

out of the Arabian Nights. Mr. Olympio received each delegation separately. To Mr. Carter, he expressed great pleasure that Canada had sent a representative. He warmly recalled Canada's participation in the United Nations Commission that visited Togoland several years ago. Mr. Olympio also praised the work of the Christian Brothers who conduct a secondary school, with many Canadians on the staff, at Togoville, about 30 miles from Lomé.

Proclamation of Independence

The independence of Togo was proclaimed at midnight on April 26 with a 101-gun salute and the raising of the new red, white and green flag of the Republic. The Prime Minister made a brief speech and then delegations and the population alike mingled in cheerful and enthusiastic rejoicing far into the night.

Next morning there was a parade in the new Independence Square. Parties of workers, school children, market women and other local groups marched past and there was a mass display of gymnastic drill by the children. In both the parade and the display, the children showed a remarkable sense of rhythm, their performance comparing favourably with anything that might be seen in Canada. Five or six of the chiefs who participated in the parade wore their gold crowns, some of which seemed to be modelled on the Crown of St. Edward while the design of others was inspired by the Papal Tiara.

The principal formal speeches of the ceremonies were delivered at the Chamber of Deputies on the day after the Proclamation of Independence. The first was given by Mr. Spinelli, the representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. He was followed by Mr. Jacquinet, who delivered the good wishes of the French Government. In discussing the economic affairs of Togo and of West Africa generally, he called upon other Western nations to join France in the task of assisting the under-developed countries of Africa. In reply, Mr. Olympio urged that emphasis be placed on economic rather than political unity, and said that it was high time a concrete practical proposal was made in the field of economic co-operation in Africa. He suggested the setting up of an organization for economic co-operation similar in form to the Organization for European Economic Co-operation. Such an association could act as a medium for important discussions and would make possible the co-ordination of efforts on specific subjects, while avoiding any interference in the internal affairs of member states. Mr. Olympio then thanked the French and the Germans for their contributions to the development of Togoland and offered the "hand of brotherly living" to other West African countries. He said that Togo felt bitterness towards no one and offered its friendship to all peoples and all nations. Togo, he declared, which only the day before had been a ward of the United Nations, would make it a point of honour to observe scrupulously all the principles that had been the force of that organization, and on which his country had always based the actions that had led it to independence. Mr. Olympio also made it plain that Togo did not intend to take sides in disputes between the East and the West.