

Countries honored African leader, former slave

Once bought for bar of soap

MPANDA, Tanganyika (Reuters)—Africans today mourned the death of a former slave who was once bought for a bar of soap and lived to become an outstanding leader of his people and a staunch opponent of the African slave trade.

He was Dr. Adrien Aturan, honored by several countries for his social and educational work among Africans. He died at Karema, on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, last April 24, aged about 90. Torrential rains that washed out communications delayed news of his death reaching the outside world.

Aturan's work in developing a settlement of former slaves in Karema into a model African community won him 10 decorations from different countries. He

shared with medical missionary and philosopher Albert Schweitzer the rare honor of the Royal African Society's bronze medal.

In addition, he had two special awards from the Pope, two from Belgium, the French Legion d'Honneur and British decorations from George V, George VI and Queen Elizabeth.

Dr. Aturan never knew his ex-

act age. He could only recall that one day, long ago (the date has since been estimated at 1865) he was captured by Arab slave traders while playing on the banks of the Niger near his home.

He was taken to Algiers and sold in a slave market. But he finally was given back his liberty by the Roman Catholic White Fathers' mission of Algiers, which bought

him for a bar of soap for the mission's white man's trade with slavers. Other slaves were bought and freed for salt.

STUDIED MEDICINE

His intelligence was noticed by the mission's founder, Cardinal Lavigerie, who baptized and tutored him. After some years, he was sent to the University of Malta where he studied medicine. He then took a leading part in an 1888 anti-slavery campaign, lecturing and making public appearances in Italy and France.

The following year, he was appointed to the Karema mission, a former fort and slave centre, near Ujiji, Lake Tanganyika, where the White Fathers continued the system of bartering for slaves.

When he arrived in Karema, his fellow Africans knew nothing of cultivation, elementary housing, or the technique of fishing. He lived there 67 years and at his death left a thriving community producing an exportable crop of rice, corn and sugar cane, a well-developed fishing industry with African-owned motorboats, and a population of Africans and Arabs living happily together.

ELIST: U. S. novelist slay. Kantor has been the Pulitzer prize for novel, "Andersonville," deals with the Civil period in American

IRYSLER LAYOFF
DET (AP)—Chrysler Corp. laid off 3,700 hourly workers in Detroit area Wednesday. It became the first large lay-off at is eligible to apply for financed lay-off pay.

BACK HOME
LONDON (CP)—Two ter he was sold to a man rset. Beady, a pigeon, miles to his old perch in er home here.

Historic Iroquois Indian vil- lochetaga on the island of had more than 3,000 in- in 1535.

Hamilton says P-C's have alternative to CCF party

MOOSE JAW (Staff)—"When a government is too strong and has been too long in power, it is time for a stronger and more effective opposition to put up an alternative program" declared Alvin Hamilton, provincial Progressive Conservative leader, speaking in Moose Jaw Thursday.

Mr. Hamilton, speaking at the party's nominating convention, said that if the people of this province see the value of this alternative, then that party has the right to form the next government of this province. He said that the PC's believed they have the logical alternative to the present CCF party in Saskatchewan.

Outlining the eight-point program of his organization, the provincial leader emphasized the need for the development of private enterprise in this pro-

vince. To attract industry, he said, it was necessary to provide cheaper power, and in this connection the PC party, if elected, pledged itself to build the Saskatchewan dam.

Mr. Hamilton also said that good highways were essential to encourage tourists and facilitate transportation. He said the PC's would hard-surface 2,000 miles of road within the next five years if elected to power.

Other matters dealt with by the speaker included the development of northern Saskatchewan, with regard to mining and tourist trade, land development in the northeastern part of Saskatchewan, farm and municipal credit systems, development of natural gas without having the cities pay more, and the setting up of a development fund from revenues from gas, oil and minerals.

East, West and Tito

PARIS (AP)—President Tito said Thursday night Communist Yugoslavia will maintain its independent position between East and West. This policy, he declared, has been and continues to be valuable in reconciling the two blocs.

But Tito promised that "should we gain new friends in the East, this will by no means signify that we want to disown the friends that we have in the West."

The Yugoslav chief is on a six-day state visit to France. He spoke at a dinner given at the French foreign ministry by Foreign Minister Christian Pineau.

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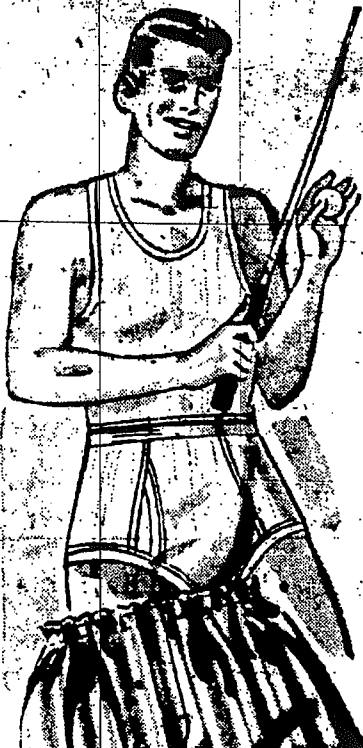


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