ANTHROPOLOGY

## Gives Throne for Science

Nigerian delegate to International Student Assembly believes he can serve his people best by study of anthropology in the United States.

THE NIGERIAN delegation at the recent International Student Assembly in Washington was one of the most active in trying to promote international cooperation, along the lines of freedom and democracy for all.

At least two of the Nigerian delegates are royalty—Crown Prince Orizu, who is now studying political science at Ohio State University, and Dr. Julius Okala, who turned down the offer of a throne in order to become a doctor in anthropology at Northwestern University.

Dr. Okala thought he could best serve his people, not by ruling them, but by bringing back American ideas in public health, education, and production of raw materials. He says his people have a greater respect for American methods and education than those of Europe. Nigeria is a British protectorate in West Africa.

After another year or so of study, Dr. Okala plans to return home with his American bride who is now practising in Harlem as a public nurse. This

### RADIO

Saturday, September 26, 1:30 p.m., EWT
"Adventures in Science," with Watson Davis,
director of Science Service, over Columbia Broadcasting System.

Dr. P. G. Agnew, Secretary, American Standards Association, will talk about Standards in the War. Tuesday, September 22, 7:30 p.m., EWT

Science Clubs of America programs over WRUL, Boston, on 6.04, 9.70 and 11.73 megacycles.

One in a series of regular periods over this short wave station to serve science clubs, particularly in the high schools, throughout the Americas. Have your science group listen in at this time. young couple have great hopes of improving conditions in Nigeria.

On public health, Dr. Okala said, the Nigerian government is now spending about 25c a year per capita, for a population of 33,000,000. This, combined with the shortage of doctors, keeps the people dependent on native "witch doctors." Another difficulty, he said, is that British doctors are paid twice as much as native doctors, even though they have had the same training in Edinburgh medical schools. Nigeria now has its own medical school, with 102 "excellently trained" graduates so far, and Dr. Okala hopes that these physicians will some day be given more responsible posts than they have so far held.

He and his friend, Crown Prince Orizu, are actively campaigning for free cooperation of all United Nations, as equals. The fight for freedom against the Axis, they explain, means fighting to be free—not fighting for somebody else's freedom.

To them the most dangerous issue of the war is the continued use of the terms "backward" and "primitive," which even their allies still use in describing certain races or countries. The African, Indian and Chinese delegates feel strongly that these words should be reserved for the backward people or areas to be found in every country.

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Fish meal is one of the supplemental foods used for fattening pigs.





### War Weather

➤ GOING the rounds again is the venerable superstition that this summer's abnormal weather, which has been unusually wet over most of the country, is somehow traceable to the war.

Some of the pseudo-scientific speculations blame the explosions in the maneuver areas where troops engage in mock battle and target practice, as well as the heavier detonations of bombing practice with live ammunition. Others seek a similar explanation on a remotecontrol basis, placing the responsibility for a disturbed world-weather picture on the wholesale firing on the Russian, Chinese and other battle-fronts.

We had the same cycle of speculations in 1918. It doesn't seem to make any difference to the self-constituted weather experts that the abnormal weather that summer was drought instead of too much rain.

Actually, of course, the heaviest bombardments that war-waging man has ever staged have no effect on the course of the weather.

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Furthermore, there is no reason for supposing that explosions will either precipitate or prevent rain, even on a small, local scale. Rain-makers, who impose on the gullibility of drought-stricken communities, have used explosives, both on the ground and sent into the air by balloons, kites and other means—of course without results.

Underlying these speculations prob-

ably is an unrecognized survival of the primitive superstition known as sympathetic magic—the idea that you can influence the course of natural events by making imitative sounds and gestures. The noise and flashes and smoke of explosions resemble thunder, lightning and clouds; therefore they can compel them to come.

Science News Letter, September 19, 1942

NUTRITION

# Meat Ration Is Adequate

Proposed allotment of two and one-half pounds for each person each week is larger by two-thirds than ration "adequate for indefinite period" set by scientists.

THE PROPOSED meat ration of two and one-half pounds per person each week provides more than adequate nourishment. It is larger by two-thirds than the one and one-half pound per person per week ration labeled "adequate" for an indefinite period by scientists of the U. S. Bureau of Home Economics.

That much smaller but nutritionally adequate ration called for "meat or fish three to four times a week," instead of the present five times. For a restricted period of time, a moderately active grown person could even get along on two servings of meat, totalling three-quarters of a pound, per week, the government scientists stated. Their recommendations were made back in the depression days when meat was plentiful but family food budgets were short. Conditions are reversed today but the scientific facts of nutrition and our need for meat and other protein foods are unchanged.

Meat, that is, beef, pork, veal and

lamb, constitute one source of protein needed for building muscles, heart and other internal organs, skin, hair, nails and other body tissues. Many other protein sources exist.

On the days when you cannot have beefsteak for dinner, you can have chicken or other poultry, or fish, or eggs, or cheese or extra milk. All these foods furnish protein of the same kind that red meat furnishes. Two cups of whole milk furnish more than half the daily protein ration needed by anyone except nursing mothers and boys and girls in their teens.

Beans, peas, lentils and nuts furnish protein also, but the kind of protein in these foods is not a complete substitute for the kind in meat, fish, eggs, cheese or other animal foods. Soybeans are a notable exception to this. When the soybean is heated, its protein becomes almost as efficient as that in meat and much better than any other plant protein for the growth and repair of body tissue.

Science News Letter, September 19, 1942

EDUCATION

# Marconi Prizes Awarded

NATION-WIDE competitive examination administered in high schools throughout the country for the Marconi Memorial Award Scholarships, Edward Lombard, 17 years old, of Syracuse, New York, a graduate of Central High School, won first place and thereby a two-year full-tuition scholarship in radio and electrical communication at the R.C.A. Institutes, Inc., in New York.

John Raymond Miller, 18 years old,

of Orange, California, a graduating student of Orange Union High School, was awarded the second prize, a one year complete course in aviation radio at Midland Radio and Television School, Kansas City, Missouri.

These scholarships are annually awarded by the Veteran Wireless Operators Association as a living memorial to Guglielmo Marconi whose pioneering in wireless made possible modern radio.

The scholarship competition is open

only to graduating high school seniors who are members of Science Clubs of America and/or members of the American Institute Science and Engineering Clubs. The other requirements are that the contestant must have completed at least one year of geometry, one year of physics, and one and one-half years of algebra and must evidence an interest in radio as his life's work.

The examinations were administered by the sponsors of each high school's science club. Accompanying each examination was an essay on the topic, "Why I Want to Become a Radio Engineer," written by the student. Judgment was based upon the score made in the examination, upon school records, and upon an evaluation of the essays.

The judges of the competition were: J. R. Poppele, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, representing the Veteran Wireless Operators Association, Dr. Herbert H. Zim, representing the American Institute of the City of New York, and Joseph H. Kraus, representing Science Clubs of America. Concurring in the decision was William J. McGonigle who has been president for the past six years of the V.W.O.A.

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