will be a perpetual witness to the devotion of those who created it.

(Article by a Bishop from the Niger, published in the "By the Lagoon" of 1953, and condensed by Mr. F. A. Adewumi.)

CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS GROUP A



MR. A. A. ADESEYE (GROUP LEADER)

THE qualities of Group A as highlighted in the 40th Anniversary Souvenir Brochure of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards and accepted by a majority of the congregation continue to be maintained up till the present time by the Group. This is due to the relentless efforts of the past leaders of the group - Engr. F. A. O. Phillips Late Mr. E. O. Ekisola, Mr. V. A. Roberts and A. A. Adeseye the current leader who always reminded the members of the discipline needed to be able to maintain such qualities. To this, the Group members have always responded.

Satisfied with the steady progress the Group was making and with potential leaders (in the Group) in view, Engr. F. A. O. Phillips

voluntarily retired from active service in the Guild in 1975 at the age of 60 years.

The late Mr. E. O. Ekisola succeeded Engr. Phillips in 1975 and remained in office as Group leader until his death in August 1987 when Mr. V. Roberts - the then Deputy leader assumed the leadership of the group on 6th Sept. 1987 with me as his Deputy. Mr. Roberts' tenure was like being members of the same family with him as a father and senior brother to us all. His voluntary retirement as our Group Leader on 31st January 1992 - even at an age of over 80 years was not well received by the Group. He however assured us that he would continue (to some extent) to give support to the Group. As humble as he is, he kept assisting both in Church and at the Vestry until when his wife died. May the soul of Mrs. Roberts continue to rest in perfect peace. Amen.

Since taking over the leadership of Group A we have had occasions to honour the invitations from members of the Group to the celebration of their Birthday, wedding ceremonies of their children etc. etc. From our regular voluntary contributions within the Group, we were able to give donations to individuals concerned.

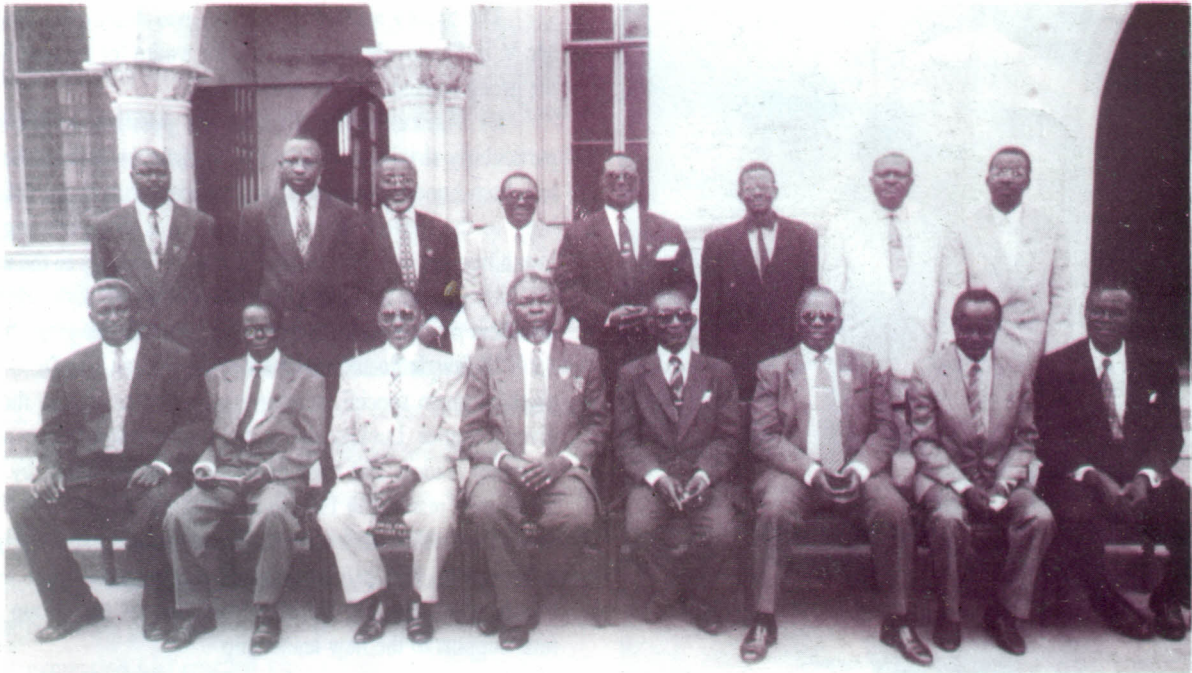
To all who continue to contribute generously,

I wish them more Blessing from above. Amen.

The members of Group A are:-

Messrs. A. A. Adeseye - Group Leader, E. I. Odina
Deputy leader, Justice S. O. Okunribido, Fola Sasegbon, Chief O. O. Peters, G. O. A. Ekisola, J. T. D. Duncan, S. A. O. Oyekanmi, M. A. Ogun, Dr. T. P. Enodien, Chief E. A. O. Sonekan, A. A. Oke, O. A. Phillips, J. O. Coker, I. O. Maclean, A. A. Adeosun, Dr. O. B.

CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS GROUP A



Ajose, Olajide Alesinloye Wiliams, S. M. Johnson, A. O. Ogun, Dr. V. A. Da-Costa, E. M. Nwizu, Justice E. O. Sanyaolu, T. O. P. Adeduro, Dr. K. O. Ajayi, K. Abegunde, Rotimi Odugbesan, Jide Oki other names not listed above are:

Mr. V. A. O. Dacosta - who resigned due to age and health

Mr. A. K. Sagoe - Who recently resigned due to age

Chief Adeyola Balogun - Who was assassinated by unknown men on 15/06/96

Engr. Bayo Onadeko - The Odemo of Isara.

Mr. Adeola Okubajo - Now a Lay Reader attached to Idimu

Mr. F. O. Phillips and Engr. P. O. Santos newly elected members of the Group.

I pray for God's guidance and blessings on every services we render in His Church during our tenure.

THE CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS GROUP B



DR. OLU ASEKUN (GROUP LEADER))

THE story of the transformation of the “sides men” into the Guild of Stewards from 1946 has been told and recorded in the Anniversary brochure published on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary Celebrations of the Guild ten years ago.

Prior to 1946, the group of devoted parishioners who provided Service of Stewardship in the Cathedral was known as sidesmen.

Whilst it is not the intention of this write up to re-visit the whole of that story in recording the development within the Group B of the Guild of Stewards since the 40th Anniversary, it will be difficult to avoid repeating some of the highlights of the events in the group recorded in the earlier publication.

The group was ably led into the 40th Anniversary celebrations by our indefatigable leader. Mr. A. P. Olaomo assisted by the Deputy Leader, Mr. B. H. Cobham, both of whom have now retired from the Guild after having dutifully and remarkably contributed their quotas to the orderly development of the Guild. They both however remained leader and deputy leader respectively of group B until only over a year ago when the leadership mantle fell on Dr. Olu Asekun, following his election by an unanimous decision to take over from Mr. Olaomo.

The deputy leadership position was deservedly bestowed on Mr. V. B. Sangoyele who had won the award for the best Steward in the group consistently for a few years.

Dr. Asekun's elevation to the position of leadership is particularly striking as it could be described as honour being given to whom honour was due. His predecessor said the following of him, in the period when the group was experiencing extreme instability and was thus bogged down by lethargy to the extent that the idea was in the offing that the Group be disbanded and the members re-distributed to the other three vibrant groups.

“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 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 to the new leadership”.

There is therefore no doubt that the current rating of Group B as one of the best if not the best group has been motivated and influenced by that spirit of leadership and solidarity which the present leadership has brought to bear on the conduct of the group.

As has been mentioned earlier, the deputy leader Mr. Sangoyele also has exhibited remarkable leadership trait by his having won repeatedly the award for the best steward in the group. His performance at all times as a steward is worthy of emulation by the younger stewards, particularly in these days when the standard of stewardship has deteriorated such that stewards recently had to be reminded by way of a memorandum of what good standard of stewardship expected of them entails.

It is unfortunate that the competitions to which the stewards individually and as groups were subjected by way of the annual awards has been discontinued, not by design but by mere indifference of lethargy, otherwise the awards are the best ways of bringing out the best in the stewards and ensuring high level performance by the various groups and the most effective standard of stewardship to the congregation.

Tribute however must be paid particularly to the immediate past leaders of the group and the current ones who by their own personal examples motivated the group to win even the Group Shield for the years 1984 to 1986 and 1988 to 1989 consecutively, a feat which no other group has equaled.

THE CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS GROUP B *(Cont'd)*

We would like to suggest the reactivation of the the annual awards as this can only lead to an improvement in the standard of performance, of the guild based on the criteria of performance, attendance and financial status.

On this occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards, it is appropriate to place on record the contribution of the various leaders of the group from the inception of the Guild in 1946 towards making the group such an enviable lot today.

These are:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Mr. H. A. Sanyaolu (Deceased) of Till | 1967 |
| Mr. H. A. Martins (Deceased) | 1967 - 70 |
| Mr. E. A. B. Odusote (Deceased) | 1970 - 71 |
| Chief Akin Taylor | 1970 - 82 |
| Mr. A. P. Olaomo | 1983 - 95 |
| Dr. Olu Asekun | 1995 To Date |

Mention should also be made of the deputy leaders in recent times namely Mr. B. H. Cobham and Mr. V. B. Sangoyele who additionally has been the Social Secretary of the Central body since 1983 up to date and the following officers of the group Executive in the immediate past and presently.

Mr. Tunde Aromasodu who was secretary for six years, Mr. Demola Ilori who was the former Financial Secretary/Treasurer of the Group Engineer Seun Phillips, the current Social Secretary of the group, who has occupied this position continuously for some time .

Mr. A. A. Sonuga, the current Financial Secretary/Treasurer of the Group, who is also the Auditor of the Central Body. Prince Goke Ademiluyi is the current secretary of the group. He also has been co-opted into the executive of the Central body as a representative of the group.

They have all either played or are still playing their different roles effectively. May the Lord continue to bless them and protect them always from harm.

It is also a thing of joy that some of our members succeeded at varying times in being elected at Vestry meetings to serve on the Standing Committee.

These include:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Dr. Olu Asekun | Chief S. A. Durojaiye |
| Mr. Kola Ramos | Chief. Gordon Edegware |
| Mr. E. U. Moore | Chief. Femi Adeniyi - Williams |
| Mr. Bukola Meadows | Mr. Yinka Lijadu |
| Mr. Demola Ilori | |

Dr. Olu Asekun and Kola Ramos had additionally served as provost's Warden and Chief S. A. Durojaiye as People's Warden, Chief. Edegware was a Priests' Verger.

Currently, Mr. E. O. Moore and Bukola Meadows are serving as Provost's Warden and Provost's Verger respectively.

Messrs. Yinka Lijadu, Demola Ilori and Bukola Meadows have been Chairmen of the Technical, Harvest and Youth and Children Sub-Committees of the Standing Committee respectively for sometime and it on record that Mr. Ilori's performance as Chairman harvest Sub-Committee has been unparalleled from point of view of the income generated in the history of Harvest Thanks offerings and Bazaars in the Cathedral.

Messrs. Yinka Lijadu and Bukola Meadows are serving primarily as Synod delegates. Engineer Seun Phillips also had the rare privilege of being elected to the Greater Chapter.

Many of our members also belong to various societies in the Cathedral and some of them occupy executive positions in these societies. Dr. Asekun is a past chairman of the Torch Bearers, Eng. Seun Philips is the President of the Men's Bible Class, Chief S. A. Durojaiye was the founding President of the Cathedral Circle, whilst Mr. A. A. Sonuga is the current treasurer of the same society. Prince 'Goke Ademiluyi is the Social Secretary of the Cathedral Christian Brothers and of course, he is also our indefatigable Chairman of the 50th Anniversary Golden Jubilee Committee.

We thank God for giving such members of our group the grace to serve Him through the various positions they held are holding and for blessing their humble efforts with appreciable amount of success, thus reflecting a positive image of the group.

Some of our otherwise active members have either relocated elsewhere or were transferred at work outside Lagos. They include Dr. I. O. Bewaji who is currently in London but serves with the group whenever he is in Lagos. Others are Mr. A. O. Alao (America), Yomi Odunuga (America), Mr. B. A. Banmeke (Abuja), Mr. Femi Oyewole (Abeokuta), and Engr. (Dr.) Soboyejo (America).

We should also remember at this time those that have been called to higher service in the life beyond having played their parts in the growth of the group - the late Mr. O. A. Fagun and the later Mr. P. H. Vanderpuye. May their souls rest in peace.

Those who on the other hand attained important landmarks in their lives in recent times include Mr. A. A. Aderugbo, Dr. Olu Asekun, Chief S. A. Durojaiye who celebrated their 70th Birthdays, Prince Ademola, Mr. Yinka Lijadu, their 60th birthdays, and Mr. Adeyemi-Cole who was ordained into Priesthood and is now serving



THE CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS GROUP B (Cont'd)



at the Anglican Church of the Pentecost, Festac Town.

We praise God for His blessings on them and also thank Him for sparing the lives of Mr. E. S. O. Banjoko and his wife, when the vehicle in which they were traveling in Egypt was involved in a fatal accident in which many lives were lost. This was on their way back from the Christian Pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

This account of the developments in Group B will be incomplete without a word about the Traditional Group Annual Christmas get-together initiated by Mr. A. P. Olaomo. This has been continued by the new leadership and the last one was held at the home of our leader Dr. Asekun. As usual we were inspired by his beautiful address, which no doubt has spurred members to be determined to give more dedicated service of stewardship in the years ahead.

Earlier, on the assumption of office of the new leadership a befitting reception was held also at the premises of the new leader to mark the occasion of the retirement of Messrs. Olaomo and Cobham from the Guild. It was a rather emotional ceremony but

delightfully enjoyed by all those who participated.

It is not possible to include every desirable detail about the group in an account of this nature but it is our expectation that taking into consideration the constraint imposed on us by space and time, we have been able to provide you with a fair idea of the personalities behind the Group and how they have conducted the affairs of the Group all these years.

Finally, we thank the Almighty for sparing our lives to witness the 50th Anniversary of the Guild and as we look forward to the decade ahead may He count us to be amongst those who will continue to be worthy of His calling to service in His Vineyard.

May the Cathedral Guild of Stewards and group B in particular continue to grow from strength to strength.

YINKA LIJADU

Member, Group B

For and On Behalf of the Group.

FROM THE CATHEDRAL PULPIT

A SERMON PREACHED IN THE CATHEDRAL ON SUNDAY JUNE 27TH, 1948, AT 9.00 A.M. BY THE CANON RESIDENTIARY: THE REV. CANON A. W. HOWELLS

It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful 1 Cor. iv. 2

WHEN our Lord was teaching people in parables His disciples asked him why He used that method, and He said, "Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given." And He said to them further that they were stewards entrusted with these mysteries and it was required of them to be faithful. "Who then is that faithful and wise steward whom his lord shall make ruler over his house hold? Blessed is that servant, whom his Master when he cometh shall find so doing."

St. Paul takes up the same idea and uses it in this text. He says, "this is how you are to look upon us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God".

The meaning of the word mysteries in the New Testament is different from what we understand it to be to-day. When we say that a thing is a mystery we mean that it is obscure and cannot be unravelled, but in the New Testament it means something that is a secret to outsiders but known to and practised by the initiates. Hence you and I who have been initiated into the inner workings of the spirit through Baptism are entrusted with the administration of these spiritual things which as stewards we are to deal out, and it is required of us to be faithful.

I would like to substitute the word reliable for faithful, and I would speak to you this morning on the essential virtue of reliability.

British firms that employ hundreds of boys and girls issue three forms to be filled as references:-

- (i) Is he or she honest
- (ii) Is he or she reliable?

The word "reliable" suggests someone you can rely upon. In the American Civil War an officer was given the name Stonewall Jackson. What happened was when the General visited the Army he saw Jackson's men standing perfectly steady when other regiments broke and ran away. He said: "There's Jackson standing like a stone wall. Rally behind him." That means, he is a reliable person, one who can be trusted.

A similar incident happened in the Old Testament days when there was war between the Hebrews and Midianites. Gideon took up the challenge of the Midianites and about 32,000 men joined his army. He was moved by God to feel that not all these men were reliable and so he asked all those who were afraid to lose their lives to return home, and 22,000 went back. He still felt that among this remnant many were unreliable and so he took them to a brook and asked them to drink. Those who knelt down and leisurely drank

were to him not fit to be relied upon, but those who hurriedly sipped the water like a dog were selected to go with him to the battle, and they were only 300. These were the reliable ones.

For this same reason of treating only with people who are reliable, our Lord was careful in selecting His followers. When He was preaching to them, feeding them and healing their diseases they rushed to follow Him, but He foresaw that they were not all reliable fellows. Hence He chose only twelve, who could be relied upon to perpetuate His mission.

If we apply the test of reliability to ourselves, let us ask ourselves three questions:

1. Can our word be relied on?

Don Quixote said; "An honest man's word is his bond," and that we know is true. Many years ago, about 1483, in South Spain, when the Government had no money to pay his men while he was away from Headquarters, he wrote hundreds of slips of papers; "I promise to pay one crown" and signed it. The men took his word for it and they got their wages afterwards. That was probably the origin of paper money. Compare that with what the Germans regarded as only a scrap of paper in 1914.

2. Can our honesty be relied on?

On this point I have to sound a sad note and say No of modern Nigeria. In the olden days, before the opening up of the country our people were scrupulously honest. As up-till now in some bush places, they would expose their wares for sale in the open and go on with some other work. Anyone who wanted to buy would take the article and leave the price of it there. Nobody dare do such a thing in Lagos today. Or in those good old days when illiterate traders were trusted with large sums of money by the firms. They would take the money or goods to distant places without signing any receipt and after some week return and pay back what they owed. The Firms found them reliable and so trusted them with goods and large sums of money. These old Nigerians were like some workmen in the Bible who were found to be so reliable at the time of the restoration of the Temple that "the priests reckoned not with them into whose hand they delivered the money".

The same might be said of the English people who, as a nation, have gained a reputation for honesty. In the eyes of the Japanese, at least, before the last world war, they are scrupulously honest.

FROM THE CATHEDRAL PULPIT
A SERMON PREACHED IN THE CATHEDRAL ON SUNDAY JUNE 27TH, 1948, AT
9.00 A.M. BY THE CANON RESIDENTIARY: THE REV. CANON A. W. HOWELLS

It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful 1 Cor. iv. 2 (Cont'd)

This opinion the Japanese got through a book written by Yoshino Markino, who, when he went to a teashop in London, left two pennies for the waitress. After he had gone out the waitresses discovered half a sovereign between the pennies. She ran after him and gave him the half sovereign.

Many of us who have been to England can recount such experiences of the honesty of porters, Railway ticket collectors and especially of bus conductors.

On the other hand, we cannot say the same thing about our bus conductors, and other public servants. You only have to glance through our newspapers to see how our standard of honesty is declining. A typical example is the Daily Times of June 24th, 1948 which contained report of:

- (i) Driver accused in £4,541 goods theft.
- (ii) Alleged theft of £25 gold trinkets
- (iii) Paymaster pleads guilty of stealing.
- (iv) Woman received £12 10/- from another woman for promising to let out a room which she did not.
- (v) Trade robbed of £200.

All these cases of dishonesty are apart from what now commonly appears in our newspapers as "Court Shorts".

On the FRONT page of another issue appear reports of:

- (i) Fireman involved in £1,000 fraud.
- (ii) Man aspiring to chieftancy gaoled for stealing.
- (iii) Twenty cycles stolen in five days.

It seems to me that no useful purpose is served by these newspapers in advertising the dishonest practices of our people. Newspapers exist to report what people want, what they are thinking about and to inform them but these daily reports of dishonesty simply help to corrupt our young people, because as they read of these bad things every day their minds are poisoned to think of nothing good but how they could be dishonest without being caught.

I know that someone will retort: But there are dishonest English people. Yes. There are, as there are in every other nation. But the English have established a reputation for honesty, whereas our standard of honesty is gradually being lowered. There is no disputing this fact. You only have to look at the increase in the number of Magistrates Courts in Lagos, and the need for more. I wish we could see the seriousness of the plight into which we are plunging ourselves and strive to build up a good reputation for our nation. In this respect we need the co-operation of our newspapers.

3. Can our work be relied on?

On this question I have got to sound a sad note again, because our workmen are becoming less and less reliable. A few weeks ago one of the schools of which I am manager needed some desks and we gave the contract for them to a certain young man. He brought a sample to show the committee of the school and every one of us was satisfied it was made of fine Iroko. However, after we had approved of the specimen he was asked to make the desks, but, believe it or not, when he brought them they were of a poorer quality and in order to hide the inferiority of the wood used he varnished the desks.

Many of you will remember the high standard of workmanship of the old Brazilian carpenters, cabinet makers and masons. Today the cry is for more pay and less hours of work, while everybody tries to put in bad workmanship.

Finally, brethren, remember that God has given to each one of us some work to do and it is required of us to be faithful. If the foundation is truly laid there is nothing to be afraid of, but "if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is". "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil".

It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful.

THE CATHEDRAL GUILD OF ST. WARDS GROUP C: A REFLECTION



CHIEF J. A. OYEBODE (GROUP LEADER)

WE recall with gratitude to Almighty God our participation in the 40th Anniversary of the Guild of Stewards. Additionally, we are still alive to witness and participate in the celebration of its 50th Anniversary. Glory be to God in the Highest. May the souls of our loving departed members rest in perfect peace (Amen).

In the last ten years, a lot of water has passed under the bridge. We have had our sorrows and our joys. Nevertheless, we give thanks to God who in the words of the Psalmist is our Shepherd that our joys and smiles overwhelm our sorrows and tears. May the Lord's name be praised and glorified for ever!

You will recall that I took over the mantle of the leadership of our noble Group from Chief J. O. Onabajo on Sunday the 15th day of February 1987 at the AGM of the Guild following his voluntary retirement from meritorious active service in the Guild. You will

also recall that on retirement, Chief Onabajo was awarded the honourable title of Steward Emeritus. I am proud to report that we have not in any way or manner departed from the standards left by him. Rather, we have, as occasion demand, improved on some of his legacies.

Mr. G. O. Aboaba who was elected my Deputy has been an able, keen and reliable deputy. We cannot but highlight his unfailing and regular attendance at services. This is worthy of emulation. I wish to mention that he had selflessly kept the fort for me twice when I was away on special holidays for a period of not less than four months each. His performance and inputs into the group during the periods have been marvellous and outstanding. May the Lord give him strength and good health to continue his good works in the service of the Lord in the years ahead. Amen.

It is heart-warming to note that our attendance at Church Services and financial records within the Guild of Stewards have always been impressive. With God being our helper and provider, we shall continue to uphold the standard and even excel it.

Since the 40th Anniversary of the Guild, the following stewards have been assigned to Group C:

Professor A. Akinkugbe, Engr. J. A. Obembe, S. O. Olujuigbe, Prince E. A. Oyolola, O. O. Rosiji, A. O. George, J. A. Akinola, J. B. Ighomereho, F. A. Obafemi Ajayi.

And we lost the following to retirement and resignations:-

(a) Retirement

Chief Ezekiel Aduloju, D. B. O. Ogutuga, S. O. Oyebade

(b) Resignation

A. B. Adesanya, A. O. George

While we lost the following two members to death:-

1. S. O. Aboyade - Yebovi
2. Abayomi Coker

THE CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS GROUP C: A REFLECTION (Cont'd)



May their gentle souls rest in perfect peace.

It is gratifying to report that the group won the coveted shield of the Guild of Stewards while Mr. A. B. Adesanya and Dr. Orija won Prizes for best attendance. Other outstanding achievements of the Group were the services of Chief S. A. Makinwa and Sir. John Adepoju Balogun as People's Wardens and Chairmen of the Guild of Stewards. Chief Makinwa was Chairman from 1982 to 1988, whilst Sir John was Chairman from 1990 to 1996. Mr. J. A. Akinola was Assistant Secretary to the Guild and now serving as substantive Secretary to the Guild.

It is equally satisfying to mention that the following are among the current members of the Greater Chapter of the Church:- High Chief (Dr.) E. O. Akinsete, Mr. G. O. Aboaba, Otunba Afolabi - Alu

Aboyade-Yebovi died as a member of the Greater Chapter. Two members of the Group, Chief E. O. Omoyele and Mr. J. A.

Akinola, are also among the four representatives of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards in the Lagos Anglican Diocesan Guild of Stewards. May I also add in passing that Chief J. O. Onabajo who was the former leader of the group was the first President of the Lagos Anglican Diocesan Guild of Stewards while Dr. Arthur Nylander, SAN, is Bishop's nominee to the Synod. Mr. Olu Falomo is still the Chairman of the Committee for the Feast of Dedication.

May the Lord be praised for all our achievements. Amen

Moreover, the following members of the Group have been given the Cathedral Parish Award:-

Chief S. A. Makinwa, Dr. Arthur Nylander, Otunba D.B. O. Ogotuga, Chief J. O. Onabajo and Mr. G. Olu Aboaba.

CHIEF J. A. OYEBODE

Leader Group C.

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



MR. O. T. FAWOLE (GROUP LEADER)

Ten years ago when the Guild celebrated 40 years of loyal service to the Cathedral, the report of Group D revealed a group that had maintained a track record of quiet yet effective and devoted service to the members of the Cathedral congregation and to visitors from far and near. Group members attended to their duties with diligence apart from being punctual at all services.

It could not have been otherwise because the leadership of the Group was devoted to excellence. Mr. Edwin O. Thorpe, the leader of the Group until he received his home call, belonged to the 'old' generation of Cathedral worshippers who held on to the tradition of high standards in everything that needed to be done. He saw to it that the Group gave nothing short of its best. May his soul rest in peace.

The mantle of leadership then fell on Mr. O. T. Fawole. It was not merely automatic but it was a well deserved honour to a man

who had loyally and devotedly served as Deputy Group Leader. His election by the members of the Group was proof of the love and affection which everyone had for him. He brought in a wide experience dating back to the old times when he was Chairman of the Cathedral Youth Fellowship. Indeed, his style of leadership is as unique as he himself. His caring attitude goes beyond his group members and it is therefore not unusual to find Stewards of other Groups crowding round him whenever his Group is on duty.

Group D has been blessed with active members of the Cathedral. Records show that Mr. V. O. A. Amaechina a member of the Group was the Financial Secretary of the Guild of Stewards up to the year 1994 with Mr. M. A. Kehinde as his Assistant. Mr. Kehinde succeeded him as Financial Secretary in 1994. Mr. O. Claudius - Cole has remained the Treasurer of the Guild since 1987. Mr. G. O. M. Agbogidi served as Secretary of the Guild of Stewards from 1982 to 1994. After he left, another member of the Group, Mr. O. O. Oyebode took over as Secretary. Mr. C. T. Olaomo was Secretary of Standing Committee for seventeen years and when he voluntarily retired in 1994, Mr. G. O. M. Agbogidi, because of his exemplary services as Secretary of the Guild of Stewards was without opposition, elected as Secretary of the Standing Committee. Group D is very proud to produce the current peoples warden, Mr. F. A. Adewunmi, who was elected in February 1996 at the Vesting Meeting. We congratulate him and wish him a very successful tenure in office.

While we are still on the platform of service to the Cathedral, two of our members are actively involved in the Cathedral Choir. The Deputy Leader, Mr. Ayo A. Otuyalo and Mr. S. E. Martins both sing in the bass line of a new improved Cathedral Choir. Members of Group D are happy for these contributions made to the Cathedral.

Obituary

After over 35 years of service to the Cathedral Guild of

**CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
CATHEDRAL GUILD OF STEWARDS
GROUP 'D' (Cont'd)**



Stewards, 30 of which he served as group Leader, Mr. Edwin O. Thorpe answered the home call in 1989. We take consolation in the posthumous recognition given him by the Cathedral when he was accorded a Parish Award in the year 1990.

We also regret the passing away of Mr. J. A. Banmeke T. H. Norman and Mr. A. R. O. Oseni during the period. May their souls rest in perfect peace, Amen.

Retirement

The following members retired from the Group during the last decade for reasons ranging from transfer to age. We remember especially Mr. J. Akintoye and Mr. H. A. Lahanmi.

Elevation

The "most active member of the Group", Chief M. A. Borisade

was conferred with a Chieftancy title in his home town in 1992. He was also promoted a Judge of the National Industrial Court.

Awards

As was indicated elsewhere in this report, the Parish Award of the Cathedral was conferred on four members of the Group between 1990 and 1996, they are Mr. V. O. A. Amaechina (1990), Mr. I. O. Aina (1990), Mr. C. T. Olaomo (1991) and late Mr. E. O. Thorpe (1990). As we look into the future we do so with hope that other members of the Group will attain these honours in the Church of God and in the Society at large.

C. T. Olaomo

THE GUILD OF STEADWARD: WHAT BEING A MEMBER ENTAILED SOME SIXTY YEARS AGO BY: G. O. OLUKOYA, Esq. (UNCLE GEORGE)



MR. G. O. OLUKOYA (UNCLE GEORGE)

IT with much delight that I give (younger members of the Cathedral Church of Christ) some insight into what being a member of the Guild of Stewards entailed in the days of yore, those halcyon days when order was order and everyone knew and kept his place very much unlike today's tumultuous times of ever present and bewildering change.

Psalm 26:8 fittingly says, "Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house and the place where thy honour dwelleth". I must say I did not come into Christianity. I was born into it; my parents were devout Christians long before I was born. As an adolescent, I lived all through with functionaries in Christian missions, among whom were the late Rev. S. J. Ganzallo, then Principal of Ijebu-Ode Grammar School and the late Canon I. B. Ogunmefun when he was Vicar, St. Saviour's Church, Ijebu-Ode. On coming to take up permanent residence in Lagos as an adult in 1936, I was impelled

by the same characteristic Christian eagerness and devotion as enunciated by the Psalmist to seek enrollment in the Cathedral Church of Christ.

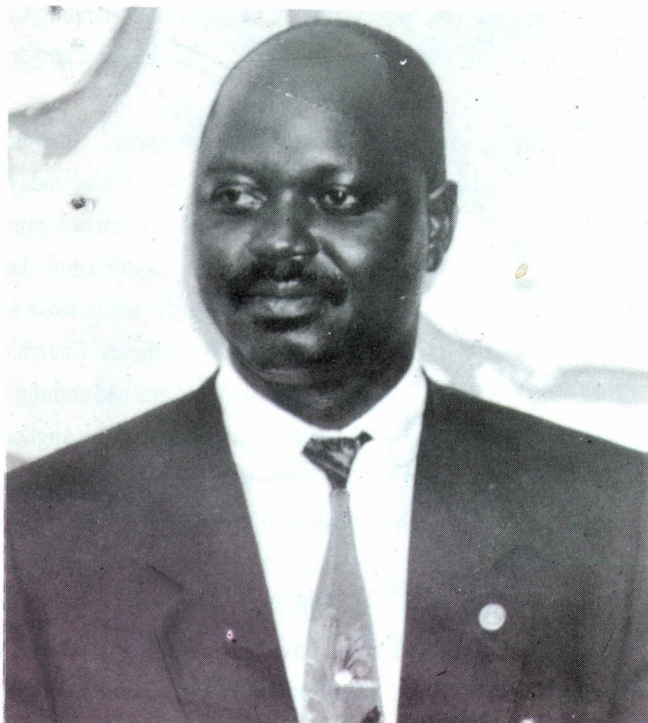
Within a period of barely two years, I was invited, in effect, hand-picked, to be a sidesman. "Sidesman", yes, it was, today's sobriquet for "Steward", and a far cry from today's practice which requires would-be Stewards to apply in writing before being duly appointed. There was no guild or any quasi-trade union cloak for that matter to superintend their activities. The Cathedral Church of Christ was then firmly cast in evangelical mould and had nothing of the tappings of the Tory High Church characteristic of the Anglican Church in England. By 1936, these were to be much distance development that to begin in 1940 with the appointment of Rt. Rev. Leslie Gordon Vining as the Bishop of Lagos.

Being a sidesman in the 1930s called for almost super-human qualities: uncommon zeal and devotion to duty, high sense of responsibility and high standard of punctuality. It was sidesmen who opened the doors and windows of the Cathedral before early communion and it was they who locked them at Evensong. Since they served the hymnbooks and the Psalters and must return them for safe-keeping sidesmen must also be in attendance before and after every service.

These drudgeries have now, fortunately been taken off the duties of today's Stewards. Of those highly dedicated set of labourers in the Lord's Vineyard only four of us remain on the terrestrial plane: Engr. F. A. O. Phillips, Chief Akin Taylor, Mr. S. O. Wey and my humble self, the others having laid down their kits and gone up for higher service.

The present Guild of Stewards has a constitution. Elected officers and membership are drawn from most able in the cathedral. It is a highly institutionalised setting and not the patchwork of hand-picked men of yesteryear. One would concede this as progress. Membership of the Guild now carries with it enormous prestige and many have become members because of this.

MY EXPERIENCE AS A YOUNG STEWARD BY KAYODE ABEGUNDE GROUP 'A'



MR. KAYODE ABEGUNDE

Teach us good Lord, to serve thee as thou deservest.
To give and not to count the cost
To fight and not to heal the wounds.
To toil and not to ask for any reward
Save that of knowing that we have done thy will.

(Prayer of Saint - Augustine)

MY first encounter with a character that truly served with all his might and to the Limit of his ability without seeking for reward was when I read George Orwell's Animal Farm while in the secondary school.

Boxer, whose motto was "I will always work harder; Napoleon is always right" always saw to it that his duties were accomplished no matter the inconveniences. Without prompting, Boxer reduced his leisure and resting period in order to put in more man-hours on

the field. In spite of his loyalty and faithful services, he was shortchanged even at death by his compatriots whom he spent all his life serving.

Most of us then, perhaps owing to our tender age, concluded that Boxer was nothing but a compound fool.

Over the years, however, I have come to realise that nothing gives internal joy, contentment and satisfaction like serving humanity, and by extension, God. There is joy in service, no matter in what capacity. The service I have in mind is not the type we hear on the TV or the Radio.

Not too Long ago, I asked one of the Ministers in the Cathedral to tell me which of all the societies in the church is service oriented that I could fit in. His verdict: - Guild of Stewards, and I immediately registered my interest to become a member.

On the day of the interview, the first question thrown to me was, "Why do you want to be a steward?" I saw the Guild as an avenue of service, I quipped. I left the chilly Chapter House sweating after an intense screening by the Guild's Executive Committee.

Cold sweat ran over my forehead when I saw the people in my group on my first day as a steward. Apart from their station in life, most of them could be my father. How will I be able to find my feet, talk less of interacting with those elderly men? I asked myself. My fear disappeared like a bubble when members returned to the Vestry to count the 7.15 a. m. collection. I was warmly received by all.

The six months training/probation period was very educative, interesting and very challenging. The standard of discipline was high. Details, such as mode of dressing, punctuality and attendance were meticulously monitored by the Group Leader. It is an offence to fly your suit; it must be properly buttoned up; Lateness is abhorred. The group leader is never tired of reminding offenders that were it to be when Pa FAO Phillips was in charge "He would have sent you back".

MY EXPERIENCE AS A YOUNG STEWARD BY KAYODE ABEGUNDE GROUP 'A' (Cont'd)

The first thing I noticed was that the Guild is a leveller. The humble way and manner with which everyone was going about his assignment with enthusiasm amidst cracking of jokes, marvelled me. Without being told, hardly can anyone know they are all shakers and movers of the society, devoid of paraphernalia of their offices. This scene was not acted, for it has ever remained so.

I was gradually put through the Codes of Conduct: when to bar the gates and when to fling them open.

How to

- Conduct the congregation when going to the altar for the Holy Communion.
- Assist visitors/new members settle in for the service.
- Be sober when taking the Thanks-Offering to the altar etc. etc.

My induction coincided with the Steward's annual rededication festival. As a result a party was held at the residence of the people's warden. The occasion afforded me the opportunity to meet Stewards from other groups.

Apart from ministering to the physical needs of the congregation during worship hours other things that make me look forward to each servicing day include:

- Listening to the Stewards singing at the vestry with their rich voice. One will think the hymns are being rendered by Heavenly Angels. Hearing Mr. Emmanuel Odina chant the Psalm or Bode Peters bass is like applying a balm on frayed nerves. Most of the Stewards, I learned, were choristers during their younger days.

Lots of Jibes and rib cracking jokes, which the elders usually indulged in, will make Mr. Moses Olaiya A.K.A. Baba Sala, or any jester green with envy. Their words of wisdom and wealth of experience can neither be seen in any text-book nor acquired from any university.

At group level, members are their brother's keeper; a delegate is always sent to ask after the health of absenting stewards. The Guild is also not lacking in collective social responsibility whenever the need arises.

From my own perception, the Cathedral Guild of Stewards offers a good example of family unit in Christ. It is where those who drink from the cup bring life to others.

I am happy and proud to be a steward. as the psalmist says "I will rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God; than dwell in the tents of ungodliness".

ARE YOU LAUGHINGLY HEALTHY?

... READ ON

1. After a church service one Sunday morning, a woman who had been helped by the message wanted the preacher to know about it. In her enthusiasm, she misspoke herself and said "Oh pastor, your sermon today was exactly what I needed! it was like water to a drowning man."
2. A young man got into financial tangle by loaning a friend in another town \$500 without the benefit of a written note. He didn't even ask for a receipt indicating the amount loaned. When the young man needed his money, he realised he had nothing to document his claim. In desperation he consulted his father. After a moment of consideration, the father said "Oh that's easy, write him and say you need the \$1000 you loaned him. The young man said "you mean \$500. "No" said the father "you say \$1000, he will immediately write you back that he owes you \$500. Then you will have it in writing."
3. A story is told about a dog who loved to chase other animals. he bragged about his great running skill and said he could catch anything. Well, it wasn't long before his boastful claims were put to test by a rabbit. With ease the little creature outran his barking pursuer. The other animals watching with glee, began to laugh - the boasting dog having been disgraced. The dog excused himself however, by saying "You forget folks, that I was running for fun, he was running for his life".
4. The story is about a man who had a weight problem, so his doctor put him on a diet. One day the doctor saw him in a restaurant with all the wrong kinds of food spread before him. "So this is what you think of my advice said the doctor to his patient. "Oh" the man responded "I've decided that it isn't worth starving myself to death just to live a few more years".
5. A wealthy man had a reputation of being stingy with his money. One day as he talked to the pastor of his church, he asked "why do people accuse me of being a miser even though they know that I have stated in my will that when I die all my money will be given to charity?
The minister responded by telling a fable about a pig and a cow. The pig complained that he couldn't understand why people liked cows more than pigs. "I know you cows give milk to people. But we pigs give them bacon and ham" "Yes" the cow said "that's true. But there is one big difference, we cows are glad to do our giving while we're living. You pigs only do your giving after you're dead."
6. Imagine being part of a group taking a tour of a museum. For more than an hour and a half you are enthralled by the guide's considerable knowledge and delightful sense of humour. As you near the end of the tour, the guide's eyes sparkle as he says, "and here, ladies and gentlemen, at the close, is this splendid Greek statue. Note the noble way the neck supports the head, and observe the splendid curve of the shoulders. Notice the natural way the opened hand is stretched out as if to emphasize, "don't forget a tip for the guide."
Clever! Winsome! That's probably how we would describe that surprise ending. We wouldn't feel taken advantage of. After all the guide has to buy shoes for his five children.
7. An atheist said to a quaker "have you ever seen God? have you ever felt God? Have you ever smelled God? And you say you have a God!"
After a long pause, the quaker replied "hast thou ever seen thy brains? Hast thou ever felt thy brains? Hast thou ever smelt thy brains, And yet, thou sayest thou hast brain!"
8. A pastor was on a guide tour of mission field. The leader of the group asked him if he would be willing to greet the believers and deliver a brief message when they arrive. he consented, but was somewhat reluctant because of the language barrier. The guide, who was familiar with the country tried to put him at ease by explaining "I'll interpret for you. We'll practise a few times before the service, I'm sure you'll have no difficulty." "I'll try" replied the pastor "even though I'm not in the habit of practising what I preach."
9. An art enthusiast displayed on the walls of his office a collection of etchings, including one of the leaning Tower of Pisa. Every morning he noticed it was crooked, so he straightened it. Finally one evening he asked the cleaning woman if she was responsible for moving the picture each night. "Why, yes," she said, "I have to hang it crooked to make the tower straight."
10. Who am I? Most of us spend a lifetime searching for an answer to this question, often getting lost in a tangle of contradictions. In a book "Commitment and Caring" The author writes, "one of me is laughingly healthy, the other is a pouting neurotic, one of me is a romantic poet, sighing for a perfect love, the other is a practical realist, content to love faithfully if imperfectly. One of me is vulgar enough to shock my best friends, the other is refined enough to get along in all the proper places, one of me is a true believer, the other is a wondering doubter. I carry such contradictions within myself that I must confuse the angels".

Compiled By:

V. AKIN THOMPSON ESQ.



IS THE PEOPLE'S WARDEN ACTUALLY PERFORMING THE ROLE OF VOX POPULI OR BUSY COUNTING MONEY? — SIR JOHN A. BALOGUN A FORMER PEOPLE'S WARDEN AND CHAIRMAN GUILD OF STEWARDS

DEFINITION OF THE WARDEN

THE Oxford dictionary says "Watchman, sentinel (though archaic); member of the civil organisation for assisting the civil population in air raids; guardian, president, governor of" institutions. By the Universal Library, the Warden is defined as 'defender, head or high official'; the universal library meaning only goes further to widen the Oxford meaning earlier stated. From the meanings, we can safely say that the Church Warden, distinct somehow from a traffic warden, is an amorphous office. But what I gather from these dictionary meanings is more that of an ambassador plenipotentiary because of our Constitution which makes the Wardens' duties so wide and almost undefinable save that the Wardens cannot carry our clergy duties!!

Personally, I believe that Priests should be more concerned with spiritual work for their congregations and they should be shielded from the secular world but only by a very thin line. The shield from the secular world is best provided by the Wardens.

I am sure that in the days of Henry Townsend, the fewness of the congregation was such that the church in Nigeria did not have more than one Warden for the vicar. But as time went on, the need for two became apparent with one Warden appointed by the congregation.

The warden elected by the congregation may have been directed to watch after the interest of the congregation and since the Priests always travel out on missions they could not be expected to simultaneously attend to other administrative matters. The People's warden was required to protect the interest of the church apart from being the people's 'Watchdog' on the Priests.

My submission is that the Church Worker must first and foremost be a devout worshipper - New Testament - Christian. at this juncture I do not see the People's warden acting as a "Vox-

Populi" agent for the purpose of promoting congregational agitations.

CHURCH OF NIGERIA WARDENS

Our Constitution for the Lagos Diocese contains provisions, such as the following main ones identified:

- a. The Wardens being Joint Treasurers with the Vicars:
This provision has been well argued at the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos and is quite justified so that even the Vicar cannot claim ignorance of any financial cheque transaction.

One weakness however is that the mandate is too tight that if any one of the three is not available, this aspect of their work can create serious bottlenecks;
- b. The Wardens are to render statements of the income and expenditure of the parish on a monthly basis.
- c. The wardens are the custodians of all church properties - including the buildings, all furniture and fittings, the priest vestments etc.
- d. The wardens are to assist with providing facilities for church services and looking after congregations.

Wardens, be they People's or the Priests' Wardens, should always be ad idem particularly as they have been made joint wardens with the Priest on all matters.

With a well reasoned position, the "Vox Populi" should be seen as properly guided, even shared by Vicars' Wardens.

The People's Warden should be knowledgeable enough to recognise Vox Populi as the voice of God in the House of God. A proper interpretation of the vox populi from the dictionary says "public opinion, general verdict, popular belief, or rumour". Infact the last word "rumour" should totally discredit the 'Vox populi'

IS THE PEOPLE'S WARDEN ACTUALLY PERFORMING THE ROLE OF VOX POPULI OR BUSY COUNTING MONEY? — SIR JOHN A. BALOGUN A FORMER PEOPLE'S WARDEN AND CHAIRMAN GUILD OF STEWARDS *(Cont'd)*

plank of the People's Warden.

The people's warden who spent his time "counting money;" is surely neglecting the other aspects of his work which are no less onerous and tasking.

Such Wardens expose themselves to accusations or suspicions of mismanagement neither of which is healthy.

These wardens can be likened to some Clergy-men who profess receiving the call as the venue to enrich themselves from their congregations. The Wardens themselves require to be equally monitored by the existence of an internal audit - especially where they keep physical custody of funds.

Here in Lagos, I am glad to recall that once AVMC Ikeja had a Vicar's Warden who served for TEN YEARS - with succeeding Priests retaining the same warden. In Nigeria, as we are developing the Church, I believe that there should be need for properly codifying and widening the duties of the Church wardens as to relieve the Priests of clashes of interest whilst concentrating on their spiritual

and pastoral duties.

The duties of the People's Warden include the Chairmanship of the Guild of Stewards which does not end with counting money alone.

Assisting the congregation, directing enquiries from members and visitors, attending to church needs, looking the church properties; all these are quite extensive that the Warden who busies himself counting money will be doing so at his own peril.

The Warden as a Church worker and by implication, a church leader should be a committed worker; there being no room for false pretences.

He must be spiritually inclined to identify with the needs of the people. This is nearly a response to a call to serve.

The Warden must be well above board in all his public life - a role model of some sort.

The Warden should be an accomplished manager.

PHOTO PANORAMA



Bishop Adetiloye (As he then was) Launching (TAP) - Train a Priest find on behalf of the Guild.

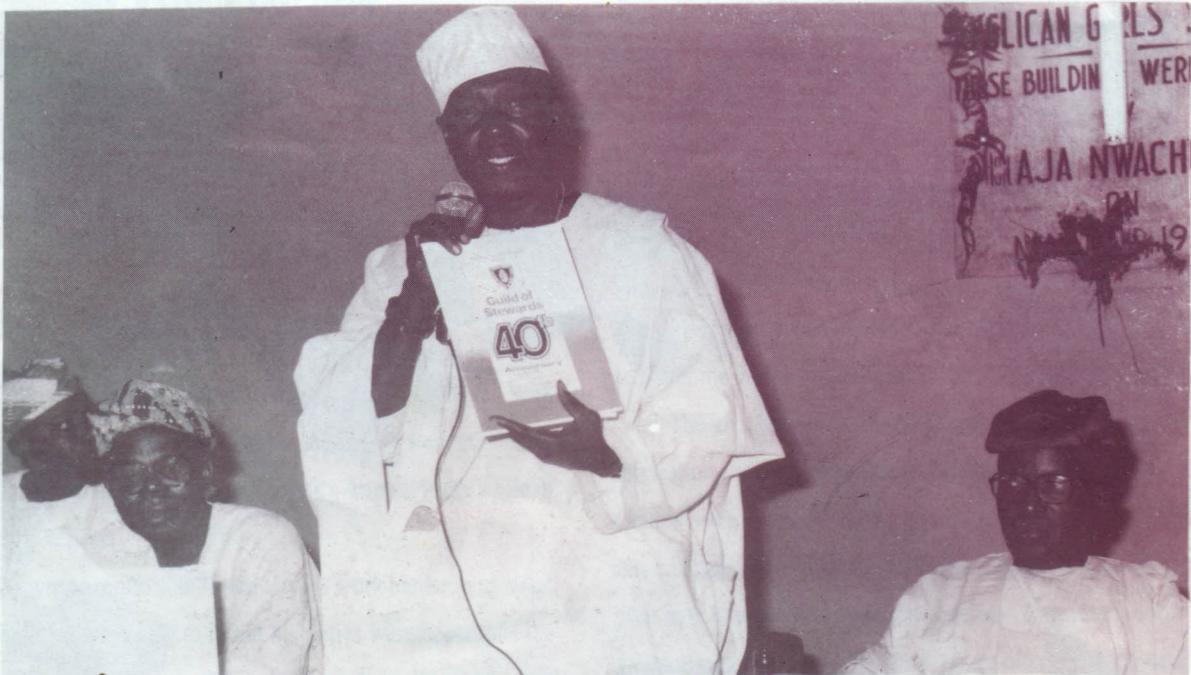


Royal Couple!

PHOTO PANORAMA (Cont'd)



Rev. (Dr.) Segun Okubadejo (As he then was) in a thrilling session with members of the Guild 10 years ago!

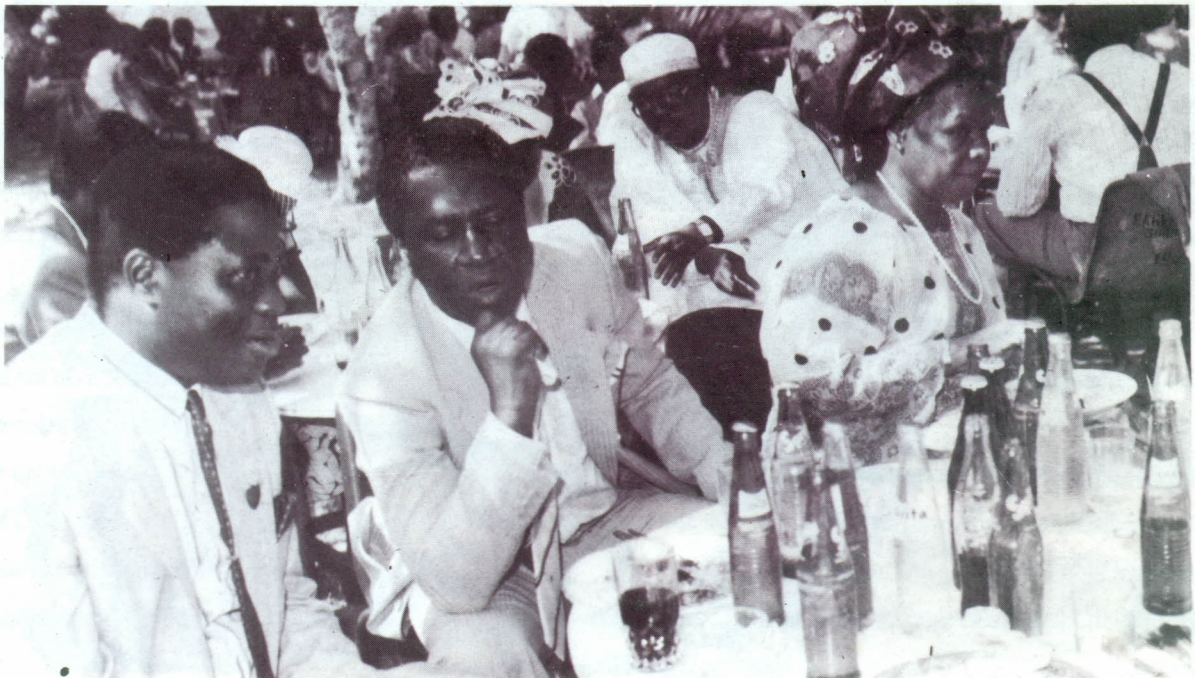


High Chief (Sir) Akin - Taylor Launching the 40th Anniversary Brochure of the Guild. Making history!

PHOTO PANORAMA (Cont'd)



Cutting the Cake of the 40th Anniversary of the Guild by the Peoples' & Provost Wardens. Supported by their Wives.



Chief Olu Falomo in deep discussion with Mr. Segun Adeyinka at Guild's Outing.

PHOTO PANORAMA *(Cont'd)*



Past Provost Warden and currently Deputy Leader, Group "D" Mr. Ayo Otuyalo with Mr. Williams & Mrs. Olaomo



Is the SAN discussing Law this time? Mr. Arthur Nylander, an active in one of the Guild's Outings.

HINTS ON STRESS

BY DR. O. B. ORIJA (MEMBER OF GROUP C)



DR. O. B. ORIJA

What is stress and how does it arise?

STRESS is a situation in which an individual finds it difficult to adapt to a change. "Change is the law of life". Every living thing has learnt to adapt to change in whatever form it comes. Life can therefore be described essentially as a state of dynamic equilibrium characterised by continuous changes and adaptations or adjustments. In fact adaptation or "coping with life" has become so automatic and routine - like that is usually taken for granted. There are however certain circumstances when the change is so complex that the routine of adaptive mechanisms fail to restore equilibrium as a result of which extra efforts or resources are needed. The reaction to such circumstances is "STRESS" while the circumstances themselves are Stressors. In plain language, stress is the distress arising from any situation which makes extra demands on an individual's coping mechanisms.

FACTORS WHICH INFLUENCE THE COPING MECHANISMS OF AN INDIVIDUAL INCLUDE:

1. **AGE:** Ageing is an inevitable physiological process with its advantages and disadvantages. The latter include a gradual reduction in physical and psychological capabilities. A 60-year old man though a repository of experience and presumably of wisdom is physically and mentally less agile than a 40-year old. He is therefore more readily stressed than the younger man.
2. **SEX:-** Our culture has imposed certain cultural norms on us thereby ascribing different roles to both sexes. There are challenges however that demand roles other than the usual. In such situation conflicts arise and stress sets in.

PERSONALITY:- The personality of an individual gives the real picture of what and who he is when he is "unmasked". It is made up of traits that describe how the innate abilities have been molded by upbringing, opportunities and experiences to arrive at the complex adult that an individual is. We know of individuals who are nervous and highly strung, anxious about everything including their ability to cope. Some are suspicious while others are dependent. There are others still who are fussy, punctilious and conventional. All these traits will determine our reactions to stressors.

4. **SOCIAL SUPPORT:-** Social isolation is a great stressor while social support is a great buffer to stress. Share a problem with someone and it is immediately solved.
5. Prevailing physical and psychological environment.
6. General State of Health of an individual.

STRESSORS:-

Life events are very common stressors. Some of these life

HINTS ON STRESS

BY DR. O. B. ORIJA (MEMBER OF GROUP C) *(Cont'd)*

events may be apparently pleasant e.g marriage, promotion at work, arrival of a new baby, new appointments etc. Other are obviously painful e.g. death of a loved one, separation, protracted illness, economic hardship, joblessness and threats to life and property.

HINTS ON MANAGEMENT AND PREVENTION OF STRESS:

In order to manager prevent stress therefore, it is important to:-

1. Know yourself, the type of person you are, your limits and your personal warning signs.
2. Plan ahead and prioritize.
3. Maintain a good state of general health, a balanced diet, regular gentle physical exercise and regular medical check-up.
4. Create leisure time and enjoy hobbies.
5. Get adequate rest and sleep
6. Share problems with others, family, friends, and colleagues.
7. Be HONEST in relationship, self confident and rational, cultivate respect for self and for others, recognize basic human rights particularly the right to say NO and the right to make

MISTAKES without ill-feelings; in short be ASSERTIVE.

8. RELAX: let go; improve your humour and laugh more.
9. Learn to take control and use confrontation constructively. Challenge unreasonable demands and deadlines.
10. Avoid short cuts and substitutes such as alcohol, tobacco, coffees, other drugs and "New Partners".

If these hints are followed, problems and damages usually attributable to stress will be minimized or completely eliminated. As Christians however, we have a greater succour in the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ if only we could be sincere in our relations with God through Christ with total submission to His will and ways. Examples abound in the Scriptures as proof of this if only we would HONESTLY and patiently follow them.

I seize this opportunity to congratulate all the Group Leaders, other officers both past and present and the entire members of the Guild on their Golden anniversary. I wish everybody a Happy anniversary and more years of peaceful and Stress - free service to the Church in particular and humanity in general.

IN A LIGHTER MOOD

1. A woman told a friend, "With the prevailing harsh economic situation in the country, my daughter and her husband have found the perfect way to save on their food bill. They bought an economy car and they drive it to our house every evening and have dinner with us".
2. A young lady had announced her engagement to an older man. Although he had made a lot of money as a mathematician and business man, some of his neighbors thought he was a bit of an odd fellow. Being rich, they referred to him as eccentric. One of the young lady's friends said to her, "Why in the world do you want to marry him? Everybody knows he's half-cracked."
"He may be half-cracked," the young lady replied, "but he sure isn't broken."
3. The Bank had just installed a new sophisticated alarm system. In case of a hold-up, all the teller had to do, was step on a pedal that would alert the police station that was only one hundred metres away.
The first day it was in use, the bank was held up. The teller stepped on the pedal before handing over the money. Almost immediately, the phone at the bank rang. The hold-up man grabbed the phone and lifted the receiver.
"This is the Police Department" the voice said. "Did you know that someone over there has stepped on the pedal that sets off the new alarm system over here?"

Compiled by
MR. TOM DUNCAN.

“MY DUTY TO MY CHURCH”(CULLED FROM “BY THE LAGOON”)

(Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 11 : 21-33)

AS Christians, it is our duty to care for the Church of which we are members. In 2 Corinthians 11:21-33, the Apostle Paul speaks of the hardship and sufferings he endured for the sake of the Gospel. What a challenging list it is? Do we know anything about stripes? rods? stones, shipwrecks? perils? hunger? thirst? cold? nakedness?... What have we endured and suffered because of our attachment and devotion to the Lord Jesus?

But, in addition to the stripes the rods the stones, etc., there was a burden that constantly rested upon Paul. He speaks of it as “the care of all the Churches”, referring, no doubt, to the numerous Churches he had, under God, established and which needed constant care and supervision. The members of these Churches were young in the faith. Many of them were feeble. They had problems. They were Surrounded by terror, they were faced with the danger of divisions, and Paul felt a tremendous responsibility towards all these Churches.

Let us anticipate two reactions to our choice of this theme. First does someone say “This is a word for pastors, leaders, and ministers” Yes, those who have been entrusted with spiritual leadership and the pastoral overseer of an assembly of God’s people need to take great heed to this portion of Scripture, and especially to Paul’s reference to his “Care of all the Churches”. But, surely it is the responsibility of every single member of the Church to care for the Church of which he or she is a member? Surely, we are all to care for the Church, for our Church. Second, does someone say, “Surely, the Head of the Church will care for the Church?” Yes, that is true also. See what the Lord Jesus said about this in Matthew 16:18.

It still remains true, however, that as Christians we have a responsibility towards our Church, a duty to care for the Church of which we are members. What then must we do?

(1) We must care for the Church by attending it.

Absentee members do not help the Church. We are not, of course, referring to those who are prevented from attending the Church by circumstances beyond their control. Look up Hebrews 10:25. As far as possible we should do all within our power:

(i) To attend the SERVICES of the Church. There is the Sunday morning Worship Service and the Sunday evening Evangelistic Service, and there is the frequent Remembrance of the Lord at His Table. Should we not, as Christians, do our utmost to be present on every possible occasion at these services?

- (ii) To attend the MEETINGS of the Church. There is the Prayer Meeting, the Power-House of the Church; there is the Bible Teaching meeting, where we gain food, help and encouragement to live the Christian life; and there is the Business Meeting, where the Church assembles together under the administration of the Holy Spirit, to do the business of the Church. We should do our utmost to be present on all of these occasions.
- (iii) To attend the ACTIVITIES of the Church. These may be regular, and they may be sectional activities - for women, for young people, or for men.

What a great day would dawn if every member of every Church would really give the fullest possible support in attending the Church on every possible occasion!

(2) We must care for the Church by extending it.

How can we extend the Church? Here are four suggestions:-

- (i) By bringing others to its Services, Meetings and Activities. If only Christians would realise the tremendous service they can render to their Lord and to the Church by introducing other people into the fellowship of the Church! First of all, in order that they might be saved; then in order that they might be built up in the Faith. This is our commission - Matthew 28:19, and quite apart from the fact that it is our commission, if we fail here the Church will gradually dwindle in its membership.
- (ii) By caring for those who do come in and believe. In every Church there would be young converts who need encouragement and care. Sometimes, because they are not cared for, these new born souls are “lost” to the Church. Look up Matthew 18:6-7 how often we do cause the new convert to stumble by our lack of welcome! Here is a great ministry in which many Church members can and should engage - the ministry of becoming a “Spiritual foster parent.”
- (iii) By cultivating a missionary vision. How very parochial some Churches are! Their vision begins and ends with themselves. But the Church of Christ is world-wide in its scope and outreach, and our commission is a world-wide commission (Mark 16:15). God blesses most the Church that has a missionary vision and that is seeking to save the lost, not only around its door but in far-off lands.

“MY DUTY TO MY CHURCH”(CULLED FROM “BY THE LAGOON”)

(Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 11 : 21-33) (Cont'd)

(3) We must care for the Church by defending it.

There are seven great dangers that threaten every Assembly of God's people, and it is from these dangers that we must defend the Church. These are:-

- (i) The Infiltration of ERROR, that is, false doctrine. Let us recognise that we are living in days of apostasy - look up 2 Timothy 4:3-4. If we really care for the Church, we shall be jealous that no false teaching shall enter among its members. We shall ably be content if the full Gospel is proclaimed and we shall see to it that the membership of the church consists of those who have been truly born-again.
- (ii) The Danger of WRONG LEADERSHIP. This can easily wreck a work. There are always those in every Church who seek prominence, and usually they are the least suitable people for leadership, as was Diotrophes - 3 John 9. Much discernment is needed by the members before they elect leaders for the work. Look up and compare Acts. 1:24; Acts 6:3; and 1 Timothy 3:8-13.
- (iii) The snare of WORLDLINESS. We must see to it as members of our Church that worldly methods are not adopted for the carrying on of the Lord's work - for example, for raising funds and for “attracting” outsiders. If we seek to honour the Lord He will supply every financial need and put a passion for the souls of men in our hearts - Phillipians 4:19. This will lead us to bring them into the Church.
- (iv) The Peril of COMPLACENCY. This is a fatal danger that faces any Church that has passed through a time of prosperity and blessing. Often there is a reaction after such times, and the Church is in danger of becoming Laodicean and of saying Revelation 3:17. How easy it is for us to become satisfied with external things! See what God says in Amos 6:1.

- (v) The Paralysis of PRIDE. Of all evils, this is the worst! There are some Christians who go around, and their attitude would seem to be - “There is no Church anywhere like our Church.” There is a great peril here. Let us always remember that if there has been any blessing, God has given it, and He must have all the glory. There is nothing that so quickly paralyses the activity of the Holy Spirit as pride in the Church - in the Pastor, Deacons, members or workers.
- (vi) The Bane of CLIQUEYNESS. The Apostle had a great deal to say about this when writing to the Church - at Corinth look up 1 Corinthians 3:4-8. This same danger faces us today, and in the organisation of our Churches and in the departmentalisation of the word we need to be very careful that we do not get any spirit of isolationism or partiality.
- (vii) The Demon of DISAFFECTION. One of the biggest hindrances to the growth, prosperity and blessing of a church is a lack of love amongst the members, which is very often manifested in criticism, prejudice, gossip, and other carnal “works of the flesh.” These sins of the spirit are deadly and they dampen and hinder the work of the Holy Spirit in every Assembly.

(4) We must care for the Church by Commending it.

Most of all, of course, we commend it by what we are! Our lives must be consistent, Christ-like, loving and gracious, and must “adorn the doctrine,” look up Titus 2:10. Then we commend it by what we do. Our actions must not belie the great profession we make of faith in our Saviour - look up Matthew 5:16. and of course, we commend it by what we say. Our words must be gracious, loving, kind, and glorifying to our Saviour, thus reminding our hearers that we belong to Him.

Culled From “By the Lagoon”

ART AND DESIGN- EFFECTIVE TOOLS IN COMMUNICATION

WITHOUT communication, co-operation seems impossible because society is based on the possibility of men living and working together for common ends. Through communication, men share knowledge, information and experience and thus understand, persuade, convert or control their fellows. The means of communication are many. They include all the possible ways of attracting attention - communication by facial expression and gesture, by touch, by pictures and visual signs, by electronics, by music and dance, and most important of all by words, spoken and written.

Long before man had learnt to write and perhaps even before he had developed a proper spoken language, he was painting pictures deep in the Caves. Discovery of animal painting that are at least 20,000 years old have been made in recent times. They have survived only because they are far from the cave entrances and therefore unaffected by weather conditions. These paintings are the earliest known attempts by man to represent the world in which he lived. The paintings were those of their preys and the wild animals they contemplated to capture.

In the technological world, we are used to thinking of communication as "communication of facts", that it is difficult for us to think of painting and sculpture let alone crafts such as embroidery, textile design - woven or printed, calabash carving and pottery as relevant to the subject of communication. It could not have occurred to man that art was for the most part anything else but a kind of communication.

Works of art had a number of clearly defined purposes. Art served as embellishments to churches, temples, shrines and public buildings. Great men commissioned portraits as visible records that would enrich the family home and remind their descendants of their lineage. Cities and private patrons alike, bought paintings and sculptures in order to enhance their prestige, such works of art showed their patron's taste and culture.

Throughout history men have used visual symbols that indicate their status. Coat of Arms are such symbols. Noble families have used such devices to proclaim their identity and prestige, which

they measured in terms of their ancestral connections. In an age, when even the nobility were mostly illiterates, heraldry was an important form of visual communication. Without using any words, it was possible to display on a single coat of arms, a person's identity, rank and ancestry.

In modern society there are still many ways in which a person can proclaim his status to anyone who knows the code-the way he dresses. Sometimes, of course, the way a man dresses is directly connected with his job and the rank or position he enjoys. For example, a judge's apparel is different from that of a counsel. This code also applies to other professions or calling.

In Christian countries the major symbol of belief is the cross. To the Christians it is a reminder of Jesus' crucifixion. In fact, the Cross symbol has come to stand for all aspects of Christianity. It stands not only for the historical parts of the Christian story but also for the Christian message, including its moral code and promise of immortality.

Other religious beliefs also have their symbols and emblems, e.g. the moon crescent is identified with the Moslem Faith.

In an age of photographic technique, many people still prefer a painted portrait to a photograph because the portrait painter uses all his skill to produce an image that expresses as much as possible of the sitter's whole character, unconsciously, he reveals something of his own character through the painting.

When an artist deliberately exaggerates certain features of a person, the result is a caricature. The exaggerations invite the viewer to laugh at the person portrayed either affectionately or scornfully. Because of the need to know who the victim is, caricature is mostly confined to well-known public figures, usually politicians, such caricatures can temporarily symbolise a political party, generally as seen by an opposing party or group. They are almost always hostile, showing individuals and some - times recognisable classes of people in worst possible light.

Today, we see them as mainly in form of political cartoons in which the attitudes and policies of personages and political parties are derided. The modern cartoon is particularly interesting because

ART AND DESIGN- EFFECTIVE TOOLS IN COMMUNICATION (Cont'd)

of the extraordinarily large amount of information that can be suggested by a very simple drawing. The style of the cartoonist is always very individual. His style of drawing becomes a kind of signature so that we need only to glance at a cartoon to know that we are in touch with a particular individual whose comments on the social scene we either enjoy or dislike. Cartoons belong to a particular place and period. And for a full understanding of a cartoon, the viewer has to have a good knowledge of the social setting and fashions in thought and humour of that place and period. For these reasons, cartoon published in one country often fails to produce a response in another country where conditions are different.

There is another form of art composition which could be puzzling to the viewer. The motive behind the exercise demonstrates that pictorial art sometimes expresses thoughts and emotions that cannot be readily put into words. It is interesting that this method of self expression had reached such a high level of development. Today, we talk about the "Abstract Composition" or the "Modern Art" which sometimes leaves the viewer striving to solve a problem.

We are accustomed to think of visual art in terms of objects which are prized or admired. But Visual Art constitutes a language - a language which is useful for a variety of social purposes. Forms and images can be organised so that they can communicate with extraordinary effectiveness. Graphic designs, particularly of posters, book covers and other printed matter, is an indispensable tool of communication industry. In some visual arts, the artist is mainly concerned with communicating what he himself feels and experience. This is an important kind of visual communication that

is wholly concerned with arousing definite feelings of the viewer. When used in advertising and in display and packing of goods, visual communication has only one purpose - To sell. The buyer, who advertising had led to want something, is encouraged by attractive display and packing, not to change his mind at the last moment.

In our highly competitive world, the techniques of visual communication have reached a high standard in which the advertiser effectively persuades the public to part with its money by powerful combination of image, colour and symbols.

Men have always used signs and symbols as aids to verbal explanation. Indeed, when two people have no common language, they will automatically make explanatory drawing to convey simple thoughts and needs. This makes our road signs in simple forms, effective in communicating to us what is expected of us to do while driving or walking on our roads.

It is indeed one of man's greatest feats, the idea of using visual signs to represent and communicate his thought and spoken words. In our world of speed, written words could not have worked so effectively as visual signs have done on our highways.

Teaching and learning also, could not have been made easier except through the means of visual aids.

The overall impression is that our cities, public halls and parks, churches and homes would be unattractive and bare without some forms of visual art to communicate to us, events of the past, present and the future.

V. AKIN THOMPSON

MARY PROMISED A CHILD

ANNIVERSARIES are usually a period of reflection, a period when we reflect on our achievement and shortcomings. It is also a period when we review on our performance and plan the way ahead. This anniversary falls at a time when Christians all over the world are preparing for the anniversary of the advent of our Lord Jesus. We therefore need to remind ourselves how Jesus came into the world.

The Christians everywhere are familiar with the story of the birth of Jesus through Mary. The night of Jesus birth must be exciting to Mary and Joseph. The miracle child Jesus wrapped in swaddling clothes was lying in a manger. His coming into the world had been announced by angel Gabriel. The shepherds too saw and heard a multitude of heavenly host praising God and heralding His birth.

In the next few days we would be celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. We need to ask ourselves why he was born and what he came to do. He came as a teacher about the kingdom and demonstrated this by feeding the hungry, healing the sick and raising the dead to life. More importantly, He came to liberate mankind from the slavery of sin, that we like Him might enjoy eternal life through the great sacrifice on the cross and His death and resurrection.

Jesus was always doing God's will. He submitted himself for baptism by John. God, his father, was pleased with Him. "As Jesus came out of the river, a voice came out from heaven - This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased."

Can you now appraise your baptismal vows and do a soul-searching and self re - examination on those vows? Would I obtain a pass mark if examined now on those vows? Am I fit and qualified

to be Jesus' disciple? Have I resisted the temptations of the devil, renouncing and fleeing from all forms of deadly sins? Do I think much of myself and of my own rights and position, not willing to overlook and forgive those who have offended me? Do I indulge in untruthfulness, insincere words, hypocrisy and pretence, thinking and behaving too highly of myself than I ought not to do? Do I lead others to sin by my words, actions, examples and neglect? Have I steadfastly resisted the temptations of the flesh? Am I an easy prey to the temptations of the world - drugs, gambling, drunkenness, covetous desires, bribery, embezzlement - love of money? Do I pray regularly and fervently from my heart - praising and thanking God for His goodness? Do I heartily join other Christians in fellowship worshipping God in spirit and in truth? Am I an active or a passive Christian? Do I have faith in God or am I charitable as a good Christian should be? The self re-examination is food for thought. The baptismal vows should not be disregarded so that God may be pleased with us as He is with Jesus.

May God pardon our offences and renew the right spirit within us. Amen.

I salute all the past and present officers and entire members of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards on this our Golden Jubilee Anniversary and say congratulations for keeping the standard high as ever. May the light of the Almighty Father continue to bless the endeavours of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards. Amen.

CHIEF A. B. SOLANKE

(Retired Steward, Group A)

A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE

BY

MR. TOM DUNCAN (GROUP A)

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it" "Love your neighbour as yourself:'
(Matthew 22:37-39).

I realised much later in life, when I began to mature in my Christian faith, that nowhere in his first commandment, nor even in the second one, is there any provision for what God promises to do for me. I was shocked. many of us have been nourished on scriptures clearly pointing to what God has done for us in giving His only Son to die for our sins.

I love those "for me" verses, especially those in Matthew 6:25-34 where Jesus says I am more important than the lilies and the birds. Not only does God know what I need to survive, but He also promises to be my provider. I took Romans 8:28 as my "certain" verse: "And we know that in all things God worked for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

Somehow, however, I had skipped over the qualifying words in these passages. I had missed "But seek ye first His Kingdom and His righteousness" in Matthew 6:33 and the 'called according to His purpose" in Romans 8:28 What I mean is that I loved the Lord and knew that the changes in my life were because of His love for me, yet I had never considered what He expected of me. What a one-sided view! I wanted His power and promises but I had ignored my part in our relationship.

Then I re-read Romans 12:1 "..... offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship" Paul did not mince words and his directions opened my eyes. Our response to the Lord's mercy is to be nothing short of total surrender; but still what could I do? I began praying.

I asked God specifically what He wanted from me and how I could surrender myself to Him. Shortly, I recalled several things that were already happening in my relationship with Him.

I often awaken in the morning with a song in my heart and I begin to sing. The internal melody of praise bubbled up within me. Even before my feet touched the floor an unbidden song rolls out. It reminds me of Psalm 98:4, "Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music "Two of such songs in my experience, are:

- (1) God is good He has done me well
O, my soul, rise up and praise the Lord.

- (2) The God of love my shepherd is,
And He that doth me feed;
While he is mine and I am His,
What can I want or need.

(A & M 178.

The interesting thing about the latter is that I confused the words with those of "The King of Love my shepherd is (A & M 197) All those I consulted at home and otherwise fell into the same trap, hence I did not know the first line of the song that would have enabled me to look it up in the Hymn Book. I only remembered the adulterated words of the tune with this tonic solfa:

d m f r s f r d t d
m m r r f e f e s
m m f m r m f s f m
m r f l d t d

The following Sunday, the Leader of group A nominated me to call the hymns for administration of Holy Communion at the 7.15 a.m. Eucharist. To my utter surprise, A & M 178 was one of the hymns. God gave me what I sought on a platter of gold.

Sometimes, I awaken in the middle of the night, for no apparent reason, except to say the name of Jesus in quire adoration, like the scripture says, "hallowed be your name" (Matthew 6:9).

These nocturnal visits from God are especially meaningful because they are uncontrolled. The schedule and pressures so real during daylight hours are absent, and I can simply delight in His name before falling back to sleep.

Another song that recurs is -

Worship, honour, glory, blessing,
Lord, we offer to thy name;
Young and old, thy praise expressing,
Join their saviour to proclaim,
As the saints in heaven adore thee,
We would bow before they throne,
As thine angels serve before thee,
So on earth thy will be done.

(A & M) 632

While neither of these examples is necessarily sacrificial, they have reminded me of my responsibility to worship and adore the Lord. They have also prompted those feelings. It is hard to restrain

A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE
BY
MR. TOM DUNCAN (GROUP A) *(Cont'd)*

yourself from telling your beloved you love him or her, and when he or she says "I love you", angels in heaven cannot control the rapid beating of your heart.

That is the way it is with God. He wants us to tell Him, and show Him.

On one Sunday that I was not in church, I turned to the BBC on my radio. I heard the announcer suggest that his listeners join in singing praise and adoration to the Lord.

It was 10.15 am GMT. For the next few minutes, my living room became a chapel where I experienced a profound sense of worship suddenly I knew how much God enjoyed my praises and my singing to Him - regardless of how it sounded. I understand why the Bible urges us to "continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise - the fruit of lips that confess His name (Hebrews 13:15). I discovered God becomes very real as we respond to Him in adoration.

I am learning something of the depth of spiritual worship, of the real costs of offering a living sacrifice - costs in pride, in attitude, thought patterns and obedience. For example, when I am praised for my skills, I can choose to cast my crown before the throne (See Revelation 4:10) I am learning that adoration includes giving back to God all of those things in which I pride myself, sacrificing the many for the one.

God desires to be exalted and praised and he is pleased with such sacrifices. "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19) God had made the first move. let us respond.

It is pertinent to conclude with the following hymn:

For the Beauty of The Earth

1. For the beauty of the earth,
For the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies
father unto thee we raise
This our sacrifice of praise.
2. For the beauty of each hour,
of the day and of the night
Hill and vale and tree and flower
Sun and moon and stars of night
Father unto thee etc.
3. For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and brain's delight,
For the music harmony
Linking sense to sound and light
Father unto thee etc.
4. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends one arth and friend above
For all gentle thoughts and mild
Father unto thee etc.
5. For each perfect gift of thine,
To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine
Flowers of earth and buds of heaven
Father unto thee etc.

BUILDINGS AND OUTINGS ALONG THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW WAY

MALLAM Aminu Kano rejected Capitalism as “a Gift from God” with the result that he was accused of having “no faith in Islam” His response was in the form of a reflective question:

Are you a Muslim by inheritance or because of the quality of Islam as a Religion?”. The world society of people is divided into two: those who want religion separated from the work-a-day world and those who believe that religion is inseparable from the totality of the way of life.

Islam - An Arabic word used by Muslims - and Capitalism - an English word first used with Islam when historical records began to be written - are as old as the hills as all ancient peoples all over the whole world say.

“I will lift up my eyes, from whence cometh my help? My help cometh from the Lord who made heaven and earth”. It is to the mounts of Zion and Arafat that Abrahamic Religion turn to this day. Places of worship in Jerusalem, Mecca, Mosque or Church as in the Cathedral Church of Christ, Marina, Lagos are in buildings made with hands as our souls and bodies are made by the Almighty Creator the only ONE.

Buildings whether as places of worship or places of human abode are made with hands from which the word “manufacture” derives. Our going out and coming in from the interaction of human mind and soul must suffer no discrimination if all humans are to tread along the straight and narrow way of life. Outings can take the

form of physical movement or through writings, socialising, gathering of human talents which together enrich the quality of life. Life can only be celebrated or separated depending on whether Religion is separated from work-a-day world or is discovered and improved as it becomes integrated with living. It is in the straight and narrow way that the quality of life to which Mallam Aminu Kano referred is made possible. Is it any wonder that only the poor will find God because they are rich in spirit derived from the quality of life? Separation along ethnic and linguistic lines is as bad as division between Religion and Science which know no boundary on the surface of the earth or in the spread or expanse of the sea or mountain or the desert.

The human mind and soul are full of the material and spiritual commonwealth. It is a system of governance that dwells less on buildings and more on increasing knowledge that make it possible for the earth and the sea to meet the heavens and the universe. Therefore, proximity in human relationship is essential, rather than exclusivity in buildings made with hands. Such a concept calls for a global reorganisation which some people call A *POLYCONCENTRIC WORLD UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF ONE SUPREME RULER AND GOVERNOR OF ALL MANKIND.*

MR. S. O. WEY

28th July, 1996

THE CATHEDRAL PULPIT
SERMON PREACHED BEFORE THE QUEEN On January 29, 1956 at 9.30 a.m.
THE RT. REVD. A. W. HOWELLS, O.B.E., M.A., BD.

*(From the Archives, Sermon Preached before the Queen)
Jan. 28th, 1956 in the Cathedral*

TEXT: Other men have laboured, and you have entered into their labour. John 4:38.

Your Majesty,

THERE could be no greater honour conferred on our Church in Nigeria than to have you worship with us this morning. When we were informed that Your Majesty expressly desired to join in worship with us, in the words of the Bible, our hearts leaped for joy.

We are thankful to God that you and your consort, and the Royal Household have arrived safely in this country, and also that our eyes have seen what our forefathers would have wished to see but have not seen. It is on account of this exceptional honour and privilege that I have chosen this text, so that we may be reminded of the inheritance into which we have entered.

It would appear from this text that the Apostles had a feeling that they belonged to a greater privileged class than with their own efforts and deserts, because they had left all and followed Him. St. Peter, in fact was bold, as usual, to say, "Lo, we have left all and followed Thee. What shall we have therefore."

But our Lord kept on reminding them of the debt they owed to the generations of believers before them, the faithful few and those who were patiently waiting for the coming of the Messiah.

In the previous verse Our Lord quoted one of the oldest harvest proverbs-one soweth and another reapeth-which is an encouragement that for sower as for reaper there is a joy. Both contribute to a long, sure process. Every man, with a life honourably and honestly spent may know that he is putting a contribution, however tiny and minor,

into the generation progress of the race.

It is wise for every age to be reminded alike of its debt to the foregoing generation and of its responsibility to the next. The one thought saves it from the selfishness of pride, the other from the selfishness of disappointment.

In the Sermon on the Mount, He plainly told His disciples and all those who gathered round to hear Him that although the religion He came to establish was new in a way, it was not unconnected with the religion of the Old Testament. "It had been said by them of old ... but I say unto you." Meaning by that He came to fulfill that the Old Testament prophets had done by way of preparing the hearts of men for His coming by laying stress on motive and thought, by the lifting of the moral over the ceremonial and by showing that the true service of God demands not only our abstaining from doing wrong but by doing right actively in every way.

When he spoke to them about love, love of God and love of one's neighbour, and when He said, "a new commandment give I unto you that you love one another," it was far from His intention to make them believe that the prophets of old had never taught this before. In fact, He Himself owed so much to His immediate predecessor John the Baptist that He said of him; "Of them that are born of women there hath not arisen a greater than he."

We to-day in Nigeria have entered into the labours of a good many classes of people from Great Britain, such as the explorers who traced the source of the lordly River Niger; the surveyors who mapped out the country, showing the rivers, the swamps, the hills and the valleys; the traders who introduced peaceful trade between your people and our people; the British administrators who introduced and established law order and sound democratic government in place of civil and tribal wars; above all, Your

THE CATHEDRAL PULPIT
SERMON PREACHED BEFORE THE QUEEN On January 29, 1956 at 9.30 a.m.
THE RT. REVD. A. W. HOWELLS, O.B.E., M.A., BD. (Cont'd)

Majesty's Government through the British Philanthropists who abolished the slave trade, and the early missionaries, especially the Church Missionary Society, which brought the Gospel to these shores.

As your Majesty travels round the country with the Duke and Royal Household, our prayer is that you may be kept safe under the wings of the Almighty. During your travels nearly every one you will meet who have received Western Education and can speak the Queen's English must have received it in a Mission School. This is a testimony to the good work done by the Missionaries of all denominations, and we are grateful to Your Majesty for sparing the time during your travels to lay a wreath on the tomb of one of them, Mary Slessor.

Truer still are the words of my text in that You Majesty and the British Nation are always mindful of the great inheritance of Monarchy and the Crown. As your nation, so are we proud of belonging to this British Commonwealth of Nations and with you are grateful to God that we have entered into the labours of all those who worked hard and even laid down their lives to hand down to us fruits of freedom and democracy.

And as Your Majesty's visit to this Cathedral coincides with the observance of Myhaung Day we cannot forget your people and

our people who laid down their lives that we might live.

They fought side by side, but we pray that the fruits of the peace they fought for may be lasting, so that we shall not need to take up arms together, but as comrades work for the establishment of truth, righteousness and peace.

My prayer is that the British Crown which it had pleased God that Your Majesty should wear to-day, and which has bound your people and mine together since the days of your great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria who, in 1851 received in audience the Rev. S. Ajayi Crowther, later the first African Bishop, and listened to his account of the work and his journey up the Niger, who also presented a Bible to the Alake of Abeokuta, and the visits of your uncle, the Duke of Windsor, who laid the Foundation of this Cathedral in 1925 - My Prayer is that that Crown may remain on your head for long so that when in God's good time Nigeria fully realises its debts to those who have laboured to bring us hitherto and become a full partner in the British Commonwealth of Nations. Your visit at this time will always remind us of your interest in your peoples and will bind your people and ours as much that we shall always be able to say in the word of Scripture: Your people shall be my people, and your God our God.

LONG LIVE THE QUEEN.

WHO IS YOUR NEIGHBOUR?

Lagos has for a long time provided the cream of the Nigerian Society. So also, the Cathedral Church of Christ, Lagos has attracted its fair share of the Anglican Communion Church of Nigeria.

I have been awed by the right of worshippers - parishioners to belong to the Cathedral. From my assessment of the parishioners, I suspect that at least two out of three members are directly related to Church workers or had themselves been Church workers. Hence my own way of analysing "who is your neighbour?" - though in a completely different way - that I see it as a moving spirit which enriches the life of the Cathedral.

Throughout my six years of service as the People's Warden, in which I had interacted with several people, I grew to respect the authority of most of the parishioners as I observed their genuine spirit of worship. True, the Holy Spirit moves in mysterious ways - that it brings together like-minded worshippers.

From this observation, it is useful to respect the 'authority' or church knowledge of members even when the member is not an official of the Cathedral.

As Lagos is cosmopolitan so also is the Cathedral multi-nation, thereby enriching its membership for a truly catholic community.

On the other side, we should not let some happenings at the Cathedral confound us because Lagos occupies a similar position to Corinth, circa 50 AD, whereby parishioners need to embrace the admonitions in St. Paul's letters to the Corinthians.

As for me, I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of ungodliness (Ps. 84); and like Joshua with his household, would continue to serve the Lord.

The humility that accompanies service by stewards especially those highly placed society people is most noteworthy.

I am sure that God rewards abundantly.

Long live the Cathedral! Guild of Stewards.

Happy anniversary.

SIR JOHN A BALOGUN, KSC

I REMEMBER THE CONSECRATION OF BISHOP S. C. PHILLIPS



CHIEF BODE PETERS

NIGERIA from time has been privileged to score "FIRSTS" in its chequered history in diverse events, and so it was not different in the Anglican Communion in October 1944. When the announcement came from Lambeth Palace (The official Residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury in England) round about April or May 1944, that the then Archbishop of Canterbury - Dr. William Temple, had granted permission that Archdeacon S. C. Phillips be consecrated Assistant Bishop of Lagos to Rt. Rev. L. G. Vinning, the news was received with tremendous joy. This was because it was the first consecration ever of an Anglican Bishop to be performed outside the U.K. Hitherto, consecration of Anglican Bishops had earlier been in Canterbury cathedral, York minister or St. Paul's Cathedral, all in Britain.

Thereafter arrangements started gathering momentum, most especially by the Cathedral choir, led by our Revered master of the

Music, and a genius par excellence, the Late Dr. T. K. E. Phillips, taking the lead by getting the Choir in full stream for the occasion.

Anybody who knew Dr. T. K. E. Phillips in his life time, particularly with his involvement with the Cathedral Choir, knew that he did not believe in half measures in any of the performances of the choir, especially at practices in respect of memorable events. And so it was at that first Tuesday Choir practice after the announcement that Dr. Phillips unfolded the plans for the entire service, which I must apologise, cannot be detailed in an article of this nature, particularly in the absence of proper Records. But I remember vividly that the "Versicles and Responses" at the service was by William Bird. Psalms 121 and 122 were chanted, with Psalm 121, being sung in alternate solos by Yemi Lijadu and late Modupe Phillips - The last born of Dr. T. K. E. Phillips.

The Anthem was "THOU WILT KEEP HIM IN PERFECT PEACE" by Samuel Sebastian Wesley. One of the most interesting aspects which would have been the highlight of the consecration, was that the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. William Temple was slated to have consecrated archdeacon Phillips himself. But later words came, that he was in failing health and so he named Archbishop Derbyshire of Cape Town in South Africa to perform the consecration. And this point was proved right, in that a few weeks before the consecration in October 1944 the news came on the BBC that Dr. William Temple - the Archbishop of Canterbury died. Thereafter Archbishop Derbyshire arrived in Lagos, and took up residence in the Bishop's court.

The day following his arrival was Thursday which was and it is still a choir practice day. The Boys having usually arrived half an hour before the men, got the privilege of being introduced to the visiting Archbishop. And as we engaged in our usual Tennis ball playing on the Lawns of the Bishop's Court, he got excited watching us. But an interesting aspect of his total unfamiliarity with West

I REMEMBER THE CONSECRATION OF BISHOP S. C. PHILLIPS *(Cont'd)*

Africa was when we learnt that he had remarked to Bishop Vinning, when they were both strolling in the Court Yard of the Cathedral and heard the sonorous voices of the Cathedral choir in practice "Oh, so you have an English Choir here as well" meaning that in Apartheid South Africa where he came from it was inconceivable that a Black choir would be allowed to function in a Cathedral.

Of course Bishop Vinning, (God bless his soul) there and then brought him into the Choir stall to see us in Practice, and I suppose to debunk the idea, that only the best can be produced by an English choir. And so the weeks wore on, and finally the great day of the Consecration arrived. As it should be expected, the day was declared a holiday for all Anglican schools and establishments throughout the entire Lagos Diocese which at that time embraced both Southern Nigerian and Northern Nigeria.

On the fateful day, the Cathedral Choir was to score another "FIRST" in that for the first time ever in the history of any choir in Nigeria, instead of Eaton collars, which we were used to, we wore 'RUFFLETS' which are still in use till now. Five leading Boys in the choir, namely Late Taiwo Phillips (Cross Bearer) Late Modupe Phillips, Yemi Lijadu, Ladapo Phillips (son of the Bishop - Elect) and Michael Olumide wore red Cassocks. The rest of us were adorned in white cassocks (meant for special occasions in those days) and of course with Surplices. In those days again any

memorable occasion (like the one on hand) usually attracted procession from and recession to the Bishop's Court. And of course, this necessitated our wearing University Academic caps, which again only the Cathedral choir in those days was privileged to wear, needless to say that we were always the cynosure of all eyes.

After a memorable service, we retired to the Christ Church Cathedral School premises on Broad Street, where the choir boys were treated to a sumptuous lunch, and the men went to Cathedral House for theirs.

Later on in the evening of that day, a few of the Choir Boys - including the writer, were guests of two of the children of the new Bishop (Ladapo and his sister Fehintola) at the cathedral house for a private party, the pattern of which was usually eating a lot of Jollof rice, drinking Ginger Beer and of course, dancing to Gramophone Records.

I would like to conclude this article and say without equivocation, that it has been a privilege, and a great honour for some of us to have been taken under the wings of such a musical genius like the late Dr. T. K. E. Phillips. May his great soul find solace in the bosom of his creator.

(SGD) CHIEF OLABODE PETERS

Chorister - 1943 - 1952.

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST - MARINA GUILD OF STEWARDS 1996

GROUP "A"

NAMES

1. Abegunde, E. K.
2. Adeduro, T. O. P.
3. Adeosun, A. A.
4. Adeseye, A. A. (Group Leader)
5. Ajayi, Dr. K. O.
6. Ajose, Dr. C. B.
7. Aleshinloye-Williams, Olajide
8. Coker, J.A.O.
9. Da Costa, Dr. V. A.
10. Duncan J. T. D.
11. Durand, F. T.
12. Ekisola, G. O. A.
13. Enodien, Dr. T. P. (Ex-Officio)
14. Johnson, S. M.
15. Maclean, I. O.
16. Mwizu, E. M.
17. Odina, E. I. (Dep. Grp. Leader)
18. Odugbesan, Rotimi
19. Ogun, M.A.
20. Okunribodo, Mr. Justice S. O.
21. Onadeko, Engr. A. I.
22. Oki, Jide
23. Oyekanmi, S. A.
24. Peters, Chief O. O.
25. Phillips, O. A.
26. Phillips, F. O.
27. Sanyaolu, E. O.
28. Sasegbon, Fola
29. Shonekan, Chief E. Adegunle
30. Santos, P. O.

GROUP "B"

NAMES

1. Ademiluyi, Prince A.
2. Ademiluyi, J.A.
3. Ademola, Prince R. A.
4. Adeniyi - Williams, O.

5. Aderugbo, A.A.
6. Akindele, Dr. A. O.
7. Akinluyi, Dr. S. O. T.
8. Aromasodu, O. O.
9. Asekun, Dr. Olu (Group Leader)
10. Bailey, S. A.
11. Banjoko, E. S. O.
12. Durojaiye, Chief S. A.
13. Edgware, Chief G. R. A.
14. Ezeogu, Chief B. I. D.
15. Ilori, A.
16. Lijadu, Yinka
17. Meadows, R. O. (Verger)
18. Moore, E. O. G.
19. Oniyide, Chief O. O.
20. Otubanjo, C. Olu
21. Oyewole, Dr. O.
22. Odunuga, A. O.
23. Phillips, Seun
24. Ramos, A. K.
25. Sangoyele, V. B. (Dep. Group Leader)
26. Sanyaolu, A. A.
27. Senbanjo, A. O.
28. Sodeinde, A. O.
29. Sonuga, A. A.
30. Thorpe, Adeniyi
31. Utomakili, S. E. O.

GROUP "C"

NAMES

1. Aboaba, G. O. (Dep. Group Leader)
2. Afolabi-Alu, Chief H. O.
3. Akinkugbe, Prof. A.
4. Akinola, J. A.
5. Akinsete, Chief (Dr.) E. O.
6. Babatola, C. G. O.
7. Balogun, J. A. (Sir)
8. Falomo, Chief M. O.
9. George, A. O.

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST - MARINA
GUILD OF STEWARDS 1996 (Cont'd)

10. Ighomereho, J. B.
11. Ladeinde, O. O.
12. Makinwa, Chief S.A.
13. Nylander, Dr. Arthur
14. Obembe, Engr. J. F.
15. Obafemi-Ajayi, F. A.
16. Ogunbayo, E. O.
17. Olaleye, S. O.
18. Olaomo, S. A. O.
19. Olokun, F. B.
20. Olujuyigbe, Chief S. O.
21. Omoyele, Chief E. O.
22. Oniyide, Chief Bukola
23. Orija, Dr. B. O.
24. Osibo, F. B.
25. Osiyemi, T. B.
26. Otuyalo, O. O.
27. Oyebode, Chief J. A. (Grp. Leader)
28. Oyolola, Prince E. A.
29. Rosiji, O. O.
30. Sonuga, Dr. J. O.
31. Williams, N. O.

GROUP "D"
NAMES

1. Aboaba, G. O.
2. Ayodele, A. G.
3. Adeseye, A. A.
4. Adollo, J. J.
5. Agbogidi, G. O. M.
6. Aina, I. O.
7. Ajomo, (Chief) Dr. S. O.
8. Akinade, A. T.
9. Adewunmi, F. A.
10. Babaniji, E. A.
11. Borisade, Chief M.A.
12. Claudius-Cole, O. A.
13. Dawodu, C. O.
14. Farri, T. O. S.

15. Fawibe, A. O.
16. Fawole, O. T. (Group Leader)
17. Kehinde, M.A. O.
18. Martins, S. E.
19. Makinwa, O. O.
20. Ogun, D. O.
21. Ogunlami, G. O.
22. Okanrende, V. O.
23. Olaomo, C. T.
24. Onabanjo, C. O.
25. Otuyalo, A. A. (Dept. Group Leader)
26. Oyebode, O.O.
27. Oyewole, M. O. A.
28. Sagoe, T. K.
29. Sowande, B. O.
30. Sowemimo, Prof. G. O. A.
31. Foresythe, Lolu

CHAIRMAN'S GROUP
NAMES

1. Abumere, P. K.
2. Adediran, Mr. Justice A. A.
3. Akintoye, J. (Distant)
4. Akinsehinwa, L. A.
5. Abbey, Chief R. F. P.
6. Bewaji, Dr. I. O. (Distant)
7. Balogun, Otunba Subomi
8. Cole, J. K. (S)
9. Feyide, Chief M. O.
10. Martins, H. A.
11. Ogutuga, D. B. O.
12. Ogunmekan, Dr. A. O.
13. Onabajo, Chief J. O. (Emeritus)
14. Onabajo, Dr. B. O. (Distant)
15. Owo-Samson, TImi (Distant)
16. Oyebode, Dr. B. O. (Distant)
17. Phillips, F. A. O.
18. Roberts, V. A. (Emeritus)
19. Solanke, Chief A. B.
20. Thompson, V. Akin

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST - MARINA GUILD OF STEWARDS 1996 (Cont'd)



*Standing: L to R - Mr. M. A. Ogun; Mr. V. Akin Thompson; Mr. V. B. Sangoyele.
Sitting: L To R - Rev. Olu Aboaba; Mr. J. A. Akinola; Prince Adegoke Ademiluyi (Chairman); Mr. Yinka Lijadu.*

THE GUILD'S PRAYER

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 GUILD'S HYMN

W. P. Merril, 1867 - 1954, S. P. 635

1. 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.
2. Rise up, O men of God!
His kingdom tarries long;
Bring in the day of brotherhood,
And end the night of wrong.
3. Rise up, O men of God!
The Church fo you doth wait,
Her strength unequal to her task;
Rise up, and make her great!
4. 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!

GUILD OF STEWARDS, GUIDELINES AT DEVOTIONAL SERVICES

1. A steward serves in the House of God, he is therefore the embodiment of decency, discipline and orderliness. He must give 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 Group leader.
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 lessons.
 - c. When saying the creed.
 - d. During all prayers.Doors should be thrown open during the Sermon, but worshippers should be cautiously ushered into their respective seats in order not to distract the preacher!
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 severely restricted during the creed and prayers except in cases of emergency.
8. Distribution of letters, 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 elderly, the infirm and the younger worshippers.
10. 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.
11. At the end of every Service, all 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 collections have been counted.
13. A good Steward cooperates with his Group Leader, the Deputy and his fellow Stewards in the observance 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. Amen.

'GBOLA AKINOLA

The Guild Secretary

LAGOS ANGLICAN DIOCESAN GUILD OF STEWARDS (LADGOS) : A DECADE OF DEVELOPMENT, 1986 - 1996



CHIEF E. O. OMOYELE.

IN 1986 when the Cathedral Guild of Stewards celebrated its 40th anniversary, the Lagos Anglican Diocesan Guild of Stewards (LADGOS) was just a few weeks old; its official inauguration having just been performed then by the Lord Bishop of Lagos, The Right Reverend J. A. Adetiloye at a church service on 30th November, 1986 in All Saints Church, Montgomery, Yaba. With grateful thanks to God Almighty the baby has since grown and it too, would celebrate its 10th anniversary, as its older brother celebrated its fiftieth, this year.

The evolution of LADGOS had been adequately dealt with by Chief J. O. Onabajo in his write-up published on pages 50 - 51 in the souvenir brochure on the 40th anniversary of the Cathedral Guild of Stewards. This contribution is therefore concerned with the development that have taken place in the Guild since 1986.

GROWTH OF MEMBERSHIP

The growth of the Guild since its inauguration in 1986 has been very encouraging. At the inaugural church service the number of churches that was registered was 43 with 1030 individual Steward members. By 1995, 100 churches out of the 175 Anglican churches in the Diocese had been registered as members of LADGOS. Individual Steward membership rose from 1030 to 2000. With the present drive for additional membership embarked upon by the Guild, it is expected that the remaining 75 churches will be registered as members in no distant time.

A NEW CONSTITUTION

The first constitution of the Guild was adopted in 1986. The constitution which also received the covering approval of the Diocesan set up two administrative organs: the executive committee and the council. The EXECUTIVE committee was charged with the responsibility for the smooth running of the Guild. It comprised all officers of the Guild. On the other hand, the council which comprised two representatives from every member church of the Guild dealt with matters affecting the general interest of the Guild. The constitution made provision for the biennial elections of officers at annual general meetings, but there was no limit to the period that an officer should serve.

After 6 years of operation (1986 - 91) some weaknesses were noticed in the constitution. Beside, the number of Archdeaconries in the Diocese had increased, and some members of the Guild felt that the Guild should be re-organised into Archdeaconry set-up to correspond as much as possible with the administrative set-up of the diocese. It became necessary, therefore, for the 1986 constitution to be reviewed to take care of these developments and also of the various amendments that had become necessary over the years.

Accordingly a five - member Constitution Review Committee

LAGOS ANGLICAN DIOCESAN GUILD OF STEWARDS (LADGOS) : A DECADE OF DEVELOPMENT, 1986 - 1996 (Cont'd)

was set-up in 1991 to undertake the review of the constitution. The committee completed its assignment with some despatch; and after discussion of the draft at council meetings, the new constitution was approved on Sunday 20th of June, 1993. The highlights of the new constitution are as follows:-

- (i) It prescribes modes of dressing for both the male and female members of the Guild.
- (ii) It stipulates the number of representatives that each member church is entitled to on the Council of the Guild based on the numerical strength of member Guild.
- (iii) It recognizes the Cathedral Church of Christ, Marina, Lagos, because of its unique position in the Diocese, as an Archdeaconry.
- (iv) It re-organizes the Guild on the basis of the Archdeaconries that exist in the Diocese. These are, at present, the Cathedral Church of Christ, Marina, Lagos; Lagos Archdeaconry; Badagry; Ebute-Metta; Ikeja; Agege; Apapa; Idi-oro, Epe and Ikorodu.
- (v) It stipulates that no officer of the Guild shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms of year each.

PERMANENT SECRETARIAT FOR THE GUILD

Since the formation of the Lagos Anglican Diocesan Guild of Stewards, the Secretary General of the Guild had used his office as the secretariat of the Guild. The secretariat therefore changed as the incumbent of post changed. This was not considered good enough. It was therefore agreed that a permanent secretariat should be established for the Guild. Consequently the Executive Committee at its meeting of 31st May, 1992 constituted an eight-member sub-

committee under the chairmanship of Mr. G. O. M. Agbogidi of the Cathedral Church of Christ to examine all the ramifications of establishing a permanent secretariat for the Guild and make appropriate recommendations. The sub-committee submitted its report to the executive committee at the meeting held on the 27th of September, 1992 at the Cathedral Church of Christ Lagos. It recommended that it was necessary to have a permanent secretariat for the Guild and that it should be located in one of the following churches and in the order stated: St. Jude's church Ebute-Metta; All Saints' Church, Yaba; Bishop Adelakun Howell's Memorial church, Faji, Lagos; Archbishop Vining's Memorial Church, Ikeja and the Holy Trinity Anglican Church Ilasamaja Road Mushin. The Report also recommended the minimum staff requirements and the modest furniture and office equipment needed for the secretariat.

Following the adoption of the report the executive committee set up a special Secretariat Fund-Raising sub-committee of 10 members under the chairmanship of Chief E. O. Omoyele, also of the Cathedral Church of Christ. Appeal were made by the sub-committee to some individuals, member churches, and the Guild of Stewards of member churches. The response received was very encouraging. Individual members of the executive committee and the council of the Guild also made generous donations.

On request, the authorities of St. Jude's church, Ebute-Metta, made available to the Guild a space within its church Hall complex to establish the first permanent secretariat of the Lagos Anglican Diocesan Guild of Stewards. The secretariat which had been modestly furnished was officially commissioned for use, to the Glory of God, with a short service conducted by the Archdeacon of Ebute-Metta Archdeaconry and Vicar of St. Jude's church Ebute-Metta the Venerable Segun Okubadejo (now the Very Reverend Segun Okubadejo, Provost of the Cathedral church of Christ) on the 18th April, 1995.

LAGOS ANGLICAN DIOCESAN GUILD OF STEWARDS (LADGOS) : A DECADE OF DEVELOPMENT, 1986 - 1996 *(Cont'd)*

RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA

Right from its inception, LADGOS has demonstrated a sense of christian duty and integrity. These qualities quickly spread through some churches of the other denominations in Lagos. LADGOS was regarded as the best organised stewards/sidesmen group in all the church denominations. The result is that the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) has no problem to recognise LADGOS as the only group of Stewards that should officiate at all inter-denominational services organised by it.

In 1989 on invitation by the secretary of CAN, Mr. C. O. Williams, LADGOS made comprehensive arrangements for the collection of offertory at the interdenominational divine service organised by CAN for the visit of Reverend Dr. Emillo Castro, the General Secretary of the World Council of Churches to Nigeria which took place on Sunday 12th March 1989 at the Tafawa Balewa Square. The Guild performed so well that a letter of commendation was addressed to it by the Secretary-General of CAN. Since then the Guild has been officiating at the annual inter-denominational services organised by CAN.

LADGOS AND THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHRISTIANITY IN NIGERIA.

The Lagos Anglican Diocesan Guild of Stewards was given important roles to play during the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Christianity in Nigeria which was organised by the Methodist and Anglican (METHANG) Denominations in 1992. The President of the Guild Mr. Olu Akinyemi was a member of the planning committee and Chairman of the Logistic Committee, while

Chief E. O. Omoyle of the Cathedral church was made the Chairman of the Transport sub-committee. Besides, the Guild as a group, officiated at the thanksgiving service that marked the end of the celebration at the Badagry Grammar School Hall on 25th December, 1992.

THE GUILD AND ITS PARENT DENOMINATION

The Guild has officiated at every ordination service that took place in the Diocese since 1986. For example it officiated two times each in 1991, 1992 and 1993; once in 1994; twice in 1995 and once so far this year. LADGOS also took active part in the 4th General Synod in September, 1992 and 5th General Synod in September, 1996.

RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER ANGLICAN DIOCESES.

The Guild has made positive impression on their Lordships from other Anglican Dioceses who have observed its performance during divine services held in Lagos at Provincial level. Consequently some of them have made requests to the Guild for help to organise proper Guild of Stewards in their Dioceses. A committee to examine how best to undertake this assignment has been set up. It is hoped that the committee will submit its report soon.

CONCLUSION.

We give praise to God for the opportunity to serve in His vineyard. Thanks be to Him also that the mustard seed planted in 1986 has become a tree soon to have branches. Halleluyah!

CHIEF E. O. OMOYELE.

**PEOPLE'S WARDENS / CHAIRMEN, GUILD OF STEWARDS,
CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST.
1946 - 1996**

1. Mr. E. A. Pearce - 1946 - 1947
2. Mr. J. R. Curtis - 1948 - 1952
3. Mr. Adeniyi - Williams - 1953
4. Mr. J. A. Adeniji - 1954
5. Mr. F. O. Campbell - 1955 - 1966
6. Mr. J. G. Ayodele - 1966 - 1970
7. Mr. E. A. Oredugba - 1970 - 1975
8. Mr. D. B. Ogutuga - 1976 - 1981
9. Chief S. A. Makinwa - 1982 - 1987
10. Chief S. A. Durojaiye - 1987 - 1989
11. Sir. John Balogun - 1989 - 1996
12. Mr. F. A. Adewunmi - 1996 - date

PROVOST'S WARDENS / VICE CHAIRMEN GUILD OF STEWARDS

1. Mr. R. A. O. Martins 1946 - 1950
2. Mr. G. O. Laja - 1951 - 1955
3. Mr. Alphaeus Martins 1957 - 1961
4. Mr. (Now Ven.) E. V. Badejo 1962 - 70
5. Dr. Olu Asekun 1970 - 76
6. Chief Bode Peters 1976 - 1981
7. Mr. Ayo Otuyalo - 1981 - 1985
8. Mr. V. Akin Thompson - 1986 - 1993
9. Mr. Kola Ramos - 1991 - 1992
10. Mr. F. T. Durand - 1993 - 1994
11. Mr. E. O. G. Moore - 1994 - date

CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|---------|
| Foreword, very Rev. (Dr.) Segun Okubadejo, the Provost. | 2 |
| Preface, Prince 'Goke Ademiluyi, Chairman Golden Jubilee Committee. | 3 |
| Goodwill Message, The Most Rev. J. Abiodun Adetiloye, Archbishop, primate and metropolitan. | 4 |
| 50th Anniversary Message, Mr. F. A. Adewunmi Chairman Guild of Stewards. | 5 — 6 |
| Tribute to the Guild, Ven E. V. Badejo | 7 |
| Goodwill Message, Rev. Canon (Dr) E. A. B. Adenuga | 8 |
| Goodwill Message, Engr. F. A. O. Phillips | 9 |
| To God be the glory, Tribute, Mr. Ademola Thomas. | 10 |
| Ten Years after-Tribute to Departed stewards Mr. V. Akin Thompson | 11 |
| Deceased Members of the Guild | 12 |
| ✓ Memories are made of these, Chief S. A. Makinwa | 13 — 14 |
| Address by the Provost, 1st Day of the Year 1996. | 15 — 16 |
| The values of a Cathedral. | 17 |
| Group "A" Report | 18 — 19 |
| Group "B" Report | 20 — 22 |
| From the Archieves - Sermon by the Rev. Canon A. W. Howells | 23 — 24 |
| Group "C" Report. | 25 — 26 |
| Group "D" Report. | 27 — 28 |
| What Being a member entailed some Sixty Years ago, By G. O. Olukoya (Uncle George). | 29 |
| ✓ My Experience as a young Steward, Mr. Kayode Abegunde, Group "A" | 30 — 31 |
| Are you laughingly healthy? Mr. V. Akin Thompson | 32 |
| The role of the People's Warden Sir. John A. Balogun | 33 — 34 |
| Photo Panorama | 35 — 38 |
| ✓ Hints on stress by Dr. O. B. Orija, Group "C" | 39 — 40 |
| In a lighter mood, Mr. Tom Duncan | 41 |
| My duty to my church, culled from "By the Lagoon" | 42 — 43 |
| Art and Design - Effective Tools in Communication, V. Akin Thompson | 44 — 45 |
| ✓ Mary Promised a child, Chief A. B. Solanke (Retired Steward Group A) | 46 |
| A Sacrifice of praise, Mr. Tom Duncan (Group A) | 47 — 48 |
| Building and Outing Along the straight and narrow way - Mr. S. O. Wey. | 49 |
| From the Archives - Sermon Preached before the Queen, The Rt. Revd. A. W. Howells, O B E, M. A. B D. | 50 — 51 |
| Who is your Neighbour ? Sir John Balogun | 52 |
| ✓ I remember the consecration of Bishop S. C. Phillips, Chief 'Bode Peters. | 53 — 54 |
| List of Members of the Guild of Stewards. | 55 — 57 |
| The Guild's Prayer and Hymn | 57 |
| Guild's Guidelines, J. A. Akinola | 58 |
| Lagos Anglican Diocesan Guild of Stewards (LADGOS) A decade of Development 1986 - 1996, Chief E. O. Omoyele | 59 — 61 |
| People's Warden/Chairman Guild of Stewards and Provost's Warden/Vice Chairman, Guild of Stewards. | 62 |
| Landmarks in the Cathedral Church of Christ Lagos. | 63 — 64 |

FOREWORD



VERY. REV. DR. SEGUN OKUBADEJO

I am exceedingly happy to put in these few words as the Cathedral Guild of Stewards celebrate their Golden Jubilee in the service of Almighty God, and particularly happy because through and by the grace of God, I am the incumbent Provost at this time.

Someone may say - "It's nobody's business what I do with my life. It belongs to me. I'm my own boss. I'm in business with and for myself, I take orders from none. I will do with my life as I please". So speaks the child of this world.

Another may say - "My life is not my own. It belongs to Him in whom I live and move and have my being. He paid the purchase price. He redeemed me. Therefore I will glorify Him with my life. No matter what I do, by word or deed, I shall seek to do all to His honour and glory". So speaks the child of God.

I have made the above statements in relation to one of the most remarkable statements in all scripture, when Paul claims, "We are labourers together with God, we are God's fellow workmen"

1st Corinthians 3:9.

Now think of these statements. What can they mean as you have been called to be door-keepers in the house of the Lord, as you have decided against being in the tents of the wicked.

What a privilege! I'm sure you will exclaim. Yes indeed, It is an honour, it is a distinction to be in partnership with the Almighty. Surely God could carry on His work without you. This is the more reason why we should not at any time abuse this sacred trust. Man must not think more highly of himself than he ought to think.

Also being called to be door keepers in the house of the Lord is a challenge. God, by calling you, is saying you are dependent upon me, but I am also dependent upon you, for I have planted my vineyard (the body of all believers) and I have asked you to keep order therein.

You need me as much I need you to face the challenges of the call.

It is also a great responsibility to be partners with God; because a so-called believer who lives but to himself is of no value either to God or to his fellowman. For by whatever we do we must become a force making known the love of God to others.

There is also the promise of a reward to all those who are ready to be faithful partners in progress with God. It is enough reward, the privilege and the honour of serving as co-labourers with God, but in addition God promises to remember the faithful partners with even greater blessings. May these promised blessings never fail you in the name of Jesus.

Now as you continue serving God as partners with Him, I pray that God Himself will give you eyes to see the glory of service, hearts to believe the reward of service. and grace to achieve the blessed promise of service.

I wish the Cathedral Guild of Stewards more blessed years of faithful service in God's vineyard.

Blessedness.

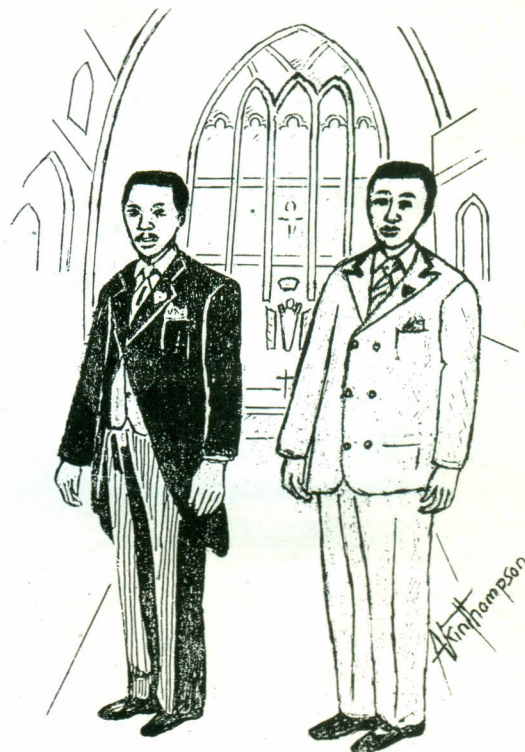
VERY. REV. DR. SEGUN OKUBADEJO
Provost and your Friend.

LANDMARKS IN THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, LAGOS

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| <p>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</p> <p><i>Document Signed by:</i> Rev. J. A. Lamb Mr. Henry Doherty)) Wardens Mr. John Ogunbunmi) all three from St. Peter's Church.</p> <p>June 10 — Dedication of the completed Church by Bishop Ajai Ajayi Crowther. Total cost was 2000 pounds</p> <p>1871 March 12 — First ordination by Bishop Ajai Crowther.</p> <p>Nov. 30 — First confirmation in the church</p> <p>1916 Dec. 6 — First Carol Service</p> <p>1918 April 18 — Introduction of Rev. S. M. Abiodun as Pastor in charge of the Church.</p> <p>1919 Jan. 1 — Introduction of Rev. (later Bishop) A. W. Howells as the first Vicar.</p> <p>1920 — The status of the Church raised to that of a Pro-Cathedral by the Lambeth Conference.</p> <p>May 9 — Rev. M. S. Cole as the Vicar of the Pro-Cathedral.</p> <p>Nov. 1 — Turning of the First Sod of the Pro-Cathedral.</p> <p>1925 April 21 — Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Pro-Cathedral by H. R. H, the Prince of Wales later to become King Edward VIII.</p> <p>1929 June 15 — Dedication of the First Section of the Pro-Cathedral by Bishop Jones assisted by Bishops Oluwole and Smith.</p> <p>1931 Jan. 12 — Approval of the statute of the Cathedral — Introduction of Rev. S. C. Phillips as Canon Residentiary.</p> <p>1933 April 6 — Introduction of Duplex Envelopes for Church collections</p> | <p>1936 Oct. 7 — Inauguration of Harvest Committee</p> <p>1939 June 7 — Abandonment of the practice of appointing ladies as Sideswomen.</p> <p>1942 Aug. 2 — First fully Choral Communion</p> <p>1944 Dec. 6 — Introduction of Canon A.W. Howells as canon Residentiary.</p> <p>1945 April 25 — Decision by the Standing Committee regarding the selection of Wardens and Sidesmen by ballot.</p> <p>1949 Nov. — Organ racial by Dr. Albert Schwitzer.</p> <p>1951 April 17 — Inauguration in Freetown Sierra-Leone of the Province of West Africa. Dr. L. G. Vining elected as the first Archbishop.</p> <p>Aug. 19 — Installation of Canon, A.W. Howells as Provost.</p> <p>1952 June 24 — Consecration of Bishop A. W. Howells.</p> <p>1955 Oct. 4 — Completion of Provost's House at a cost of 5,000 pounds.</p> <p>1956 Jan. 28 — Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip worshipped at the Cathedral.</p> <p>1958 Sept. 10 — Inauguration of Youth Fellowship.</p> <p>1960 Nov. 20 — Installation of Rev. F. O. Segun as Provost.</p> <p>1962 Aug. 27 —</p> <p>1962 Sept. 17 — Tour of churches in the Diocese by Cathedral Choir.</p> <p>1963 Nov. 20 — Consecration of Bishop S. I. Kale</p> <p>1963 Dec. 1 — Enthronement in the Cathedral</p> <p>1967 March 28 —</p> <p>1967 April 8 — Centenary Celebration</p> <p>1970 April 25 — Installation of Rev. S. H. A. Johnson as Provost.</p> <p>Advent Sunday — Commencement of Daily Eucharist</p> <p>1972 — Visit of King's College Cambridge Choir</p> <p>1974 Dec. — Inauguration of Social Welfare Service Unit</p> |
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LANDMARKS IN CHRIST CHURCH, LAGOS (Cont'd)

- 1979 Feb. 24th — Service of Inauguration of the Province of Nigeria, held at the Cathedral.
- 1979 — Cathedral redecorated with terrazo flooring and pews replaced with chairs and kneelers
- 1983 — Tithing commenced at the Cathedral
- 1984 Feb. 5 — Dedication of Brooches and Collarettes for the use of Stewards, Vergers and Wardens.
- 1984 Sept. — Resuscitation of Mothers Union.
- 1984 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.
- 1985 Dec. 26 — Enthronement of Bishop J. A. Adetiloye as Bishop of Lagos Diocese.
- 1986 Dec. 14 — Fortieth Anniversary - Guild of Stewards.
- 1990 — Inauguration of Parish Award to member of the Cathedral at the Celebration of the Cathedral Feast of Dedication.
- 1995 July 8, — Installation of Very Rev. (Dr.) Segun Okubadejo as the 4th Provost of the Cathedral.
- 1996 Dec. 8 — Fiftieth Anniversary (Golden Jubilee) of the Guild of Stewards



THE STEWARDS - ANCIENT & MODERN

- Centenary Brochure 1967
Dr. E. N. O. Sodeinde
- Reviewed by Chief S. A. Makinwa 1986
- Reviewed by Mr. V. Akin Thompson 1996