

Mr. Casely-Hayford, played important roles in the various events of the Independence celebrations. Mr. Gbedmah, who is a rival of Mr. Botsio for second position in the Government, impressed me as having a good deal of ability and from what I could gather in conversations with him, he has good judgment.

Although the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Trades and Labour, all experienced imprisonment by the British during the agitation leading to the granting of self-government, these men do not seem to harbour any resentment or rancor against the British. They regard themselves as crusaders, but see their crusade as a movement directed against African colonization in general, rather than against Britain specifically. These leaders were quick to admit that when the celebrations were over, independence would bring with it great responsibilities.

I read Dr. Nkrumah's autobiography which gives a very good insight into the man's character, as well as of the whole struggle for independence.

During our stay in Ghana our party, including my own staff, Dr. Ault, Mr. McInnes and our aircrew and newsmen, had excellent opportunities to talk to people in all walks of life. I think that, collectively, we got a fair cross-section of public opinion.

Among those with whom we talked were British civil servants. I understand that the Government of Ghana has made a definite and fairly generous cash offer to compensate non-Africans who decide to retire from their present positions within the next two years. Some of these officials expressed to us their desire to come to Canada, but are faced with currency exchange conditions that make it difficult for them to bring sufficient cash resources with them to secure re-establishment anywhere in the dollar area.

I made a point of visiting with other members of the party, the City of Kumasi, located 170 miles inland by road from Accra. There I called upon the Asantehene who is virtually the King of the Ashanti people, numbering about one million. The Ashantis and their leaders are in accord with the central government on one point: they are in favour of independence. However, they seem to consider that their interests are not identical with the people living in the Accra area. Undoubtedly, the big task of the central administration will be to deal with the problem of keeping the country united. However, it is interesting to note that the C.P.P. (Convention People's Party), which forms the Government of Ghana, holds six of the twenty seats in the Ashanti country and the Northern Territories. In the country as a whole, the C.P.P. has seventy-one seats plus one Independent supporter, as against thirty-two seats for the opposition N.L.M. (National Liberation Movement).

Since the C.P.P. came to office and under the interim constitution, great strides have been taken in modernizing educational facilities. As yet, only ten to fifteen percent of the people are literate; the Government has spared no effort or expense in the construction of university buildings, which are beautifully designed and modern in every way. A very impressively built Kumasi College of Technology, Science and Arts, has been completed, designed to eventually accommodate a total of 1,000 students. At present, however, this institution is understaffed and difficulty is being experienced in recruiting enough students because so few possess the required academic qualifications.

There is also at Kumasi, a splendid new 500-bed hospital that appears to be very well equipped. However, there are only fifteen part-time doctors on its staff and there is a shortage of trained nurses as well. My impression is that there exists a woeful shortage of skilled personnel to serve in the fields of education, public health and the civil service.

My visit with the Asantehene at Kumasi was a most interesting experience. He has the reputation of being a difficult man to approach and usually speaks to visitors through an