

A.T. Balewa

by Peter C. Eilu

After a week of rumours and denials, General Aguiyu Aronsi's military government at last announced that the Premier of Nigeria was killed in the coup. He died with the Finance Minister and two other regional Premiers. The funeral for the Premier took place on January 23, and with it a chapter was ended in Nigerian history.

A man of admirable personality and dogged determination, Abubakar Tafawa Abalewa emerged from obscurity with the success of the Northern People's Congress at the first election in the colony, which was held in 1952.

Under the Colonial Rule, he held the portfolio of the Ministry of Works from 1952 to 1957, when Nigeria obtained self-government, and he became Prime Minister. Three years later, Nigeria became an independent member of the Commonwealth, and Sir Abubakar its first Prime Minister, after he won the independence election of 1959. Soon after this he led his country's delegates to the United Nations, where he made a moving speech that earned him his knighthood.

For the next five years, he had the unenviable task of carrying out an experiment in parliamentary democracy wherein people of different groups endeavoured to live together for a common purpose of peace and harmony.

This was no easy job, where 250 tribes make up the 55 million people of Nigeria! With an extremely complex constitution and a loose federation, Sir Abubakar guided his country into prosperity, progress, and a national consciousness. Last year he was re-elected, to continue the work he began five years earlier.

The pleasant-voiced Premier was often the target of criticism by vociferous leaders of other nations for his moderate views. On the question of Rhodesia, he stood firm on the view that Britain should have arrested Ian Smith, and sent troops to Zambia but disagreed with other members of the Organization for African Unity on the ultimatum giving Britain 12 days, on the ground that 12 days was too short.

While other members of the OAU went home to remain silent or break relations with Britain, Sir Abubakar took up the championship of the Rhodesian cause. On December 14, 1965, he flew to see Prime Minister Wilson, and put forward his views for the conference. The result: the unprecedented Commonwealth leaders conference in Lagos on January 10, to forge out a solution to the Rhodesian problem. It is irony that he did not live to see the outcome of his efforts!

At home he did his best with the constitution, which gives little power to the Prime Minister over the regional Premiers. He hardly interfered with the administration of any region, and this drew criticism from his

opponents especially for his non-interference with Premier Atinkola of the Western Region. But he used tact and skill in handling tricky and difficult situations, as when he averted the crisis after the election last January.

The world mourns Sir Abubakar, and no matter what his shortcomings were, Nigeria has lost a true and a great son. In a message to the nation, the Queen described him as a true and honoured friend. To me he was a man of peace.

A Nigerian daily newspaper had this to say for him: "Once consulted by Alec Douglas-Home on Rhodesia; he was nominated for the Commonwealth Vietnam mission; grudgingly accepted by opponents as trustworthy; now working on unprecedented summit; a man of prestige, his name, Sir Alhaji Abubakar Tafawa Balewa."

(Daily Times, December 16, 1965)

Arthur Miller Speaks On 'Salesman'

by Jim Embury

There have been tears and actual weeping all over the world wherever *DEATH OF A SALESMAN* has been performed. This same lachrymose effect is expected when the UNB Drama Society presents this celebrated Arthur Miller drama at the Fredericton Playhouse for three evening performances on January 29, 31, and February 1st.

The tremendous success of this play here and abroad prompted psychiatrist and author, Frederic Wertham to remark that *DEATH OF A SALESMAN* is no longer just a play but a phenomenon. Why, then, do people get so much pleasure out of

a sad play?

"I think there are two reasons for that", Arthur Miller himself answered, when he was asked that same question in a recent interview. "The first is that the play deals with, at bottom, a kind of insecurity that everyone is aware of, but tries to put aside in his daily life. It is the insecurity, first of coming old age and possible uselessness, which is fundamental.

"But more important," Miller continued, "it is the fear that one has lied to oneself over a period of years in relation to one's true identity and what one should be doing in the world. What the

play does is to make the individual ask himself whether his rationalizations about himself are not leading him to an ultimate rendezvous with a dreadful reckoning."

DEATH OF A SALESMAN is the story of an aging drummer named Willy Loman who has lived with a false dream, even succeeded with it for a time, but fails with it and dies with it. Willy has tried to make himself and everybody else believe that he was a big and important personality and then, after a series of mounting failures, is forced to realize that he is a nobody. Willy is man, "who never knew who he was".

"There are two sources of the false notion of himself that Willy Loman has," Miller told an interviewer. "One is the need that men have to project for themselves, an efficient, successful, praiseworthy personality. In the specific American culture, the desirability of being a social and financial success, is to be attained at all costs."

What does Miller believe the audience carries away from his play? The playwright confesses that he could not honestly say precisely.

"As a playwright I show the audience something which they have seen every day of their lives, but which they have never recognized. I believe that great art has always dealt not with exotic, the peculiar, the rarefied, but really with the commonplace, with things and the emotions and the objects with which people must live in their daily lives. I believe that my role as an artist is to present the truth of life as close to its entirety as I am able to do. I don't want anybody walking out of the theatre and saying, 'That's what he thinks.'"

For Future Leaders

Leadership is a challenge to the world. It is a challenge to every student at UNB. In Wednesday's elections we voted for those we thought qualified to assume control of our campus. If the past, however, is indicative of the future, then the prospects of improved leadership on our campus are dim.

Is there a solution? If, by solution, one means Magic Potion No. 52, which, with the whip of a wand, brings free running control, then the answer is a definite NO. There are no "before" and "after" cures for leadership and ability. The most effective medicine is understanding.

When one understands the people and the problems of his group; when he becomes sensitive to group and individual feelings; and when he can direct his group towards a definite goal, he can begin to call himself a leader.

It is quite difficult to find a situation whereby one can acquire this insight necessary to lead a group. In order to see into a group, one must actually take part in a "laboratory" of some sort, where he can experiment with both leadership and groups. Such a laboratory was held November 19-21 of last fall on this campus.

This was the first lab of this type to be held in the Maritimes. Following a T-group design, the delegates were able to pose problems of leadership, and actually study the dynamics of the

group when such items as power-struggles and silent people arise. Few people actually realize the causes of group failures, and the reasons for its inability to function both effectively and efficiently. In such labs, attempts are made to understand these causes, whereby old behavior will be examined, new behavior experimented with, and group behavior studied in action.

Within a few days, a familiar sight on bulletin boards will be a red arrow surrounded by a mixture of polka dots on the upper left hand corner of a variety of posters. They will be advertising

another leadership lab which will be held February 18-20. It is open to any students of UNB. The format will include lectures on group behavior, exercises in determining group effectiveness, and intensive small group discussion.

For those interested in this lab, blue application forms are available at the SRC office, the Business Administration office in Carleton Hall or the Library. For more information on this type of laboratory, reports on the last lab have been compiled and are available for the asking at the SRC office in the Student Centre. Any further questions may be posed to the list of delegates on the last page of the report.

The challenge proposes the question. Those who answer hold the fate of UNB campus leadership. Are you one?



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BULLETIN

STUDENT FLIGHTS — Did you know that the CUS Travel Department is now booking a special "student flight" to Europe? \$228 return is a real bargain! The flight is Montreal to London, leaving May 29th and returning September 9th. CUS Travel Agent at UNB is Brian Gold, Bridges House. See him soon. The deadline for flight bookings is less than a month away.

INTERREGIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS — Free tuition, free travel! This is for real folks! If you have second division standing and are in first or second year of a four year course or in first, second or third year of a five year course, you are eligible to become one of the five UNB exchange scholars. Free tuition and free travel for one year to any one of twenty participating universities outside the Atlantic area. For further information consult the I.S.E.P. notices on campus bulletin boards. Application forms are available at the SRC Office in the Student Centre. The absolute deadline for application is Feb. 9th.

CUS CHAIRMAN — Do you crave overwork, no pay, attending several conferences, a seat on the SRC, the opportunity to deal with officials of government and university administration and the use of funds to institute projects of service to students both on and off campus? This is part, and only part, of the responsibility of being CUS Chairman. The SRC will soon be appointing a new Chairman for next year. Contact Clyde McElman if you want the "inside scoop" on this position. Don't be shy! Apply!