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Good foreign cultures acceptable—Sarpong

THE Catholic Bishop of Kumasi, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Peter Kwasi Sarpong, has said that he sees nothing wrong with the borrowing of a good culture from another country to improve upon one's culture.

He said medical science and other good cultures borrowed as a result of the introduction of formal education have helped many developing countries to improve upon their environ-

mental conditions.

Bishop Sarpong, who was speaking at a symposium held at the Ahmadliyya Secondary School, Kumasi, in connection with the school's Silver Jubilee celebrations, noted that such borrowed cultures as drug addiction, prostitution and other social

evils, which have had adverse effects on the society, should not however, be encouraged.

He warned that most of the existing cultures handed down to Ghanaians by their forefathers should not be abandoned following the acquisition of formal education.

Speaking on "Education and culture", Bishop Sarpong said traditional medicine, for instance, should be preserved and improved and congratulated the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Science and Technology for its research into plant medicine.

The Bishop said the sense of Godliness and the usual hospitality found in many Ghanaian homes are gradually diminishing due to modern education and its concomitant restricted life.

Dr S. Asamoah Darko, Head of the Department of General and African Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, UST, who spoke on "Problems of education in Ghana," recommended a shift system in the country's secondary schools, where possible, to ensure that most of the children in the country receive secondary school education.

SOME DON'T HAVE IT SO GOOD ...AS IN GHANA

They get top posts

MR A. E. Ashigbor, first Deputy Governor of the Bank of Ghana, has been appointed the Governor of the bank with immediate effect. He succeeds Dr Amon Nikor.

A release from the Castle, Osu, yesterday said in addition, Mr John Bentum Williams, managing director of the State Gold Mining Corporation, has been appointed managing director of the Social Security Bank Limited also with immediate effect. Mr Williams replaces Dr A. K. Appiah, the newly appointed Commissioner for Finance.

THERE are some people in this country, who try to create the false impression that Ghana is the only country which has unemployment or periodically runs short of some vital staple foods.

The hard truth is that the effects of the world-wide inflation, coupled with the imbalances in trade between developed and developing countries, have driven most developing countries into hardships.

The painful difference is that while other countries try to solve their problems by themselves, the privileged classes in Ghana try to make a scape goat from the Government.

The story we publish below written by IAIN GUEST, a British journalist, is an example of how other people are sacrificing in order to put their country on an even keel.

LINE after line of labourers fan out on the banks of a silt-clogged canal — they fill wickerwork baskets with earth they back from the sides of the canal — they carry the baskets over the brow of a hill, empty them, and return for another load.

This is a food-for-work project near Kushtia in Bangladesh sponsored by the World Food Programme. Labourers work seven days a week after the harvest season from November to March, inching towards a goal that in hungry Bangladesh rates high priority: widening the link canal between the Ganges River and a 46-mile irrigation canal which carries water through 120,000 acres of farmland.

For every 70 cubic feet of earth moved, the labourers are paid — not money, but three kilos of wheat, all of which comes from abroad either as food aid grants or purchased on favourable terms.

"Food-for-work is no substitute for paid employment," says a member of the World Food Programme team in Dacca. "We are really the employer of last resort."

Although the food-for-work projects are not a permanent solution for the landless and jobless, they are a God-send in Bangladesh where the number of unemployed hovers stubbornly around 7 million except after harvests (the main source of employment for the landless labourers who make up 40 per cent of the country's work force) when it rises steeply to over 10 million. A probable maximum of 2.3 million labourers are involved for periods ranging from two weeks to three months in food-for-work projects this year, nearly double the number in 1976 when 2,000 miles of canals were excavated.

In a country which seems always to be either flooded or parched by drought, the construction of irrigation and drainage canals provides not only short-term work and a means to combat nature, but also holds a promise of steady and paid employment as more and more hectares of land can be cultivated more intensively.

These employment and
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PORTRAIT GIFT TO ACHEAMPONG

GENERAL I. K. Acheampong, Head of State and Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, receiving a colour painting of himself in a ceremonial Army uniform

from Mr Yuri Bernov (right), Soviet Ambassador to Ghana, at the Castle, Osu, yesterday. This was when the Ambassador presented the portrait to the Head of State at a ceremony.

In a speech, Mr Bernov said the presentation of the portrait was a symbol of profound respect which the people of the Soviet Union have for the SMC. — See story on Page 8.



The best tobacco money can buy

ROTHMANS KING SIZE

Headmaster 'vomits' C1,798 exam fees

MR Samuel Adjetei Adjel, headmaster of the Queen's College at Cape Coast, has refunded C1,798 to 31 Form Five students of the college, being fees for this year's General Certificate of Education examination.

Disclosing this to the press at Cape Coast yesterday, the students said they demanded the refund of their money because they had not been registered

for the examination. Police sources also confirmed later that the headmaster had made the refund.

Meanwhile, all the Form Five students have left the school.

On June 10, this paper carried a Ghana News Agency report on how the headmaster collected C58 instead of C48 from each of the 31 students but failed to register them for

the examination with the West African Examinations Council.

Instead, Mr. Adjel at the time of the examination, gave fictitious index numbers to the students, whose suspicions about not being registered, was confirmed by the West African Examinations Council, following their own investigations.

The students, then called on the Government to take over

the running of the school to save them from further hardships, claiming that this was not the first time Form Five students of the school have suffered such fate.

They also complained of poor conditions at the school, which they said, will not change for the better, if the school remains in the hands of the present management.