

LAMCO NEWS

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LAMCO
LITHO



NATURE AND MT. NIMBA — The Nimba Mountain is regarded as the most important site in West Africa for speciation studies, and probably a key area for evolutionary research, because of the high number of endemics which inhabit it. In this "mist" forest about 200 endemic species have been found — (see story on pages 5-6-7-8).

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR



James L. Marshall

NATURE AND MT. NIMBA

An article on forest and wildlife conservation, written by Professor Kai Curry-Lindahl, Chairman of the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Mount Nimba Committee, is being featured in this issue with the view of bringing to our readers' knowledge the intense study and exploration of the fauna and flora of Liberia, which are being undertaken here at Mount Nimba.

Mount Nimba lies at the meeting point of three countries: Liberia, Guinea and the Ivory Coast, the last two both former French territories. It is considered unique for speciation studies, and perhaps the most vital area in Africa for the study of evolution in view of its astonishingly high number of endemics, particularly in the case of animals, of which about 200 species have been found.

The French in 1942 initiated ecological research on their part of the Mountain, discovered its extraordinary interest and the very high number of en-

demetic species, and declared a strict reserve. Of the Liberian part, nothing was known until the discovery of high grade iron ore in 1955, and the immediate formation of a company to mine it led the International Union for Conservation of Nature to start an ecological study here.

LAMCO has contributed considerably to the project, first to the tune of a \$50,000. — grant, then the donation and equipping of a building to be used as a laboratory, plus accommodation for visiting scientists who have worked at the laboratory since it was opened in 1964. This important ecological research center is called the Nimba Research Laboratory.

It is the hope of Professor Curry-Lindahl and his team that through the studies being conducted here, the Liberian Government will benefit with a complete plan for the preservation of the flora and fauna of Liberia for possible steps in the future toward a forest reserve.

CORRECTION

In our issue of November 1968, some figures were mentioned in an article which need correction.

In the article it was stated that the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company employs half of the total number of Liberians working in all manufacturing and construction companies in Liberia. The figure was based upon old statistics which included construction companies working with the LAMCO Project during the construction period. The present situation, however, is that LAMCO employs about 36 percent of all Liberians working in iron ore mining industries in the country.

In the same article, it was also mentioned that

“as a fifty percent owner of LAMCO, the Liberian Government received \$6 million annually as profit during the past three years.

This statement is misleading, as the Liberian Government, in its role as fifty percent owner, received only a little more than half the annual figure cited. The figure mentioned is mainly taxes from Bethlehem Steel Corporation, and other revenues which the Government received outside of its role as a half part owner of LAMCO.

We thank the Department of National Planning and Economic Affairs for bringing this matter to our attention.

ADULT EDUCATION IN LAMCO

The Adult Education Program of the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company has received a very encouraging boost from the Liberian Government with the assignment in Yekepa of a literacy expert to assist the Company with its program. The literacy expert is Mr. Sohan Singh, a member of UNESCO's Adult Education team currently on assignment in Liberia.

In a letter to the President and General Manager, Mr. Olle Wijkstrom, confirming the assignment and introducing Mr. Singh, the Secretary of Education, Dr. Augustus F. Caine, noted that the Liberian Government regards the promotion of the standard of literacy among its citizens with high priority in order to acceler-



Hon. Alexander B. Cummings, Under Secretary of Education for UNESCO Affairs, who visited Yekepa recently to acquaint himself with the Company's Adult Education Program.

ate the pace of social and economic development in the country. He further said that in co-operation with UNESCO, the Liberian Government is accelerating the literacy program in those sectors of the economy where the worker can improve his efficiency and productivity through literacy.

READING MATERIAL

The 62-year-old Indian literacy expert who studied at the University of London, and Punjab University in India, began his assignment with the Company last month, and has since begun the preparation of a number of simplified reading material for beginners - such as the text of the Company's Agreement with the Union, a dictionary on tools used in the Company's workshops, safety rules, among others. These readers will be enlivened with appropriate sketches to enhance readability, interest and understanding, and will be used as job-oriented material for the program.

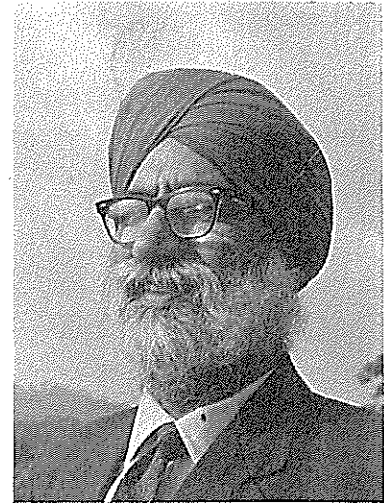
Mr. Singh will also train local teachers for the Company's Adult Education Program, revise existing literacy tests and organize the Literacy Center of the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company.

The Company's Adult Education Program was begun in 1967 with the aim of helping workers better qualify for their jobs by giving them the necessary educational background needed for the various up-grading courses and trade tests administered periodically by the Company. Since the program was launched, a total of 512 workers have been involved in it.

LITERACY GRADES

The Company's Program is divided into four literacy grades: (1) Functional Literate, (2) Semi-literate, (3) Neo-literate, and (4) Illiterate.

Functional Literate: A person is functional literate when he has acquired the knowledge and skill in reading and writing which enable him to engage sufficiently in those activities in which literacy is normally assumed in his culture or group. It, therefore, implies maturity, independence and duration.



Mr. Sohan Singh, UNESCO expert on Adult Education, on assignment with the LAMCO Adult Education Program.

Semi-literate: A person who can read with understanding but cannot write a short simple statement on his everyday life.

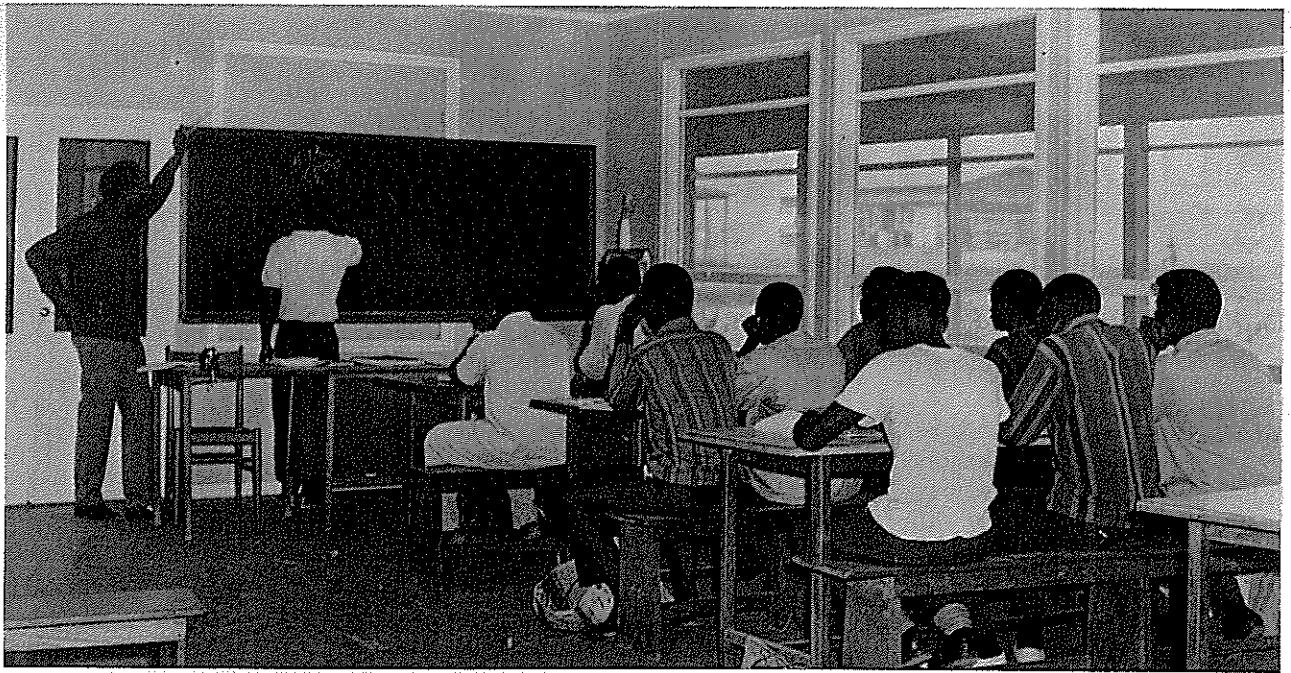
Neo-literate: Any adult or adolescent who has at some period acquired the basic technique of reading but has not yet developed his skill to the point where he can read with speed, fluency and complete understanding.

Illiterate: An illiterate person has not reached the minimum attainment which consists of reading an easy passage, writing a simple message and signing his name.

Operating on a two-semester basis - September 24-December 19 for the first semester, and January 14 - May 8 for the second semester, the Program is designed to raise the literacy level of participants one step each semester.

INCENTIVE

As an incentive for participation, workers attending the course after working hours are paid on a "half-rate" basis. That is, for every two hours in class they are paid for one hour of their normal rate. Overtime is also paid to those attending when necessary. In the meantime, workers attending classes during normal working hours get full pay as if he were on the job.



ADULT EDUCATION CLASS — One of several class sessions in adult education sponsored by the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company, for the benefit of workers.

Classes meet for two hours, three days a week: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and a report on absence is sent to the supervisor at the end of each week or after each lesson when possible. The supervisors are required to encourage workers to participate in the Program by

attending classes regularly.

A recent visitor to Yekepa to acquaint himself with the Company's Program is the Honorable Alexander B. Cummings, the Liberian Under Secretary of Education for UNESCO Affairs, under whose jurisdiction falls the Government's Literacy Program.

Commenting on the Company's Program in Adult Education, Honorable Cummings commended the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company for its initiative in educating its workers, and observed that the Company's Adult Education Program "is as good as can be found anywhere."

The G.M. Lauds LY KAARENAS

IN THE CAUSE OF HUMANITY — Mrs. Ly Kaarenas presents student William Tiawaa, of the Mano tribe, the sum of \$50.— to aid in his pursuit of an education, while Mr. Olle Wijkstrom, President and General Manager of the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company, looks proudly on.



The President and General Manager, Mr. Olle Wijkstrom, has commended Mrs. Ly Kaarenas, one of the leading ladies in the Yekepa Community, for her many endeavors to help the unfortunate children in the Community. Mr. Wijkstrom noted that her increasing desire to contribute to the cause of humanity has been boundless, adding that he is proud that such a woman could be a part of the LAMCO Community.

The General Manager made this observation after Mrs. Kaarenas presented the sum of fifty dollars to a Liberian orphan whose prospect for continuing his education this year was poor because of financial difficulties. The nineteen-year-old boy, William Tiawaa, of the Mano tribe, who lost his parents at an early age, beamed with smiles as he received the money which was

supplemented by an additional sum from the General Manager.

The ninth grade student at Sanniquellie High School told LAMCO News that he found a new lease on life in 1968, when the General Manager, Mr. Olle Wijkstrom developed an interest in his welfare and since then had given him both moral and financial support.

Mrs. Kaarenas realized part of the money given to the student from sales of native handicraft which she bought from patients at Zorzor hospital in Lofa County. After selling the articles, she felt that the profit should be donated to charity. Mrs. Kaarenas then sought the advice of Mr. Wijkstrom who agreed with her and recommended that this orphan of the Mano tribe should be given the amount to aid in his pursuit of an education.

RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE IN LIBERIA

by KAI CURRY-LINDAHL (Chairman, Nimba Research Committee)

Liberia is almost entirely located within the tropical lowland rain forest of Africa, which from the Congo drainage basin extends westwards with a broad strip in West Africa from Nigeria to Sierra Leone. However, between western Nigeria and Ghana there is about a 300-mile wide gap in the rain forest, the so called Dahomey gap, where the forest is replaced by savannas. This means that the largest portion of the lowland rain forest of West Africa is isolated from the great rain forest complex of the Congo basin. As a result of the damage done by man, the rain forests of Africa today cover only one third of their former area.

Hence, Liberia, being chiefly a rain forest country has an important and, for Africa, significant heritage of renewable natural resources including some unique animal species to take care of. This is a great responsibility not only towards Africa but also to the world.

Because about one third of Liberia is still covered by virgin rain forest this country has an exceptional chance to conserve, manage and utilize these areas on an optimal sustained yield and multiple use basis. Such an approach necessitates a long-term plan of conservation. It also requires a restoration of destroyed living natural resources.

The present savannas of Liberia are due to earlier agricultural activities. Unfortunately, many of the forest areas cleared for shifting cultivation and later abandoned are taken over by elephant grass, which prevents the forests from reconquering the area. The productivity goes down and constitutes only a fraction of its former capacity when the forest was undamaged.



Kai Curry-Lindahl

DEFORESTATION

Deforestation in Liberia for timber production or for agricultural purposes has almost never taken into account the nutritional (and recreational) value of the fauna, produced by the same forests. This view must be put in the balance for every development programme of forest areas in Liberia. Ecological considerations should precede all development decisions and have

the same weight as pure economic arguments.

Moreover, the actual deforestation in Liberia have many other detrimental landscape effects than reducing the at present most important food resource of the country. It jeopardizes the maintenance of the water balance—the productivity of soils, the stability of "landscape health" and even local climates.

The fauna of Liberia rain forests is very rich in species but the populations have been depleted due to excessive hunting, and locally many species have been exterminated by the same factor. Species like elephant, forest buffalo, pygmy hippopotamus, at least nine species of forest antelopes, two pigs, several species of monkeys and other groups of mammals as well as many birds and reptiles represent valuable resources which in Liberia could produce a wealth of proteins and hides if managed properly.

Characteristic mammals of the Liberian rain forests are pygmy antelope, Maxwell's duiker, black-fronted duiker, black-dorsal striped duiker, light-backed duiker, bush buck, bongo, bush pig, giant forest hog, tree hyrax, diana monkey, spot-nosed monkey, olive colobus monkey, red and black colobus monkey, chimpanzee, lesser bush baby, several rodents, insectivores and bats, palm civet and leopard.

All these species and groups certainly existed in suitable habitats all over Liberia before the forest destruction and over-hunting had reached fatal levels.

OBLIGATION

Some Liberian mammals have a very restricted range and, therefore, Liberia has a moral obligation as custodian to preserve them. The most famous is the pygmy hippopotamus. It has perhaps always been rare. However, it is at present diminishing alarmingly, probably due to hunting pressure. Fortunately, the pygmy hippo breeds fairly well in captivity, a guarantee that it will not become extinct.

Even more rare than the pygmy hippo is a forest antelope, Jentink's duiker (*Cephalophus Jentinki*), known only to a few areas in Liberia and the Ivory Coast. It is a somewhat mysterious forest antelope, distinguished from all other ungulates inclusive the members of its own genus by an extraordinary colouration. The anterior part of the body is dark brown or black, while the exterior part is gray with each hair ringed in black and white. The two colour areas of the body are separated by a pure white band. The reason for this unusual colour pattern of Jentink's duiker is still unknown. If excessive

hunting continues in these areas, Jentink's duiker may become extinct before we have learned anything of its habits. During intensive field work on the Nimba Range in Liberia in 1964–1968 we did not find it, but our Mano assistants assured us that it still occurs on the Ivory Coast side of Mount Nimba. Another Mano tribesman reported this in 1955 to the French zoologist P.L. Dekeyser, who recorded specimens in the Kloshe region of Liberia. In 1968 a pair was captured in Liberia. It was the first male to be seen alive. Another rare forest dweller is the banded duiker (*C. zebra*) occurring in Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Zoogeographically it is the Nimba Range in northernmost Liberia that is the most interesting area of Liberia. In the rain forest region of tropical West Africa are several isolated mountains, most of them under 1,500m., separated from one another by lowland forests and savannas. The highest, Mount Cameroon on the coast, is 4,979 m., the neighbouring Fernando Po Island rises to 2,850 m., and the Loma massif in Sierra Leone reaches 2,000 m. After these comes Nimba, some 170 miles from the Atlantic coast on the borders of Liberia, Guinea and the Ivory Coast; its highest point is 1,752 m. Mount Nimba is a range about 40 km. long with a general orientation SW–NE, and a maximum width (in Guinea) of about 12 km. The southern end in Liberia gradually drops and narrows, giving the impression from the air of diving down into the lowland forest canopy. Both slopes of this long ridge are steep and abrupt, mostly forest-covered, but with savannas on the highest parts extending down the slopes and some isolated patches of grassland in the forest.

CHARACTER

The isolated situation of Mount Nimba gives it the character of a great Inselberg, with types of habitats quite different from the surrounding lowland forests and savannas, and an astonishingly high number of endemics almost



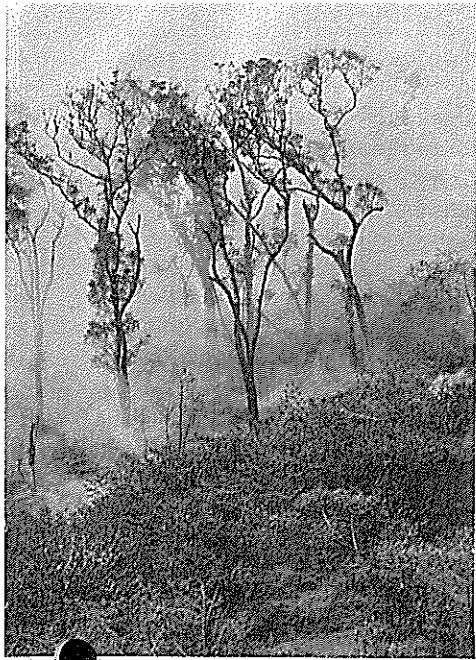
On the ridge of Mt. Nimba

entirely on a specific level. This is particularly the case for the animals, of which about 200 endemic species are known. The number will presumably be reduced when the surrounding lowlands and other isolated mountains in West Africa have been explored, although further explorations at Nimba will certainly yield still more biological surprises. At present it is difficult to say whether the high number of endemic species is due to the fact that Mount Nimba has functioned as a refuge for animals, which during previous periods were more widely distributed than today, or whether these animals, through geographical isolation, have evolved from their ancestral forms into local species. Probably both factors have played a part. But even if most of the endemics are relics, Mount Nimba is very important for speciation studies and it can be regarded as a key area for evolutionary research.

Virtually nothing was known of the flora and fauna of the Liberian Mount Nimba when, in 1955, deposits of high-grade iron ore were discovered in Liberian Nimba. The discovery soon led to preparations for the exploitation of the ore by an international syndicate, LAMCO (Liberian – American – Swedish Minerals Company), and in 1963 mining operations began to destroy parts of the mountain's hitherto virgin state.



Tree ferns in the valley of Mt. Nimba.



rees above the cloud line.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and UNESCO felt that it was important to make botanical, zoological and ecological studies to preserve a record of the undisturbed Liberian side of Mount Nimba. Moreover, such investigations could lead to a basis for the future conservation policy of the area. The participants of the LAMCO Joint Venture and particularly its Chairman, Mr. Erland Waldenstrom, President of the Grangesberg Company, in Stockholm, were sympathetic to IUCN's suggestions. Since 1963 LAMCO has financed the biological investigations carried out at Nimba. The IUCN, through its Nimba Research Committee, is responsible for the organization and supervision of the scientific work and its financial administration as well as for liaison with the Government of Liberia and the LAMCO.

The unusually positive cooperation and generous financial assistance of LAMCO to the Nimba Research Committee during many years are significant for this industrial company's great social responsibility. The results of this approach have been that the Nimba Range is today, as far as the flora and fauna are concerned, the best explored area of Liberia.

Studies of the vegetation and flora of Liberian Nimba were

given priority in 1964 and 1965 as an ecological background for further zoological work. The botanical research programme, including collections of vascular plants and data on vegetation structure, associations, vertical distribution, soils, reproduction, and so forth, has been completed. An important herbarium has been established.

INVESTIGATIONS

The zoological investigations at Nimba have been focused primarily on the vertebrates.

The mammals have been studied over two yearly cycles and have yielded important data on distribution, vertical zonation, ecology, biology, and seasonal migrations (particularly of bats and small rodents). It is clear that the forest habitats of Nimba could support a rich mammalian fauna comprising many species of antelopes and primates as well as buffaloes and elephants, but tremendous hunting pressure has reduced the animal populations to a fraction of their potential numbers. Many species have been locally exterminated. The present system of uncontrolled hunting represents a waste of a valuable natural resource.

When the present scientific programme started at Nimba in 1964, virtually nothing was known of the birds since no thorough investigations had ever been made of the Guinean, Ivory Coast or Liberian sectors of the mountain. In 1964-1966 the birds of Liberian Nimba were incidentally studied in the course of other zoological investigations. However, a series of observations and collected specimens added considerably to the knowledge of Nimba birds. In July 1967 the Committee initiated an ornithological programme which continued until the end of 1968. These ornithological investigations have increased the number of bird species known from Nimba to 320, of which a large proportion represent additions to the known fauna of Liberia. Some species are new to West Africa and some forms may even turn

out to be new to science.

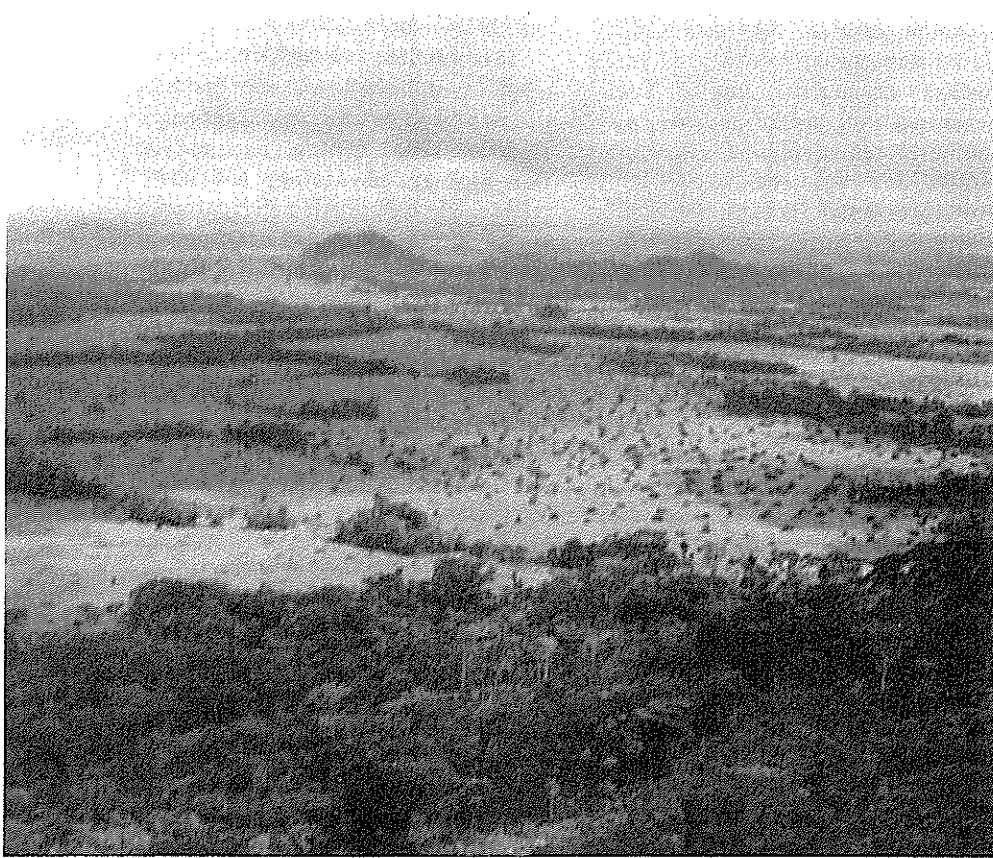
The studies of reptiles and amphibians have been principally concerned with vertical distribution, seasonal cycles, reproductive biology, physiology and nutrition. Nimba's famous viviparous toad, *Nectophrynoides occidentalis*, which occurs only on this mountain, was originally described from Guinean Nimba. It has now been found also on Liberian Nimba, where it is represented by a distinctive race.

Hitherto twenty species of snakes, about the same number of lizards and 41 species of amphibians have been collected.

The conservation of the Nimba Range outside the mining area is of great concern to both the Nimba Research Committee and the LAMCO. It is of vital importance to the economy and ecology of the Nimba region that as much as possible of the natural habitats, including lowlands, valleys, slopes and ridges, should be preserved. Unfortunately, the large influx of people not directly connected with mining activities has caused severe destruction of habitat through burning and shifting cultivation. Control measures and strictly protected reserves are necessary for the conservation and management of the Nimba Range, which, if wisely utilized, could produce a sustained yield of protein in the



Rain forest on Mt. Nimba.



Savannas on the Liberia-Guinea border near Mt. Nimba.

form of wild animals. Moreover, the scientific and recreational values of Nimba are immense, both for the Liberian people as well as for foreign visitors.

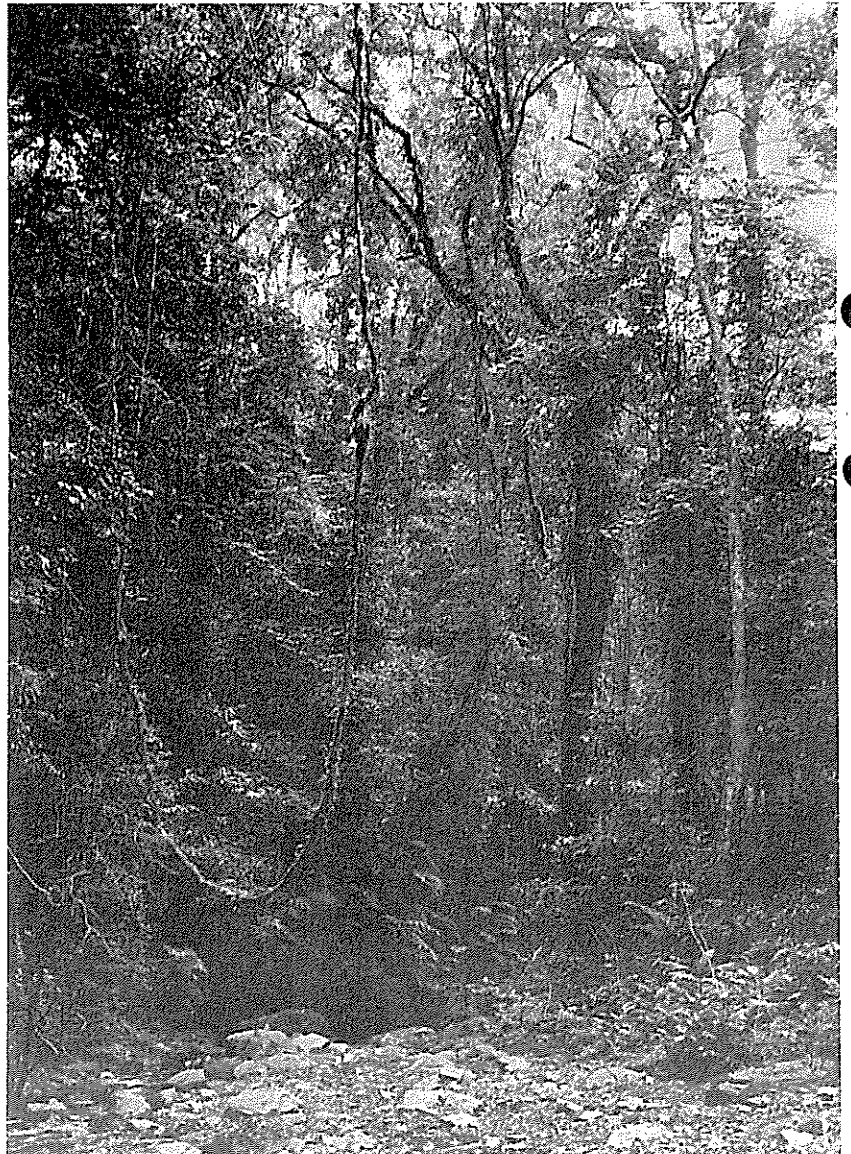
Following discussions with Liberia's Secretary for Agriculture, the author has agreed to draw up a nature conservation programme for Liberia including proposals for the establishment of national parks, nature reserves, wildlife management, etc.

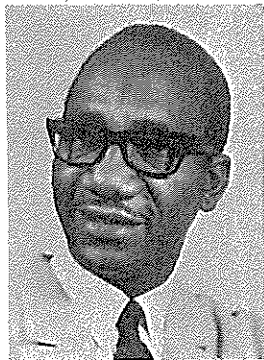
Beside the general need for conservation measures all over Liberia, there are several highly interesting areas other than the Nimba region that should be preserved as national parks or nature reserves for social, recreational, educative, scientific and esthetical reasons. Only a few can be mentioned here. The Cape Mount Monkey on the coast of westernmost Liberia; forest hills and lowlands around the Lofa River in North-western Liberia; representative coastal swamps and deltas; the Putu Range and surrounding forests in eastern Liberia westwards beyond the Cestos River, and, finally, a huge region between 6°50 and 5°50 n. lat.

along the Cavalla River, that forms the boundary with the Ivory Coast, are potential areas for a network of future reserves. Unfortunately, the Putu Range now is also being menaced by mining.

The new African Convention on Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, signed in September 1968, by the African Heads of State and Government, pays special attention to wild animals as an economically important natural resource compatible with and complementary to other land uses. The Contracting States, to which Liberia belongs, shall adopt scientifically-based conservation, management and utilization plans of forests and rangeland. Regarding national parks and nature reserves, the Convention obliges the Contracting States to maintain and extend conservation areas for protection of representative ecosystems, habitats, plant and animal species.

Parinari Forest on the ridge of Mt. Nimba, with tree trunks covered with filmy ferns, mosses and lichens.





Hon. E. Sumo Jones

The Commissioner of Immigration & Naturalization, and Deputy Attorney General of Liberia, Honorable E. Sumo Jones, has called upon all companies operating in Liberia to coordinate the activities of their industrial security agencies with the national security agencies to wage war against any threat to the security of the state and all industries within it.

The Commissioner was addressing graduates of the Plant Protection School of the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company, at ceremonies held recently in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County.

nan, Grand Bassa County.

Commenting on "constant coups, instability of Governments in Africa today, the anonymous letters and writings that are floating around Liberia depicting disloyal and treasonable acts ... which are the influence of certain powerful nations whose systems of government are not acceptable to our system," Honorable Jones urged that "there must, therefore, be an adequate safeguarding of the national security against loss or compromise resulting from sabotage, insurgency, disloyalty and subversive activities."

VIGILANCE

The Commissioner noted that there is a particular necessity for vigilance in the Plant Protection Force of the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company, because of the proximity of the concession to border points of Liberia, on the one hand, and the Company

operated port of entry in Buchanan, where vessels embark and disembark passengers of all nationalities, and commodities to and from all parts of the world. "You work for the largest mining industrial complex in Liberia today," he charged the graduates, "and therefore the protection and defense of such a complex from destruction, sabotage, injury and insurgency" ... is your responsibility." This situation, he continued, makes it very necessary for cooperation and coordination with the national security agencies.

The Commissioner challenged the graduates to pay no deaf ear to what happens against the interest of the State, to whom every citizen is duty-bound to secure its perpetual existence ..., and cited the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics in a paraphrased form as a guideline for the new members of the Company's Plant Protection Force.

TRAINING HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

BUCHANAN - Fifty-one out of seventy-one participants in a special training course for heavy duty equipment operators of the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company, were awarded certificates of proficiency last month by the Resident Manager in Buchanan, Mr. Olle Goeransson.

The three-week course which began in January this year, was supervised by the Civil Engineering Section of the Harbor Department. It will be held bi-annually, and the second phase is due to start around the middle of this year. Participants were from the Harbor Department, and the Ore Processing Department which is made up of the Pelletizing, Washing, and Ore Handling Sections.

SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPANTS - With their certificates of proficiency, these men, pictured with their instructors, have improved their skill in operating heavy duty equipment. Resident Manager Buchanan, Olle Goeransson, towers in the rear.

FIELD TRAINING - Participants receiving practical instructions in operating heavy duty equipment.





FIRST STUDENTS — The first group of students to enroll in the new Bishop Francis Carroll High School, run by the Catholic Mission of Liberia at Grassfield, old headquarters of the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company.

In its effort to promote education within its Nimba Concession Area, the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company has made available housing facilities at Grassfield for the operation of a High School by the Catholic Mission in Liberia. An agreement to the effect was signed here in Yekepa last month by the President and General Manager, Mr. Olle Wijkstrom, on behalf of the Company, and His Grace Archbishop Francis Carroll, Head of the Catholic Church in Liberia.

The new School which has been named Bishop Francis Carroll High School, formally opened its doors to students this month, who began lessons in two initial classes, 7th and 10th grades. Grades 8th and 11th will be added in 1970, and in 1971 it is hoped that all high school grades will be added.

FOURTH SCHOOL

Under the direction of the Christian Brothers of Ireland, the new High School is the fourth school within the Company's Nimba Concession Area under the full supervision of the Catholic Mission. The other three are elementary schools, one of which is a night school which was opened this month for the benefit of

NEW HIGH SCHOOL FOR LAMCO AREA

SUPPORT

those LAMCO employees who wish to continue their education.

The Catholic Mission in Liberia became associated with education within the LAMCO Nimba Concession Area on January 1, 1967, when, under a six-year agreement, they took over the Company's Liberian Elementary Junior-High School, commonly called "C" School.

The move which was approved by the Liberian Government was an outgrowth of the Company's desire to seek means by which education could be made available not only to children of employees of the Company but to all children residing within the Yekepa Community, as in recent years, the large influx of people, other than employees of the Company, into the area surrounding Yekepa, has created the problem of a large number of children not being able to enjoy the privilege of attending Company schools because of limited classroom space and facilities. An attempt by the Company to make the most of existing facilities resulted in over-crowded classrooms.

In consultation with the Department of Education of the Liberian Government, the decision was reached to invite a missionary organization engaged in education to take over existing facilities and build more schools, with the support of the Company. The Catholic Mission, with long experience in education in Liberia, and enjoying the high confidence of the Liberian Government, was invited, and they accepted the challenge.

The Company gives financial support to the Mission to make the schools free for children and wards of LAMCO employees, including access to all facilities of the Company for the normal operation of the schools. Since the agreement was signed on January 1, 1967, the Catholics have built an additional school in Yekepa, with the assistance of the Company. It bears the name St. Joseph Elementary School, and is under the direction of the Franciscan Missionary Order of Mary.

Hope From The YWCA

The education program of the Nimba Branch of the Young Women Christian Association (YWCA) brought hope and inspira-

tion to many families in Yekepa last month, when scholarships totalling \$390.— were distributed to five deserving students to en-

able them to continue their studies this year at various institutions in Liberia.

The lucky students are Mathew Boykah, a student of Area C-School, who received \$20.—; Nya

Whan of Area N-School, \$20.-; Moses Vorkpor of the Sanniquellie High School, \$100.-; Van Nosike of Lott Carey Mission, \$100.- and James Saye of Booker Washington Institute at Kakata, \$150.-.

The YWCA instituted its scholarship program last year when it awarded the first scholarship to Joseph Harris, an eighth grade boarding student at the Sanniquellie Central High School. The Association had also arranged for a vacation job with the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company for young Harris, but he took ill on January 12, this year, and died suddenly.

Despite this initial set-back, the officers and members of the

YWCA were determined to continue their scholarship program to help students who are in dire need of financial assistance.

The main source of raising funds for the scholarship program is through an annual Halloween Ball, but the Association plans to devise other means of raising funds so as to increase its aid to members of the community.

Officers and members of the Association are: Mrs. Fasia Massaquoi, President; Mrs. Ida Brooks, Vice President; Mrs. Robertta Johnson, Acting Secretary; Mrs. Annie Dennis, Social Secretary; Miss Lucy Scott, Treasurer; Mrs. Stephen Daniels; Mrs. Janet Dennis, Mrs. Comfort



AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS - Mrs. Fasia Massaquoi, President of the Nimba Branch of the YWCA, presenting scholarship funds to students. Miss Anna Sandie (r), a member of the Association looks on.

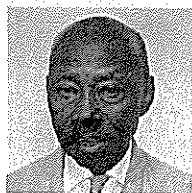
Gibson, Miss Anna Sandie, Mrs. Joy Gidley and Mrs. Dolly McCritty, Chaplain.



Toys from friends in Uppsala, Sweden, were recently distributed to children of workers of the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company here in Yekepa. Donated to the Yekepa Branch of the Red Cross Society upon a request made by Mrs. Lotten Zetterstrom, the toys were given as an encouragement to those children attending pre-school adjustment sessions conducted on a voluntary basis by overseas housewives in Yekepa. Some of the toys were also distributed to ill children in the Lamco Yekepa hospital. Picture shows a representative group of the Yekepa Branch of the Red Cross Society with children at the hospital.

TOYS FROM SWEDEN

FOCUS on PERSONNEL



Edward Jones

"PA JONES" IS RETIRED

A Liberian pioneer employee of the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company, has been retired after nearly twelve years of uninterrupted service. He is sixty-year-old Edward Jones of the Lamco Yekepa Warehouse.

"Pa Jones" as he is affectionately called, was officially

retired on January 31, this year, for medical reasons. He left Yekepa this month for Monrovia to enjoy what he described as "the fruits of many years of hard work and useful association with the Lamco J.V. Operating Company."

Mr. Jones joined the Company on September 1, 1957, after working with the Liberian Mining Company at Bomi Hills for eight years. His first assignment with Lamco was in Monrovia, where he worked under the Resident Manager, Mr. Albert Shoucair, who was then Chief of Transportation. Three months later, Mr. Jones was transferred to Buchanan where he served for seven and a half years.

During his service with the Company in Yekepa, Mr. Jones worked as clerk in the Warehouse, then as Warehouse Keeper and, until his retirement, held the position of Warehouse Man.

The retiring Lamco employee who is the father of eleven living children, has some words of advice for new employees in the Company. Speaking in a serious tune, Pa Jones admonished the younger generation of Lamco employees to face their individual responsibilities with determination and a will to give of their best at all times. By so doing, he added, "you can go a long way with the Company."

Mr. Jones expresses grateful thanks to Management for the opportunity given him to contribute his quota toward the economic development of Liberia, adding that he will forever cherish the pleasing memories of his association with the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company.

As a retirement benefit, Mr. Jones will receive 60 percent of his salary until he is 67 years old.

LAMCO Women Aid Charities In SINOE, BASSA

Buchanan: The LAMCO Buchanan Welfare Organisation which comprises housewives of employees of the LAMCO J.V. Operating Company, last month presented a cheque of \$1,000.— (one thousand dollars) to the Liberian Inland Mission at Gaye Peter Town, 52 kilometers from Buchanan. The mission is Inter-denominational and takes care of more than 360 lepers in addition to over 150 children of leper parents.

The presentation was made by R. Lilljekvist, M.D., President of the Organisation. She was accompanied on the trip by Mrs. L.G. Colliander, a member of the Organisation.

The cheque was received by Miss Bernice Lee, R.N., in charge of the Colony. She thanked Dr. Lilljekvist for the donation on behalf of herself and the staff of the Mission and asked Dr. Lilljekvist to convey their sincere thanks and appreciation to individual members of the Organisation for their generosity.

TOUR OF THE COLONY — Following the presentation, the representatives of LAMCO Buchanan Welfare Organisation were conducted on a tour of the Colony. They were highly impressed with the work of the Missionaries.



PRESENTING CHEQUE — Dr. R. Lilljekvist, President of the LAMCO Buchanan Welfare Organisation, (second from right) presents a \$1,000 cheque to Miss Bernice Lee of the Liberian Inland Mission. At right is Mrs. L.G. Colliander, a member of the Organisation.

TOUR

After the presentation, Dr. Lilljekvist and Mrs. Colliander were taken on a tour of the Leper Colony. They were highly impressed, they revealed, "with the marvelous work being done by the faithful missionaries" and promised continued assistance toward "this humanitarian service."

The Liberian Inland Mission which has two out-patient clinics, was founded thirty years ago by a group of European and American missionaries of different religious background. They are of Lutheran, Episcopalian, Methodist and Baptist faith.

At present the Mission is run by a staff of four registered nurses and professional teachers. The nurses are Misses Bernice Lee and Manette Niel, while the teachers are Misses Wilma Verhage and June Hoblay.

SECOND GIFT

The LAMCO Buchanan Welfare Organisation also last month made another presentation of a \$1,000.— cheque to the Sinoe Leper Colony. The cheque was presented during a brief but impressive ceremony in Monrovia.

The cheque was presented by Mrs. Marriane Klyberg, cashier of the Organisation who led a delegation of other ladies of the Organisation to make the presentation.

The money which is expected to be used to build houses for the Colony, was received by Mr. Manne Paulsson, head of the Sinoe Leper Colony.

The LAMCO Buchanan Welfare Organisation is a non-profit Organisation which caters to the support of the needy.

Last year the Organisation sponsored a benefit superbowl and a bazaar from which more than \$2,000.— was realized. Thereupon the Organisation decided to aid these two Leper colonies in Grand Bassa and Sinoe counties, respectively.

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