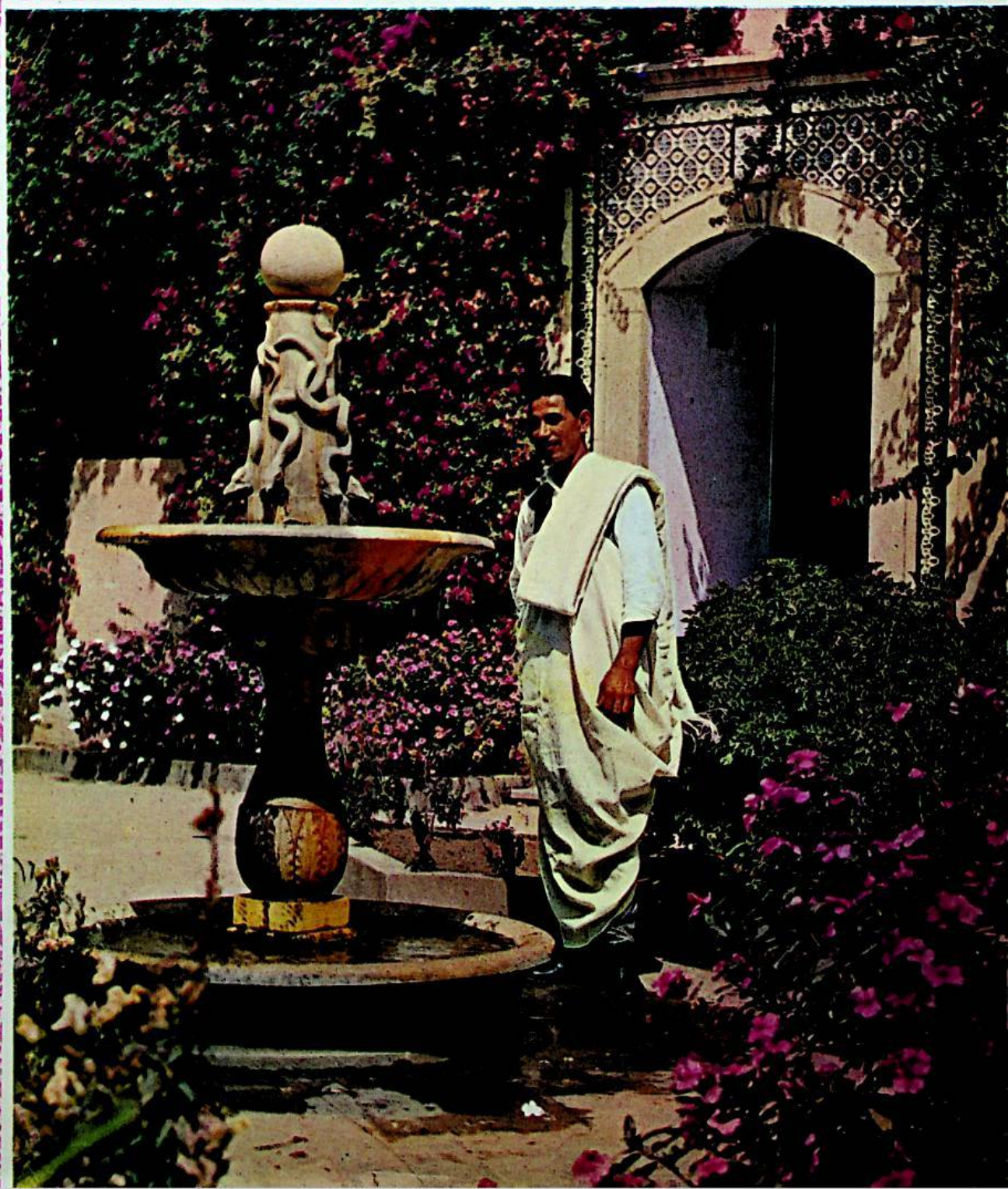


# The Libyan Review

No 1, January, 1966.



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January, 1966

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*A Fountain in Tripoli Castle.*

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## EDITORIAL

The close proximity of Libya to the industrial belt of Europe coupled with its vast petroleum resources have contributed to our emergence as one of the most important suppliers of fuel to the world since the last few years.

During the course of the present century we went through the worst of colonial persecution and destruction brought by the wars. But eternal Libya survived the ordeal. Though deeply scarred, we started again with a grim determination to go ahead with reconstruction of our society.

Taking full advantage of our natural resources we are investing seventy per cent of our annual income into the development projects to construct every thing right from the start. The foundations of a welfare state have been laid down in the country with free education on all levels, free medical care and housing estates for people of modest means. Agricultural settlement work is being carried out at the cost of millions of pounds. Industries and trade are flourishing more every day. Because of a wide expansion of our national economy and huge construction schemes being undertaken a close interest has been shown in our development projects by a large number of countries with a view to participate in their execution.

Classically our country has served as a bridge between the continents for transfusion of world civilization. It has served as a very

important trade route throughout the known history. With a consciousness of our history and geographical position we have been following the policy of setting of our own house in order and fair play abroad. We have been playing a positive role with discretion, deep sense of justice and moral considerations in Arab, African and world affairs with goodwill and cooperation for all.

It is, with these considerations in mind that Ministry of Information and Culture presents the first issue of *Libyan Review* to our friends abroad. The magazine is devoted to present an outline of events at home together with features and articles of varied social and cultural interests.

## Rebirth of a Nation

On 24 December 1951 His Majesty King Idris I proclaimed to the world the birth of independent Libya in a gratifying historic instrument, which marked the end of a gloomy past and the opening of new vistas of honour and freedom after a long bitter struggle under the wise leadership of the great monarch.

Prior to that glorious event here is a short outline of the Libyan freedom movement which cost 750,000 souls, annihilated through mass-shooting, hanging or died in concentration camps. Why all that savageness to a people who had done no wrong?

It had been understood that the reason was the covetousness, colonialism and exploitation which induced Italy to occupy Libya on 29 September 1911. Nevertheless the Libyan people never accepted the Italian occupation for a fierce and courageous resistance was waged throughout the country under the leadership of their present King Idris I and his late faithful adjutant General Omar el-Mukhtar who was captured and executed by the overweening Fascist army in 1931. Under these circumstances thousands of Libyans, soldiers, commanders, civilians and political leaders, went into exile in neighbouring Egypt, Chad and Tunisia to regroup for a renewal of fighting when the time would come.

In 1940 world War II broke out and the Libyans were ready to seize the opportunity to free themselves from Fascist yoke. The exiled Libyans were then convened by the present King Idris I in order to form a Libyan army to fight beside the Allies.

The Allies, and in particular, the British Government formally acknowledged the role of the Libyan forces and the conduct of the underground freedom fighters whose exploits had been decisive factor in the Victory in North Africa when Britain stood alone.

In 1943, after the Victory in the desert war, Libya was placed under two power administrations—United Kingdom and France. On 13 September 1947, the peace treaty with the vanquished Italy was notified and when the Big Four Powers failed to reach

an agreement as to the future status of Libya within a specified year, the matter was then referred to the United Nations.

On 21 November 1949 the General Assembly passed its resolution with following key clauses:

«The General Assembly with respect to Libya, recommends:

- 1 — That Libya, comprising Cyrenaica, Tripolitania and the Fezzan, shall be constituted an independent and Sovereign State.
- 2 — That this independence shall become effective as soon as possible and in any case not later than 1st January 1952.
- 3 — That a constitution for Libya including the form of the Government, shall be determined by representatives of the inhabitants of Cyrenaica, Tripolitania and the Fezzan meeting and consulting together in a National Assembly.
- 4 — That for the purpose of assisting the people of



Libya in the formulation of the constitution and the establishment of an independent government there shall be a United Nations Commissioner in Libya appointed by the General Assembly and a Council to aid and advise him.

- 5 — That upon its establishment as an independent State, Libya shall be admitted to the United Nations in accordance with Article 4 of the Charter.

This resolution was put into effect immediately in January 1950 by the Commissioner, Mr. Adrian Pelt.

The United Nations Council for Libya, comprising representatives of the Government of Egypt, France, Italy, Pakistan, the United Kingdom and the United States, plus one representative of each of the three regions of Libya and a representative of the Libyan minorities, held its first meeting in April 1950. In July of that year a Preparatory Committee of the Libyan National Assembly was established. It was composed of seven members from each region and became known as the Committee of Twenty One. In October, this Committee decided that the National Assembly should consist of 60 members, 20 selected from each region. The Assembly held its first meeting in the following month and in December the Assembly made the following fundamental decisions:

- 1 — That the new State should have a federal structure, with three provincial governments and one Federal Government.
- 2 — That Libya should be a constitutional monarchy, and that the Amir Mohamed Idris el Senussi should be the King.
- 3 — A tricolor of red, black and green horizontal stripe was approved as Libya's national flag.

In December 1950, the Assembly of 60 Libyan members nominated a Committee on the Constitution, which in turn established a working group of six Libyan members who met almost daily to draft the Constitution which was then presented to the General Assembly in September 1951, and was adopted in the following month.

Having already established a Libyan provisional government consisting of a Cabinet of six members under Sayed Mahmud el Muntasser as Prime Minister who then took over the transfer of powers from the United Kingdom and French administrations, Libya was proclaimed as an independent State on 24th December 1951.

After ten years of Federal system in the year 1962 changes towards greater centralization were introduced in the administration of Libya and in 1963 the three provinces had been completely merged into one centralized State, and the Federal system was then abolished. The State of Libya promulgated in the Constitution of October 1951, was renamed the Kingdom of Libya. The new system of government is now based on ten administrative districts. Tripoli, Zavia, Misurata, Homs, Jebel Al Gharbi, Benghazi, Jebel Akdar, Derna, Sebha and Obari.

The religion of the State is Islam and the official language is Arabic. Under the Constitution, all Libyans are equal before the law, enjoy civil and political rights, have the same opportunities and subject to the same public duties and obligations, without distinctions of religion, belief, race, language, wealth, kinship, or political opinion. Freedom of thought, of the press and of printing and the secrecy of all correspondence in whatever form is guaranteed. Every Libyan has the right to education; and elementary education is free and compulsory for children of both sexes. Property is inviolable.

In July 1965 the biggest budget that this Country has ever known was approved. It totalled (165.835) million pounds of which sum of 86.800.000 million pounds has been allocated for development projects which involve the construction of more modern hospitals, provision of experienced doctors, building of more schools and institutes and colleges, introduction of electricity throughout the Kingdom, expediting the implementation of the re-building of Barce town, providing water supply to needy areas, giving attention to agriculture and farmers and equipping them with farm machinery and many other vital projects needed for the progress of the Country and the welfare and prosperity of its people.



HIS MAJESTY KING IDRIS I.

On 24 December 1951 His Majesty King Idris I proclaimed to the world the birth of independent Libya. His proclamation, contained in a gratifying historic instrument, had marked the end of a gloomy past and the opening of a new life with dignity and freedom achieved after a long bitter struggle under the wise leadership of the great monarch.

Dear People:

We take pleasure in announcing to the Libyan nation that as a result of her struggle and in execution of the decision of the United Nations Organisation of 21 November 1949, the independence of our beloved country, by the will of God, has become a real fact. While we solemnly say thankful prayers to the Almighty God for his gracious blessings and meantime extend our heartfelt felicitations to the Libyan nation on this happy historic event, we hereby formally declare that Libya has, with effect from to-day, become an independent sovereign state and that we shall henceforth, in accordance with the decision of the Libyan National Assembly of 2 December 1950, have the title of «His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Libya». We feel greatly rejoiced to take up function from now in compliance with the country's constitution as passed by the National Assembly on 6 Muharram of the Hgra year 1371 corresponding to 7 October 1951 a.d. It is our most fervent hope and keenest desire, as you know, that the country should develop a proper Constitutional life. We shall, effective today, exercise our authority as stipulated in the provisions of this Constitution. We promise God and the nation that, at this momentous period through which our country passes, we shall do our utmost to maintain the interest and welfare of our noble people until we achieve our supreme objectives and our country eventually occupies its deserving place amongst free nations of the world. We have to instrumentally maintain the grip on our gains which we paid high for and in the long run carry these gains with utmost care and honesty to our future generations.

We at this blessed hour remember our heroes, pray to the Almighty to repose the innocent souls of our noble martyrs in eternal life,, and salute the sacred banner which is the symbol of the struggle and solidarity, hoping that the new era which opens today will be one of prosperity and peace to the country. We pray to God to give us aid in this undertaking and put us on the right path for He is the best helper.



H. R. H. The Crown Prince taking salute, Chief of Staff General Nuri As-Siddiq first on the left.

The 14th anniversary of the independence day was celebrated throughout the Kingdom on Tuesday, December 21.

On this occasion a huge parade was held in front of Tripoli castle. H.R.H. Crown Prince Hasan Arida, representing H. M. the King took the salute.

Addressing the nation on this occasion Premier Mr. Hussain Mazek paid tributes to the Libyan martyrs of war of independence under H. M. King Idris I, congratulating his Majesty and the Crown Prince on the occasion.

Mr. Mazek continued, we are a free people with history of heroism who launched the struggle against twentieth century imperialism in spite of its might, and succeeded within the same century.

Referring to the overall developments in Libya Mr. Mazek said, we are directing our natural wealth towards productive channels which will lead Libya towards higher levels of development, self sufficiency and progress. We are trying to create Libyan society as part of the Arab nation ready to serve humanity as a whole.

Following is the full text of the speech.

14<sup>th</sup>

## Independence Anniversary

Countrymen!

It is with great pleasure that I stand before you in this heroic immortal city to pay our homage to H.M. the King on the 14th anniversary of the birth of our youthful state and to welcome our beloved H.R.H. The Crown Prince who has honoured this occasion on behalf of H.M. the King to review the parade of detachments from units of our armed forces and youth organizations.

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on this auspicious occasion which was the starting point of our independence, sovereignty and prosperity.

We are justified, Brethern! to be proud of the remarkable progress achieved by our country in various fields within such a short period since its independence. The fact is we are a proud and free people whose history is full of heroism and glorious deeds. We resisted colonialism in the 20th century, and in this very century we were able to defeat our colonial enemies and regain our independence and sovereignty. Our people are continuously marching towards progress to realize our mission by restoring the glories of our great ancestors who offered the people of the world an immortal progressive civilization that was based on faith, enlightenment and morality.

Countrymen!

In order to fulfil our historic mission and achieve the targets set forth, we have now started, with perseverance and determination on the path of progress. We can observe in our young state the release of an energetic force and activity in various directions.



*P. M. addressing the Nation.*

Praise be to Almighty God on this blessed occasion for the immense wealth which stems out from our beloved earth, as if it appeared to emphasize that our struggle and sacrifices were not in vain, and should be rewarded generously with bounty and harmony.

Brothers! Countrymen!

We endeavour to utilize the natural resources of our wealth, safeguard it and invest its produce for development and construction. We have succeeded in the first stage of our renaissance by implementing the Development Plan which will be followed by another productive plan that aims at the fulfilment of our needs, so that Libya may climb to the summit which it must reach in development, self-sufficiency and advancement. This is not the stage to give full evidence of the extent to which steps have been taken by us so far to implement our projects in economic, educational and social fields. These accomplishments, short and long range aim at the realization of a decent life for all citizens.

The extent of our success and gains could not be properly estimated in our minds and hearts unless we look back to the past and keep an eye for the future in order to see our high position that matches the sacrifices of our ancestors and expectations of our successors.

Dear Countrymen!

As proud citizens of our beloved Libya we believe in the use of all our resources to lay down the sound foundations to create an integrated Libyan society, capable of shouldering the responsibilities imposed on it as a part of the Arab Nation, working for the welfare of humanity and supporting the cause of security and peace.

As the state lays great emphasis on the persons maintaining law and order and safeguarding public security, national wealth, citizens, sovereignty and entity of our state, it relies upon a strong army determined to defend its honour. With this consideration in mind we have made arrangements required to strengthen and equip our army. We are trying to make it a modern and strong army that can valiantly defend the homeland.

Countrymen!

For its existence as an independent sovereign state, Libya is indebted to the long and bitter struggle by all sections of its people under the leadership of H.M. The King. Nor it was rewarded because of certain international developments. Our history is full of heroism and sacrifices which are the strongest evidence that our independence was inevitable. This fact was acknowledged by the representatives of nations at U.N. when they considered the Libyan case. With this historic fact in mind, in our present state of prosperity, we recall the huge sacrifices given for the defence of our land in the face of colonial tyranny.

We invoke blessings for the souls of our brave martyrs who heroically met their fate while defending

*The Armoured Column.*



their country. We greet the veterans, present among us at this ceremony. The country firmly believes that they will defend it to the last rather surrender to the aggressor. These veterans have established the right of our people for independence and sovereignty enjoyed today by the example of their genuine sacrifices for the homeland.

Brothers! Countrymen!

While celebrating our independence anniversary, we pray to Almighty to save our king, H. M. King Idris I, the architect of our independence.



*Girl Guides on Parade.*



*A Detachment of Armed Forces.*



*Section of the Crowd.*



# Speech from the Throne

Representing H.M. King Idris I, H.R.H. Crown Prince Hasan Arrida inaugurated on Tuesday, December 7, the second session of the Fifth Parliament in El-Beida.

The Crown Prince rode in state from El-Beida Divan to the Parliament buildings accompanied by Premier Hussain Mazek. A huge crowd of people lining the gaily decorated streets cheered the royal motorcade.

On his arrival to the Parliament, H.R.H. The Crown Prince was seated at the throne, Secretary of the Royal Divan presented him the Speech which was handed over by him to Premier Mazek who read it to the members of the House of Representatives and Senate. Members of diplomatic corps, pressmen and representatives of Libyan Broadcasting were present in the galleries.

The Speech from the throne dealt with amendments to the oil law, plans for strengthening the armed forces, compulsory military service, recommendations for implementation of Islamic way of life, local self government, amendments in civil law, statement of foreign policy and a review of development programmes.

## IN THE NAME OF GOD

We open the Second Session of the fifth Parliament. It gives us great pleasure to extend to you our greetings at the inception of this Legislative Session, hoping that the work you will render in the service of our dear homeland will be crowned with success, that its aspirations for progress and well being will be achieved within our constitutional and democratic regime, and in an atmosphere of co-operation and understanding between my Government and your Honourable Assembly.

### Honourable Senators Honourable Deputies

In the field of foreign relations my Government is anxious to adopt a policy of friendship and fruitful

co-operation with all peace-loving Nations, particularly sister and friendly States. It adopts a policy of moderation and non-alignment in relation to international problems ideological and doctrinal conflicts, seeking to make a greater contribution to our efforts in building up and developing international mutual understanding and in strengthening the foundations of world peace and stability.

In view of the impact of the causes of freedom, independence and human rights on world stability, peace and progress, my Government re-affirms its very real concern for these causes, and pledges its full support to all peoples struggling for freedom and independence.

In the world of Arab affairs, my Government seeks to sustain the Arab League Pact, and reinforce

H. R. H. The Crown Prince handing over the speech to Premier Mazek



Arab solidarity in the direction of fruitful and effective co-operation. Having a strong conviction in unified Arab action, it has participated in the Arab Heads of State: Conference held in Casablanca. My Government is concerned regarding the Summit Conferences' Resolutions and in fulfilling obligations resulting therefrom, especially in relation to the liberation of the usurped part of an Arab homeland, the dear Palestine.

It gives my Government pleasure to re-affirm its respect for the United Nations Charter, and the Pact of the African Unity Organization. It has condemned the stand taken by a racial minority in declaring independence unilaterally ignoring the legitimate rights of the African majority in Rhodesia.

My Government has decided not to recognise the illegal Government in Rhodesia, and will boycott that illegal Government in the economic, financial and communications fields, it will also prohibit the export of Libyan petroleum to Rhodesia.

My Government appreciates the importance of co-operation with the Afro-Asian Countries, and to this end it participated in the African Summit Conference held in Accra, also in the preliminary work for the Afro-Asian Conference which was to have been held in sister Algeria.

In view of the prominent place our country enjoys amongst sister and friendly States, and the appreciation by such States of the importance of Libya in the economic and political field, my Government has raised diplomatic representation with the Kingdom of Holland to Ambassadorial level, it has also established diplomatic relations with Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, Finland, Malta, and Guinea. With the view to strengthening the already existing international prestige of our country, and for the purpose of looking after Libyan interests, my Government intends to proceed with establishing diplomatic missions with other sister Arab and friendly States.

### Honourable Senators Honourable Deputies

Being convinced that the Army must be the Nation's impregnable and protecting shield, and in fulfilment of our promise before your Honourable Assembly, my Government has taken the necessary action to strengthen its Land, Naval and Air Forces, and to provide it with modern arms and equipment.

In order to serve this necessary growth for our defence, it has enlisted a number of our educated young men to serve in the Royal Navy and Air Force.



Mr. Mazek reading the Speech.

It has also sent officers abroad for study and training in various military colleges and academies in friendly countries. A number of the rank and file of the Navy and Air Force have also been sent abroad for training, and progress is continuing with recruiting for the Army. The first batch of airmen and technicians have completed their study abroad and have re-joined the Royal Air Force. All this is in addition to the task already being performed magnificently by the Royal Military College in training our officers.

My Government will lay a Draft-Law on Conscription before your Honourable Assembly during this Session.

In recognition of the esteemed services rendered by our Veterans, and in appreciation of their struggle in the National cause, my Government has a special concern in looking after them and in improving their lot both materially and in other ways.

### Honourable Senators Honourable Deputies

My Government is giving full attention to the Judiciary and to Legislation; it is doing its utmost to ensure justice and the rule of Law. It is amending the laws to conform and meet with the needs of the people of Libya; drawing inspiration from the Islamic Shari'a.

With a view to an overall and systematic organization of land ownership in the country, my Government has issued a Real-Estate Registration Law which is before your Honourable Assembly.

Being very anxious to raise the standard of local administration, and to diffuse a spirit of security and stability throughout the country, my Government has made great efforts to organize the administrative machine, so as to enable it to be more competent.

With a view to achieving these objectives, my Government is proposing to apply a System of Decentralization by conferring more authority and functions on local administration officers, thus providing for more direct, rapid and authoritative contact with the public, in serving their interests.

In the sphere of local reforms, and for the development of remote areas, steps have been taken to execute useful projects throughout the Kingdom.

In view of the vastness of our country, and the need for widespread Municipal Services, my Government is engaged in developing existing Municipalities, and in establishing new ones as required to meet the public interests. It is concerned with Public Security and is seeking to strengthen the forces of law and order so as to ensure the keeping of the peace.

Being aware of the importance of the administrative machinery of Government, of its active role in carrying out the policies prepared for the well being of the Nation in the various fields of activity, my Government has given it due attention and has taken the necessary action, to raise standards to keep abreast with modern requirements. It has also prepared a Draft Law amending certain provisions in the Civil Service Law; amendments necessitated by gained experience in order to keep abreast with our rapid development. A draft Pension Law for civil servants has also been prepared providing for increased benefits, in harmony with the Public Treasury possibilities and in the light of reasonable standards of life vis-à-vis the cost of living. These draft Laws are to be laid before your Honourable Assembly during this Session. My Government has also issued Regulations governing Remote Areas Allowances and Teaching Allowances; Regulations on housing for Government Staff will be issued shortly. It has provided for sending civil servants abroad on fellowships. Libya has joined the International Institute for Administrative Sciences; has participated in the Arab League Conference on Public Administration and the African Conference on Public and Local Administration.

#### **Honourable Senators Honourable Deputies**

Being convinced of its duty to apply itself to the task of increasing the National Income and safeguar-

ding the Country's undisputed right to its oil wealth and with a view to utilizing this wealth for the people's benefit, to promote the Country's progress and development and to provide the means conducive to the realisation of progress and prosperity for all, my Government has issued a Royal Decree Law amending the Petroleum Law, providing for the application of the OPEC formula in connexion with the expensing of Royalties, determination of discounts and for maximum marketing costs. This Law which has emerged from my Government's deep concern in the supreme interest of the Nation will raise the total Libyan share of the oil wealth and will increase Government revenues this year alone by £L. 48 million. In subsequent years this figure will increase pro-rata with production.

It behoves my Government to announce that while it respects the Companies' contractual rights, it can in no way tolerate any situation that might give rise to a reduction in the State's revenues from this important source, and it rejects any treatment that does not equate in this respect with the other OPEC member countries.

My Government wishes to re-affirm its concern in safeguarding the sources of our natural wealth, and in raising the standard of the petroleum industry in Libya. It will continue its policy of encouraging exploration and prospecting. New concession areas have been opened whose award is subject to the provisions of the amended Petroleum Law. My Government is interested in the prospect of establishing refineries to meet the Country's needs for fuel and petroleum products. It is also directing its attention to the matter of exploiting natural gas and in using it to generate our own power requirements, in addition to exporting gas. It hopes that opportunities will be found to bring these two huge projects into being in such a way as to enable the establishing of various new industries.

Development plans are proceeding smoothly, and my Government is actively pursuing execution of projects in all sectors. A great many projects have been completed and many others are progressing. With the view to carrying out the required technical surveys, an integrated plan, relating to housing and communications for all villages and towns has been started. Action has also been taken to assess and study the structure of the National Economy, the development of home trade, and the prospects for establishing new industries based on the beneficial exploitation of our natural resources.

My Government is formulating proposals and preparing studies for the general framework for a future development plan and for setting targets for development in all fields.

#### **Honourable Senators Honourable Deputies**

My Government continues its concern with financial matters. It is making every effort towards the strengthening of the fiscal and accounts machinery, providing it with competent and expert Libyan Nationals. It seeks to substitute new legislation for present taxation laws, so as to keep abreast with our developing social and economic requirements.

The Bank of Libya is continuing its task in keeping the Libyan currency stable at home and abroad, and in controlling banking activity with the aim of providing the national economy with adequate finance in the various sectors. The Bank's policy relating to Libyanising foreign banks in Libya has met with noticeable success and will have a beneficial effect on our economy. The Country's balances in foreign exchange and gold have risen considerably. The Bank of Libya's reserves have increased by 56% more than last year. The Bank is interested in investing these reserves in ways that will realise the utmost benefit to the Country without sacrificing security of investment.

My Government is supporting the Agricultural Bank so as to enable it to discharge its functions fully. It has increased the Bank's capital to £L. 4 million, and intends to increase it further in the future.

My Government is greatly concerned with the agricultural sector, and in supporting agricultural

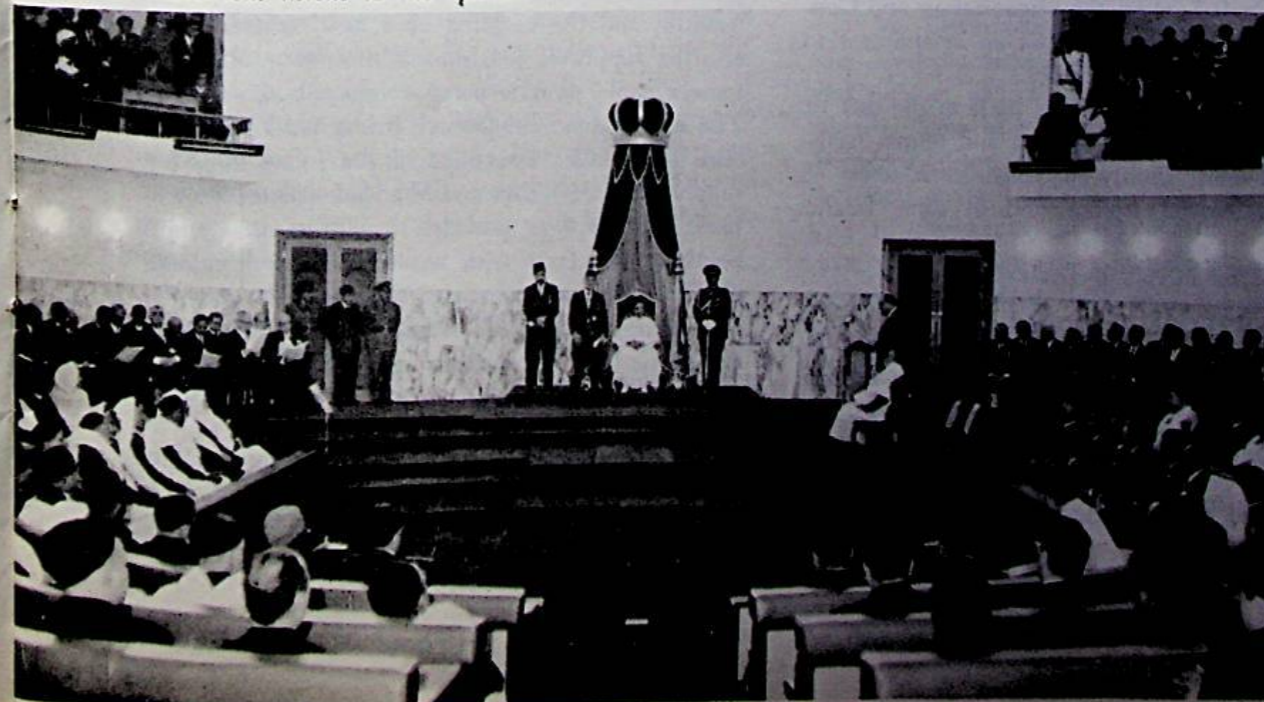
revival in the Country so as to enable farming to play its proper role in the general development, and to contribute to the general prosperity. It is following up its various programmes aimed at reviving and increasing agricultural production and for developing the rural community. Agricultural development projects include land reclamation, rehabilitation of cisterns, training of farmers in the use of modern methods and supplying them with loans and assistance, so as to enable them to develop their farms in an economic and planned manner. Work has started in reclaiming a great number of farms, and the competent authorities are now conducting an extensive survey throughout the Country with the view to establishing widespread land settlement schemes.

In order to stimulate farmers, my Government has taken a decision to grant medium and long-term agricultural loans, reimbursable in a maximum of 15 years; these loans will be granted on easy terms, thus enabling farmers to establish and improve their farms at less personal sacrifice than at present.

My Government continues to send «fellows» abroad to specialize in the agricultural and veterinary sciences. Attention is also given to in-service training in the fields of statistics, agricultural extension, horticulture and farm mechanisation. It has also created an Agricultural Research Council.

My Government is applying itself to the task of controlling the high cost of living and rising prices through facilitating the import of all staple goods required for public consumption, at the same time protecting home industry and production. A Draft Law for the rationalisation of imports and exports is to be laid before your Honourable Assembly. A

*The Parliament listens to the speech.*







Mr. Abdul Hameed Al-Abbar, the Speaker of Senate receiving the Speech.

Decree Law on the Control of Prices has already been issued.

In appreciation of the part which must be played by Libyan Nationals themselves in building up our National economy, my Government has applied itself to encouraging them in every way; by providing employment opportunities for them, and by limiting the competition of foreign concerns, except, of course, in the purely technical fields where proficiency is still lacking.

With the view to achieving Foreign investment my Government will lay before your Honourable Assembly a Draft Law on the Organization and Control of Companies' Activities, and an amendment to the Law of Commercial Agencies.

My Government is applying itself to the task of the overall development of tourism and tourist facilities. It will start, shortly, to construct a series of hotels in the coastal regions and in some inland towns.

It will also submit a Draft Law on the Organization of Tourism.

My Government is going ahead with the implementation of its policy aiming at achieving an industrial advance which will ensure the strengthening of our National economy, and contribute to the well-being and prosperity of the country through the establishment of new factories, the extension of exist-

ing ones, and on raising the quality standard of home products.

My Government has issued the Industrial Organization Law and sought to implement it in a way that will safeguard the consumer's interests and at the same time support our own industrial production. It has instituted industrial centres projects in many places, it is, too, increasing its efforts to accelerate industrial training to meet the growing needs of the various industrial sectors.

Being earnestly concerned in supporting our industries, through granting loans, taking part financially in projects and by providing credits for the creation of new industry and house ownership, my Government has established the Industrial and Mortgage Bank, and a Law for its establishment has been issued.

#### Honourable Senators Honourable Deputies

My Government is proceeding with the execution of projects aimed at providing more and better potable water for towns and villages. Action is being taken to supply Barce with water; dig wells in Wadi Salahat; provide piped water for Gharian; utilize Roumia water resources to supply Jefren; dig wells in the Beni Walid area, and extend water pipe lines to Kasabat. The project of Zouara-Jemeil-Ragdalen is currently being executed; the preparation of Alalga water project is being pursued as are also the projects for Zentan, Rajaban and Sikt. Works are currently being carried out to extend the Misurata water network and, in connexion with Gassr Bu-Hadi project, to supply Sirte with water, and for the renewal and extension of the water network in Benghazi, the renewal of the distribution network in Tobruk, and the building of a new reservoir there, also the supply of Jeaghbug with water. Water resources exploration is being conducted in Agedabia. The water projects of Oubari, Sebha and Zouela have been completed. Execution of the Jofara project to supply Houn, Soukna and Waddan with water is in hand. Surveys to provide 16 villages in the two Southern Moufazas with water have also been completed. Work will be started shortly for the extension and enlargement of the Tripoli water supply and of the supply for the surrounding areas. The digging of wells in different parts of the Western Jebel will commence soon.

In view of the importance of electricity, especially in connexion with the development of industry and agriculture, my Government is concentrating on mak-

ing it available throughout the country. Great attention has been given in this respect to villages and oases. To this end the installation of many power stations has commenced, together with the laying of the requisite supplementary networks. A new power station is to be constructed in Benghazi and in the meantime the existing one has been enlarged.

Work will start in the near future on the following: the Jebel Akhdar power station; Tobruk power station; the enlarging of the Tripoli power station; installation of two generators in Zahra region to meet agricultural development; laying the power line for the Judaim-Zawia-Sorman-Sabrata-Ageilat, Sukessabt and Zanzour networks.

The Benghazi-Kwaifia power line has been completed, and the Tajura region network is in hand; a project for a power station with its distribution network is to be introduced in Sebha. A major power station in Homs, to supply the coastal regions Zleiten, Misurata, Kasabat, Gassr Khair, and surrounding villages will be commenced shortly.

Work is being undertaken to supply and install generators of the requisite sizes, to provide more electricity for towns, villages and for remote areas.

My Government is pleased to assure your Honourable Assembly that the execution of the New Barce Town Plan is proceeding with speed, and the construction of the new housing units, together with required facilities and amenities are being efficiently carried out.

My Government is seeking to develop communications; it is carrying out large projects to improve posts and telecommunications links and intends to carry out a major telecommunications project by laying co-axial cables linking the country's towns also by expanding the automatic system. Studies are also being conducted to improve and modernize means of communication with Europe, and the rest of the outside world, through marine cables.

My Government is earnestly taking action to bring Libyan Ports up to the level required by modern marine traffic. It has prepared a Draft Law on Ports which will be laid before your Honourable Assembly in the near future.

My Government is also paying considerable attention to airports, to enable them to cope with modern air traffic. The Kingdom of Libya Airlines has commenced operations. My Government will concentrate on expanding services to cope with increasing internal and external air traffic, including the linking of a number of centres in Libya by air.

My Government is giving great attention to roads. Execution of the project for the surfacing and widening of the main road between the Western and Eastern borders will start early next year. A number of other roads will also be constructed in various parts of the Kingdom, with particular attention being given to roads serving agricultural areas.

My Government is also enlarging the scope of the meteorological services.

#### Honourable Senators Honourable Deputies

In response to the requirements of the country's development needs and progress in the field of education, my Government is submitting an Education Law, which defines the aims and objectives of education as means to create in the coming generations a moral, cultured, well educated, healthy, happy people able to contribute a constructive effort towards the advancement of the Country.

My Government has achieved, this year, a wide schools building programme, involving the establishment of 175 new schools; there are a further 224 schools under construction.

In order to bring academic and technical education into equilibrium, and in view of the desirability and need to make trained manpower available, my Government continues in giving attention to vocational training centres in increasing numbers. It participates in international and inter-regional conferences on education and, in conjunction with UNESCO, the Inter-Regional Seminar on Technical Education. In this connexion I am pleased to inform you that the Arab States Conference of Ministers of Education and Authorities Responsible for Economic Planning are to be held in Libya.

My Government continues to pay attention to the development of text-books. It is also increasing the number of school libraries. In this connexion libraries have been established in Tripoli and Benghazi. Care is also being taken of antiquities and historical archives.

In the context of the overall domestic and international campaign to eliminate illiteracy, educate a campaign to attain these goals and for this purpose a Draft Law on Elimination of Illiteracy will be laid before your Honourable Assembly.

Being deeply concerned with the development of the religious spirit, my Government is resolved to develop the Koranic teaching curricula, and is ensuring the well being of the Senussi Zawayas.

The Islamic University is continuing its activities in serving religion by spreading Islamic culture and extending the religious ties between the Kingdom of Libya and the Moslem World in general, thus following in the steps of the Great Imam, Essayed Mohammed Ben Ali Al-Senousi.

My Government is continuing its efforts to develop higher education in order to meet the country's need for qualified people. A Higher Teachers Training College has been opened, and my Government continues its policy of establishing more Colleges and University establishments. It is sending «fellows» abroad to complete their higher education in fields not available at home. Students from sister and friendly countries are awarded scholarships to study in our various schools, institutes and colleges, thus contributing to the strengthening of friendly ties with these countries.

#### **Honourable Senators Honourable Deputies**

With the aim of realising social betterment by making adequate housing available for our citizens, my Government has announced the «Idris Housing Project», which, when completed, will provide the working class and lower income groups, farmers, Veterans, army officers and civil servants with reasonable housing. It has sought to co-ordinate this scheme with edvelopment projects, in order to achieve the same goal of development, namely, to improve the conditions in villages, advance agriculture and industry; promote social stability and implement land settlement; by establishing model villages where a decent livelihood will be available; thus assisting in so act as a brake on the drist of the rural popolation increasing productively and economic prosperity and into main cities.

With a view to achieving this latter aim it has been decided to construct not less than 60% of the housing units in agricultural regions.

A Ministry for Housing and State Property has been established to execute this vital and important project in an integrated manner and upon a stable basis. Preparations are now being completed for the construction of ten thousand houses as the first stage. My Government will draw up a plan to confer ownership rights to those entitled to these Government houses.

Being convinced that the country's progress is been established to execute this vital and important services and amenities to the public, my Government

is endeavouring to provide work opportunities and convenient social life for all citizens. It is also giving attention to labour, providing means aimed at raising the workers' standard of living and at the same time developing their productive capacity. Good care is also being taken of social, sport and cultural institutes; boys and girls Scouts movements and Women's Associations.

In view of the comprehensive progress that is being achieved in the various sectors which are more than absorbing our own national manpower, two agreements have been concluded with the sister States of the Maghreb and the Sudan, which will assist in meeting our need for additional manpower.

And in view of the impact of development on the community and the need to raise the social standard of the individual, my Government has established two Social Services Institutes for both boys and girls; it has also created a number of Family and Child Welfare Centres.

In the field of social insurance it will establish more clinics in all the Mouhafazats to provide medical care for the insured. The Social Insurance Hospital in Tripoli and one in Benghazi will both be furnished with modern equipment.

Being well aware of the active part that is played by youth in contributing to the country's progress; and with a view to providing opportunities for youth to direct its potential in the direction of constructive creation, my Government has established the Higher Council for Youth Care, and has appropriated the necessary funds for the establishment of a number of projects connected with youth throughout the Kingdom, e.g., youth hostels, stadiums and youth clubs, in addition to the two complete Sports Towns, the construction of which has actually been commenced in both Tripoli and Benghazi. Co-operative societies are being encouraged as is the spirit of co-operation among the citizens.

My Government is taking good care of Wakf's and Mosques' affairs, and is providing care and service for the Pilgrims to the Holy Places.

#### **Honourable Senators Honourable Deputies**

My Government is increasing its efforts to raise the standard of medical and health services in the country, and make them available for all, so as to ensure medical care for all our citizens. To this end it is recruiting more competent practitioners from the standard of medical and health services in the

abroad, and is ensuring the availability of modern methods of treatment and all the requirements of medical aid through providing dispensaries, drugs and mobile clinics for the prevention and treatment of disease.

Within its plan to improve the health in the country, my Government has opened the Beida Hospital. It also intends to build two central hospitals, one each in Tripoli and Benghazi. It intends also to established a hospital in Tarhuna. A hospital at Sirte, too, will be opened. My Government has prepared the requisite plans for the establishment of new hospitals in Homs, Zleiten, Agedabia and for the extension of Tobruk Hospital. It will also establish more hospitals and health centres throughout the country, and make mobile clinics and medical services available to the inhabitants of all villages and remote areas.

Being convinced of the importance of the dissemination of information and the necessity in this connexion to have the necessary equipment to assist in such dissemination in order to make our constructive efforts as a National entity widely known, my Government is pleased to make known that steps have been taken for the establishment of two powerful Broadcasting Stations, one each in Beida and Tripoli. It is also expected that transmission from the two stations now under construction in Tripoli and Benghazi will start during the next few months.

Realising the important role of television and its impact on the development of the community, execution of this important project will commence during the coming year.

My Government has initiated training of our Nationals in this fields of national broadcasting and, to this end, has established a Training Centre for Information Affairs; this is in addition to sending «fellows» abroad to specialize on the technical side of sound and television broadcasting. It has also sought to develop publications, and to strengthen the potentialities of the press.

Steps are being taken to complete the technical side of the Libyan News Agency so as to enable it to start Radio operations early in the coming year.

My Government continues its efforts to spread cultural consciousness through the establishment of improved communications with villages and remote areas.

My Government is anxious to support a greater appreciation of all intellectual movements particularly in the cultural Arts and literature.

#### **Honourable Senators Honourable Deputies**

This is a concise survey of the achievements and aims of my Government; the projects it is undertaking and intends to carry out in the best interests of the people. These are the broad lines of the policy my Government intends to follow, to abide by, and to fulfil with a view to a bright present, replete with bounty and well-being and a better future for progress and prosperity for our country.

*A general view of Al-Beida.*



# LIBYA

## and the WORLD

Ever since Libya achieved independence after four decades of heroic struggle, it has always responded positively to its international responsibilities. This attitude springs from a deep consciousness that no country, in our time, can steer its course oblivious to the developments in the rest of the world. That is why the Libyan foreign policy is outspokenly in favour of the role that United Nations has to play in maintaining world peace. H. R. H. the Crown Prince Hassan Er-Radha while addressing the U. N. General Assembly on October 24, 1962, acknowledged in laudatory terms, the support rendered by U. N. to the colonial peoples to achieve independence followed by U. N. aid through its agencies. Prince Hassan concluded his speech «Libya as a U. N. member believes in understanding and cooperation amongst different peoples. It invites them sincerely to join hands in constructing a world, free from fear, ignorance and disease, a world living as a family where the strong help the weak, prosperous support those deprived and enlightened teach the ignorant. Such human links can contribute in harnessing the powers controlled by man in positive channels leading to a life of peace and prosperity.»

During a broadcast on U.N. anniversary last October, Premier Hussain Maziq said: «Our freedom was won after a long struggle under our King and the U. N. acknowledged our right to an honourable life.» As a concrete gesture for its expectations from U. N., Libya has considerably increased its contributions to the organization.

Geographically, Libya is situated in the middle of the Mediterranean. It has always been a bridge between the Arab East and West. It is the shortest outlet since times immemorial for the tropical central Africa for trade with Europe. Since the very dawn of history, Libya has been the stage for some of the most spectacular movements in man's march for pro-

gress. The Kingdom of Libya, being conscious of its historic links, has always asserted its Arab and African personality. The fact is established by Libyan membership to the Arab League and Organisation of African Unity.

Last year, H. M. King Idris I personally led the Libyan delegation to the Alexandria meeting of the Arab heads of States. Libya upheld the resolutions passed by the conference and by paying its share of contributions to the Arab joint fund. The Palestine case, had always received the fullest support of the government and people of Libya and all obligations towards this noble cause have been meted out. Last September, H. R. H. the Crown Prince represented H. M. the King at the Casablanca conference of Arab heads of States where Libya pledged its full support to the Arab joint policy.

Meanwhile, the chief Libyan delegate to the U. N. Dr. Wahli El-Bouri, in a speech to the General Assembly, upheld the Palestine cause, condemning moves to treat the case as just one of the several refugee problems facing the world council. He supported the U. N. resolution on South Arabia and the right of self-determination for the people of Aden. Similarly Libya urged for settlement of the Cyprus, Kashmir and Vietnam conflicts. A similar statement on Libyan foreign policy was made by Mr. Hussein El-Ghanai, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tripoli on October 14th. The statement says Libya will not accept unilateral declaration of independence by Ian Smith in Rhodesia.

Following the rash decision of Ian Smith, Dr. Ahmed Bishti the Foreign Minister told the Libyan News Agency on November 13th that Libya refuses to accept the U. D. I. in Rhodesia, adding «the declaration is a negation of the lawful authority in Southern Rhodesia. It usurps the rights of African

people and is against the resolutions of the Organization of African Unity.»

Laying down the Libyan foreign policy during an interview published in the Tripoli Italian daily «Gionale di Tripoli» dated November 11 Dr. Bishti said, our policy in international affairs is based on friendship and cooperation with all. With sister coun-

tries, our relations are based on mutual respect and fraternal cooperation. These are in keeping with the charters of U. N., Arab League and the Organization Foreign Policy of African Unity. In international conflicts, Libyan policy will be independent and objective. Libya will strive for international peace, better understanding and cooperation between the countries.»



H. R. H. The Crown Prince at Casablanca Conference.



Arab Foreign Ministers meeting in Casablanca.

# King IDRIS Housing Project

On 9th August, 1965, Premier Mr. Hussain Maziq, while addressing the Libyan Armed Forces Day parade in El-Beida, announced the King Idris Housing Project which will go down in history as the most befitting gift from a ruler to this land of architectural marvels.

At a cost of £L. 400,000,000, the plan calls for construction of 70,000 houses for people. Sixty per cent of the sum will be spent in rural areas. Libyan farmers, teachers, state employees, soldiers, old time freedom fighters and people of modest means will have a house of their own under the plan. They will be offered ownership deeds to the houses with three

living rooms and modern utilities. Schools, clinics, markets and other buildings for social and administrative purposes will be provided at the housing estates and model villages. Centres for agricultural guidance and mechanical farming will be attached to the new villages. It is hoped these measures will lead to the stabilization of agriculture in Libya.

In order to streamline the construction and maintenance of the housing schemes, a new Ministry of Housing and State Property has been created. It is



*Foundations for New Houses.*

headed by Mr. Abdul Qader Badri who declared recently that the house construction drive is soon to be launched with construction of 10,000 houses all over the Kingdom. Plans for these houses are ready now. In addition to this, the Government of Libya proposes to start five prefabricated house manufacturing factories. Negotiations for this purpose are going on at present.

A royal decree issued on November 24 had transferred all the state property and house building operations to the Ministry of Housing and State Property. It will follow the policies laid down by the

Cabinet. After consultation with the Ministry of Planning, Agricultural Settlement Authority, local bodies and other institutions, the Ministry will select land for construction of housing estates and villages.

Slum clearance operations have already been started in the Kingdom. Local bodies are preparing data on the housing needs of the area by sending house inspectors who are collecting data after house to house investigations. The entire state machinery has been set in motion for the biggest construction drive of its nature in Libya.



*Land Reclamation for Agricultural Resettlement.*

# Dances from Libyan Sahara

During spring and summer moonlit nights in the remote Saharan oasis of Ghadames and Tuwareq encampments, men, women and children assemble out of their tents lured by the wailing sweet melodies of the flute accompanied by the beats of drum for tribal folk dances. Such dances are always held in the open under the star studded sky of the desert during tribal celebrations.

Tribal caravans return home after absence of several months. Hunting trips of the tribe last for few weeks. When a tribe leaves for or returns from such undertakings, the occasion is celebrated by dance meetings.

Saharan folk dances have a strong imprint of the life in these harsh but mystifying surroundings which condition every aspect of the life of

these people. The accompanying music is provided by reed flutes and cylindrical wooden drums which are covered with cowhide on either sides. Rhythmic and powerful, the music has the burning vitality of the desert sun and hardy life of its inhabitants. The themes of these dances reflect the day to day life drama of the desert.

## AR-REMAH (LANCE)

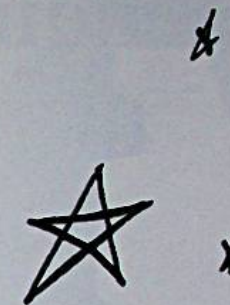
Dressed in red waist-coast, black baggy trousers embroidered with silken threads and blue and white turbans which cover their faces, nine Tuwareq men take part in this dance. They enter the circle holding a lance (Remah) in their hands. An orchestra of at least a flute and a drum supplies the music while the girls of the tribe form a ring around the dancers. Romantic and alluring as these damsels are, they urge and inspire the dancers to display their dexterity in the use of their lances while hunting gazelle in the desert.

Movements of this dance reflect the men of tribe assembling before they set forth for the hunt. They clasp the game, encircle it and hook it with their lances. The final movement in this dance depicts the arrival of the tribe from the hunting trip and the celebrations that follow it.



## GAZELLE

The solo dance represents the graceful gazelle feeding in the desert. It leaps and bounds with joy, content in the safety of its lonesome habitat. Distant noise from shouts of hunters and galloping horses breaks this tranquility and joyful interlude. The noise keeps drawing closer which panics the gazelle. It is struck with fright and charges desperately to escape the death which is pursuing it at a great speed.



## AL-AJOOZ (THE OLD MAN)

An old man worn out by age hears the distant music which stirs in him the spirit of his youthful days. As the music gets nearer and stronger in its tempo, the old man is carried away by its power and starts dancing to its beat like a youth. Once the music starts fading, he loses his breath overcome by the inertia of his old age. He slumps once again to the ground as if under the weight of his years while the music fades away.



## AN-NASR (VICTORY)

This dance represents the victory of a Tuwareq tribe against its adversary tribe trying to encroach on its territory to plunder its wealth and enslave its people.

Dressed in all their finery, the male Tuwareq display in this dance the tremendous power of their tall slender bodies and their characteristic gait which is graceful and proud, proclaiming their sovereignty on Sahara.



# Amendments to the PETROLEUM LAW



The Petroleum Law No.25, 1955 was issued at a time when the discovery of oil in Libya was a mere hope. It aimed at encouraging oil companies to enter the country and to make efforts which may turn the hope into a reality. This began with the term of the concession contracts granted at that time. One oil company after another came into Libya and their discoveries succeeded one another. By 1961, oil was discovered in great quantities and the hope turned into a reality. In view of these developments and of the change in circumstances with regard to the oil situation in Libya, the Petroleum Law was amended in 1961. That amendment contained rules concerning the conclusion of agreements with concession-holders for the amendment of their concession contracts in accordance with the new terms. The amendment also contained encouraging advantages for the former holders of concession contracts. Thus the Government concluded amendment agreements with the holders of concessions contracts which resulted in the permission to the companies to make some reductions and discounts. Some companies, however, have seized this opportunity and asked for huge reductions and immense discounts with regard to their oil sales: a fact which led to the poor position of their payments to the Libyan Government.

Since 1961, Libya has become one of the major oil producing and exporting countries in the world. It is only fair that Libya should benefit from its oil in the same way as other oil producing countries.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), of which Libya is a member, reached in 1964 an agreement with the major oil companies after more than two years of negotiations. Under this agreement, the companies offered to pay the Governments a bigger share of the revenue from oil exports, provided the necessary legislation is issued for the amendment of the concession contracts in accordance with the offer of these companies. In 1964, the Libyan Government informed OPEC of its acceptance of the above-mentioned offer. The attached draft law embodied in the Royal Decree has been prepared in order to apply the OPEC settlement to Libya: it aims at rectifying the unacceptable position of discounts and reductions and at increasing the payments which the companies undertake to make to the Government.

The intention is to apply this Law to the operations of the oil companies in 1965. This will lead to a big increase in the oil royalties due to Libya: whereas the payments due to the Libyan Government under the existing law are £L. 87.5 million, the total payments due to the Libyan Government under the proposed law will be £L. 135.5 million. Thus, the additional royalties due to the Government as a result of the proposed law with regard to the current year amount to £L. 48 million.

Attention must however be drawn to the fact that the additional revenue due to the Libyan Government in the coming years as a result of the implementation of this Law

depends on the rate of oil exports and production costs. As oil exports in 1966 are expected to exceed exports in 1965, the revenue, under the provisions of the proposed law, will undoubtedly exceed the estimated revenue under the provisions of the existing law by more than £L. 50 million. This figure will go on rising in the years following 1966. The new Law is likely to have a good effect on the rate of exports in the future as all oil companies will try to meet their additional payments to Libya by increasing exports and by redoubling their efforts with regard to marketing. They will also seek to curtail their expenditure and this will lead to an increase in the oil royalties due to the Libyan Government.

As the existing Petroleum Law provides that no changes may be introduced into the Law and the regulations issued thereunder which may affect the contractual rights of the companies without their consent the draft law, with its proposed provisions, seems to be the only way of securing the consent of the companies and their agreement to amend their concession contracts.

As the companies which have made the above-mentioned OPEC offer will, no doubt, agree to their contractual rights being amended in accordance with the terms of the offer, it is not expected that they will be willing to change their

existing contractual rights in any other form.

In brief, the amendments contained in the draft Law are:

1) Expensing of the royalties by considering the royalty as part of the expenses when the companies calculate profits and not as a sum paid in advance out of the share of the Government in profits which amount to 50%, as is the practice now. This means that the proposed law will result in an increase in the royalties paid to the Government by half the amount of the royalty or by about 14 American cents for each barrel of exported crude.

2) The draft law defines clearly the income of the companies from exported oil which comes under the profits. This definition tackles the exaggerated reductions and the huge discounts which some companies have been practising under the provisions of the existing law. As has been stated, the financial benefit accruing to the Libyan Government from the application of this new definition will amount to £L. 48 million with regard to 1965 alone.

3) The OPEC offer contains a provision that the companies which agree to have their concession contracts amended in

accordance with the terms and provisions of the new law will only do so if this amendment is applied to all companies without exception. It is therefore necessary that all companies should agree to have their concession contracts amended in accordance with the terms and provisions of the new law. In the event, of any company not agreeing to do so, measures must be taken to compel it to abide by the provisions of this law.

4) In order to induce the holders of concession contracts to amend their existing concession contracts, the draft law provides them, under the OPEC system, with an opportunity to reach an agreement with the Government on a final settlement of certain Government claims concerning the expensing of royalties and related matters and also concerning the reductions deducted in the past.

5) The amendment also contains provisions concerning the final settlement of disputes through arbitration in accordance with the provisions contained in the arrangements made by some other oil-producing countries which have recently accepted the OPEC offer.

6) As a means of inducing com-

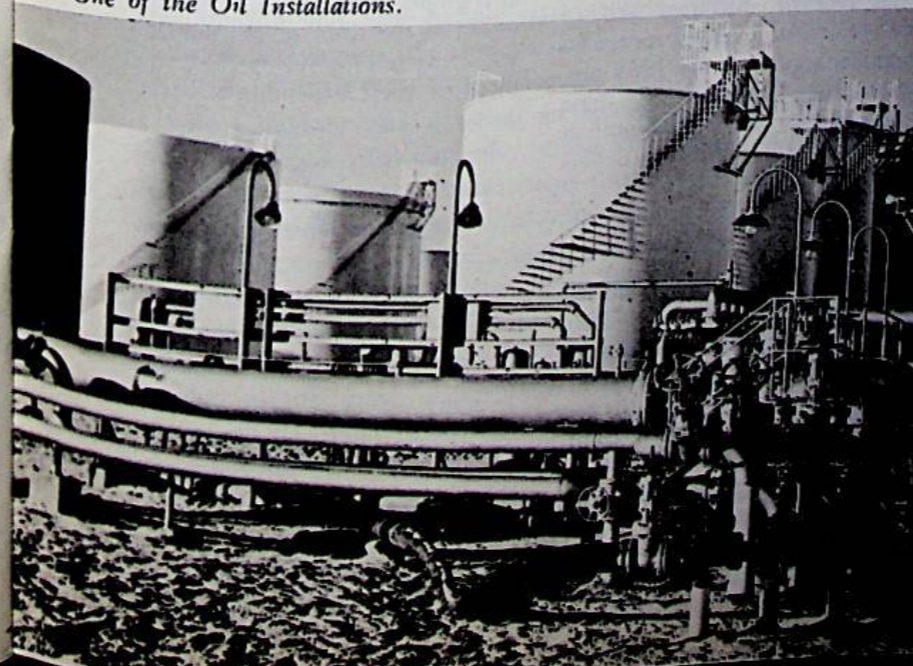


H. M. King Idris I opens the First Pipeline.

panies to agree to have their concession contracts amended in accordance with the terms and provisions of the proposed law, the new law provides that no new concession contract may be granted to any existing holder of a concession contract who refuses to accept the amendment.

7) Out of its desire to respect the contractual rights secured by companies in accordance with the legislation in force and in order to reassure them and to secure equality between them, the Government has sought, through negotiation, to obtain the acceptance by the companies operating in Libya of the proposed amendments. The majority of oil-producing and exporting companies have in fact accepted the amendments and the Government hopes that the remaining companies will accept these amendments in order to maintain their good relations with the Libyan people who must benefit fully from the revenue of its national wealth.

One of the Oil Installations.



# Press Comments

## LIBYAN PRESS COMMENT ON THE AMENDMENT OF THE PETROLEUM LAW

*Al-Maidan* — (21-11-1965)

«After oil had been discovered and become an important source of revenue in the life of the country, it became necessary for the State to review the Petroleum Law and to amend some of its provisions in the light of developments within the country and in world petroleum policy so that Libya, having become one of the major oil-producing countries, could move and conform with these developments.

Libya could not but take this inevitable step and introduce the necessary amendments in its Petroleum Law with a view to safeguarding the country's legitimate right in its wealth without, at the same time, overburdening the oil companies operating in it.

The Government of Sayyid Husain Mazziq has carried out its responsibilities for safeguarding our rights. All that the Government did is the coordination and organisation of the industry and there is a wide scope for more cooperation between all parties, provided the necessary understanding and good will prevail...»

*Tarablus al Gharb* — (21-11-1965)

«This new amendment has, in our view, caused the people to rejoice as they had rejoiced at the news of the discovery of oil... The new amendment was introduced after intensive study and exchange of views with the parties concerned, namely the oil-exporting companies. It is gratifying to learn that agreement was reached especially with the major companies...»

These major companies, which have accepted the OPEC settlement, produce 65% of Libya's present crude output...»

*Barqu al-Jadida* — (21-11-1965)

«The new amendment opens the way for competition between the major and the independent oil companies... It also puts an end to the problem of discounts which has been exploited recently and led to a diminution in the Government's share of the oil revenue...»

The new Law will increase the Government's share of profits by about 14 cents per barrel... The new Law introduced by the Government of H. M. King Idris, headed by Sayyid Husain Mazziq, realizes the hopes and aspirations of the Libyan people and safeguards its right in its national wealth...»

*Al-Raid* — (23-11-1965)

«Being a member of OPEC, Libya is bound by the collective plan agreed upon by the Organisation with regard to the question of the price of crude oil. Moreover the need for developments are becoming more urgent and pressing and the country, therefore, cannot be expected to overlook its main source of wealth and to seek foreign loans... or to halt its progress and development.»

After analysing the effects of the new Law in the light of the proposed expensing of royalties, the fixing of the rate of discounts and of crude prices, the newspaper says that «with regard to the 1965 production, the Government's share will amount to about 410 million dollars instead of 147 million dollars under the old Law.»

*Al-Talia* — (23-11-1965)

«Libyans have every right to enjoy their national wealth. They have provided, in an atmosphere of amity, the best example of cooperation and good relations with the companies operating in their country and it is essential that the com-

panies should reciprocate the same feeling so that their mutual interests could be realised and so that the existing respect could grow.

While expressing our full support for the Government for presenting this Law, we believe that it expresses our wishes for building a better future with the funds accruing to our treasury from our ample oil wealth.»

*Al-Hurriyya* — (25-11-1965)

«In the midst of the people's rejoicings on the anniversary of the U. N. resolution on Libya's independence, and in order to redouble these rejoicings, King Idris's Government has given a happy surprise to the masses of our people by issuing an amendment of the Petroleum Law under which the people have obtained their legitimate rights in its wealth and Libya has entered into a new phase of its life... The date of the issue of this new amendment of the Petroleum Law merits inclusion in the list of our annual national feast days...»

We would like the next step to be taken to be the creation, in fulfilment of the Government's pledge in the last Speech from the Throne, of a proper machinery for the supervision of the work of oil companies with a view to ensuring the curtailment of their expenditure...»

# Brief Survey of Industries

The actual Industrial Census took place during the second quarter of the year, with a little spill over till the end of July. The processing and analysis of the collected data was commenced immediately after the receipt of the completed questionnaires and it is the Department's hope that the complete report on the Census can be published by the end of the year. However, it was felt that it would be useful to present at least some of the results, as and when they are compiled, so that Departments and Ministries who will be the users of these results need not wait until the final report is ready for publication.

This first set of preliminary results, presented here, should be taken in this background and should not be treated as the final report of the Industrial Census. The Industrial Census, it should be noted, covered all sectors of industrial activity in the Kingdom viz. (i) Mining and Quarrying, (ii) Manufacturing, (iii) Construction and (iv) Production and distribution of Electricity, Gas and Steam. The Census covered all establishments in these activities, both large and small. By «large» it is meant establishments employing five or more persons. The large establishments in the whole of Libya were listed and each one of them was visited by trained field enumerators who collected the required information. As regards small establishments, samples were selected separately from each zone from a list of all such establishments and these sample establishments were contacted to complete the Industrial Census Questionnaire.

By «establishment» is meant an economic unit which is engaged, predominantly, in one kind of activity at a single location under single ownership or control. All the three aspects in this definition of an establishment are important, viz. being predominantly engaged in one kind of activity, being located at a single place and being under one control. This definition of an establishment was generally adopted for the manufacturing sector under the industrial census and the results presented here relate to such establishments.

A special point to be noted in this connection may also be mentioned. It was units predominantly engaged in manufacture which came under the scope of the Census. Thus, establishments primarily engaged in manufacture, which were also engaged in activities like trade as a secondary activity, came under the scope of the Census. But those establishments engaged in manufacture as a secondary activity only, the primary activity being non-industrial, were left out of the coverage of the Census. In the former case the information collected covered the entire activity of the establishment, both industrial and non-industrial.

Information relating to 622 large manufacturing establishments is presented here. The results tabulated and presented relate to employment, production costs, output, value of capital and labour costs giving a concise and comprehensive picture of manufacturing activity in the large establishments in the country.

Even though a census of employment and production was undertaken in Libya in 1956, the present census can really be considered as the first comprehensive census of all industrial activities in the country.

## SUMMARY OF MAIN RESULTS

The total number of persons reported to be engaged in these 622 establishments, at the end 1964, was 11,106 which gives an average of 18 persons per establishment. Out of these 11,106 persons, 888 (8 per cent) were working proprietors or unpaid family workers and the remaining 10,218 (92 per cent) were paid employees. Among paid employees, 8,410 were actual operatives while the other 1,808 were persons engaged in management, supervision, administration, services, etc.

Wages and salaries paid by the establishments aggregated to £L. 3,798,007 which gives an average figure of £L. 372 per employee during 1964. This represents all payments to employees in cash and kind. However, employers incurred an additional

cost of £L. 149,893 as a contribution under the social insurance scheme.

The value of fixed capital employed in the establishment was also ascertained in the census. The aggregate of this value at the beginning of 1964 was £L. 12,512 thousands. This represents only the value of items owned by the establishments, excluding those rented. In fact, the rent on fixed capital incurred by the establishment during 1964 was as high as £L. 173,549. Thus, for all manufacturing activities taken together the value of owned fixed capital per person engaged works out to £L. 1,126. The limitation in the above figure is that it excludes rented items. Assuming that the value of rented items is about ten times the rent paid, the total value of fixed capital employed can be considered to be £L. 14,247 thousands, which comes to £L. 1,283 per person.

The breakdown of the total value of fixed capital was also collected in the census, and the results are given below, which show that almost 50 per cent of the total value is accounted by machinery and equipments.

Table (1)

*Value of Fixed Capital by Categories at the Commencement of 1964, in Large Manufacturing Establishments in Libya.*

Category of fixed Capital	Value in Thousands of £L.	Per cent of Total Value
(1)	(2)	(3)
1. Land and Building	4,390	35.1
2. Machinery and Equipments	6,189	49.5
3. Other Items	1,933	15.4
4. Total	12,512	100.0

Total input costs of the establishments during 1964 came to £L. 10,204,706 as detailed in the table below.

Table (2)

*Total Input Costs by Categories Incurred in Large Manufacturing Establishment during 1964 in Libya.*

Category of Cost	Amount in £L.	Per cent of Total
(1)	(2)	(3)
1. Raw materials, components, packing materials etc.	7,814,841	76.6
2. Services received from others	1,735,623	17.0
3. Fuel and Lubricants	414,586	4.1
4. Electricity purchased	219,338	2.1
5. Water charges	20,318	0.2
6. Total	10,204,706	100.0

Value of gross output of the establishments covering goods and services produced during the year, as well as goods sold in the same condition as purchased amounted to £L. 20,280,015 giving a value added figure of £L. 10,075,309 which is 49.7 per cent of the value of gross output. Relating the above figures with the total number of persons engaged, it can be seen that the value of gross output per person works out to £L. 1,826 and that of value added per person to £L. 907.

Relating the value of fixed capital and value of gross output, the 1946 value of gross output in manufacturing establishments, for every £L. 100 of fixed capital comes to £L. 162. This figure has the limitation that value of hired items of fixed capital is excluded. Assuming the arbitrary valuation as in paragraph 1, 4, it can, however, be said that the value of gross output per £L. 100 of fixed capital employed would be of the order of £L. 142. Corresponding calculations on value added would give figures of £L. 81 and £L. 71.

Even though the value added figure of £L. 10,075,309 is 49.7 per cent of the value of gross production, it is to be noted that this is gross of depreciation. It is also important to note that total labour costs account for £L. 3,947,900 which is 19.5 per cent of the value of gross production and 39.2 per cent of value added.

In the Census, value of fixed capital items acquired by the establishments during the reference period was also collected. It was seen that value of new items acquired during 1964 amounted to £L. 1,073,054 as detailed below.

Table (3)

*Value of New Fixed Capital Items Acquired during 1964, in Large Manufacturing Establishments in Libya.*

Category of fixed Capital	Value in £L.	Per cent of Total
(1)	(2)	(3)
1. Buildings	299,614	27.9
2. Machinery and Equipment	482,630	45.0
3. Other Items	290,810	27.1
4. Total	1,073,054	100.0

Total distribution of the 622 establishment, by size class of total number of person engaged, is given below.

Table (4)

*Distribution of Large Manufacturing Establishments by Employment Size Class, for Libya.*

Size Class of Number of Persons Engaged	Number of Establishments	Per Cent of Total
(1)	(2)	(3)
5 - 9	328	52.7
10 - 19	180	28.9
20 - 49	77	12.4
50 - 99	22	3.5
100 - 199	9	1.5
200 - 499	5	0.8
500 and above	1	0.2
Total	622	100.0

Another distribution of these establishments, viz. by legal status is given in Table (5).

Table (5)

*Distribution of Large Manufacturing Establishments by Legal Status, for Libya.*

Legal Status	Number of Establishments	Per Cent of Total
(1)	(2)	(3)
Individual Ownership	367	59.0
Partnership	188	30.2
Joint Stock Company	49	7.9
Others	10	1.6
Not Recorded	8	1.3
Total	622	100.0

### LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY STARTS REGULAR SERVICE

The Libyan News Agency started operating officially last month.

LNA receives the «Reuter» Arabic news service from London and retransmits this service to its subscribers in Libya.

Test transmissions from «Reuter» have already been successfully made by radio beam. For five months, LNA has been issuing a daily news bulletin to Government departments, Radio and several local newspapers.

Training of journalists and 24 teleprinter operators who will maintain an 18-hour link between Tripoli, Benghazi and Beida, is now complete. An editor and a deputy editor have been appointed.

Delivery of the service in the form of twice-daily news bulletins will cost between £L. 500 and £L. 600

In the Census information was also collected regarding the use of power equipment for manufacturing activity and the capacity of power equipment used by the establishment. It is reported that a total of 540 establishments were using power and only the remaining 82 (13 per cent) were not using any power equipment. In these 540 establishments reports on total capacity of power equipment was aggregated to give a figure of 19,687 h. p.

This total gives an average of 356 h.p. per establishment using power.

a year. The same service by up-to-the-minute teleprinter link will cost £L. 1,500. This includes the cost of hiring and maintaining the machine.

Newspapers will pay only £L. 60 a year for news bulletins but more for the teleprinter service.

Later the agency will employ part-time specialist writers on such subjects as sociology, education and economics.

When translators become available the agency will issue news bulletins in English and later in French as well.

LNA has as its first aim the providing of true news services, not only about Libya or for Libya alone, but for the Arab and African nations in particular and for rest of the world.



# A Land of Sun and Historical Marvels



Libya is no doubt in the forefront of countries attracting tourist in the world, particularly because of antiquities and ancient ruins discovered in the country which attract world interest. The ruins discovered at Germa, Sabratha, Cyrene and other sites tell us about the civilisation of our country throughout the ages, which was the equal, if not the source, of other past civilisations.

Our country has been blessed with a mild climate, an enchanting scenery and immortal ruins and all this has attracted to it tourists and visitors from all parts of the world. The new discoveries and finds have encouraged the Government to redouble its efforts in this field. The Government of Mr. Hussain

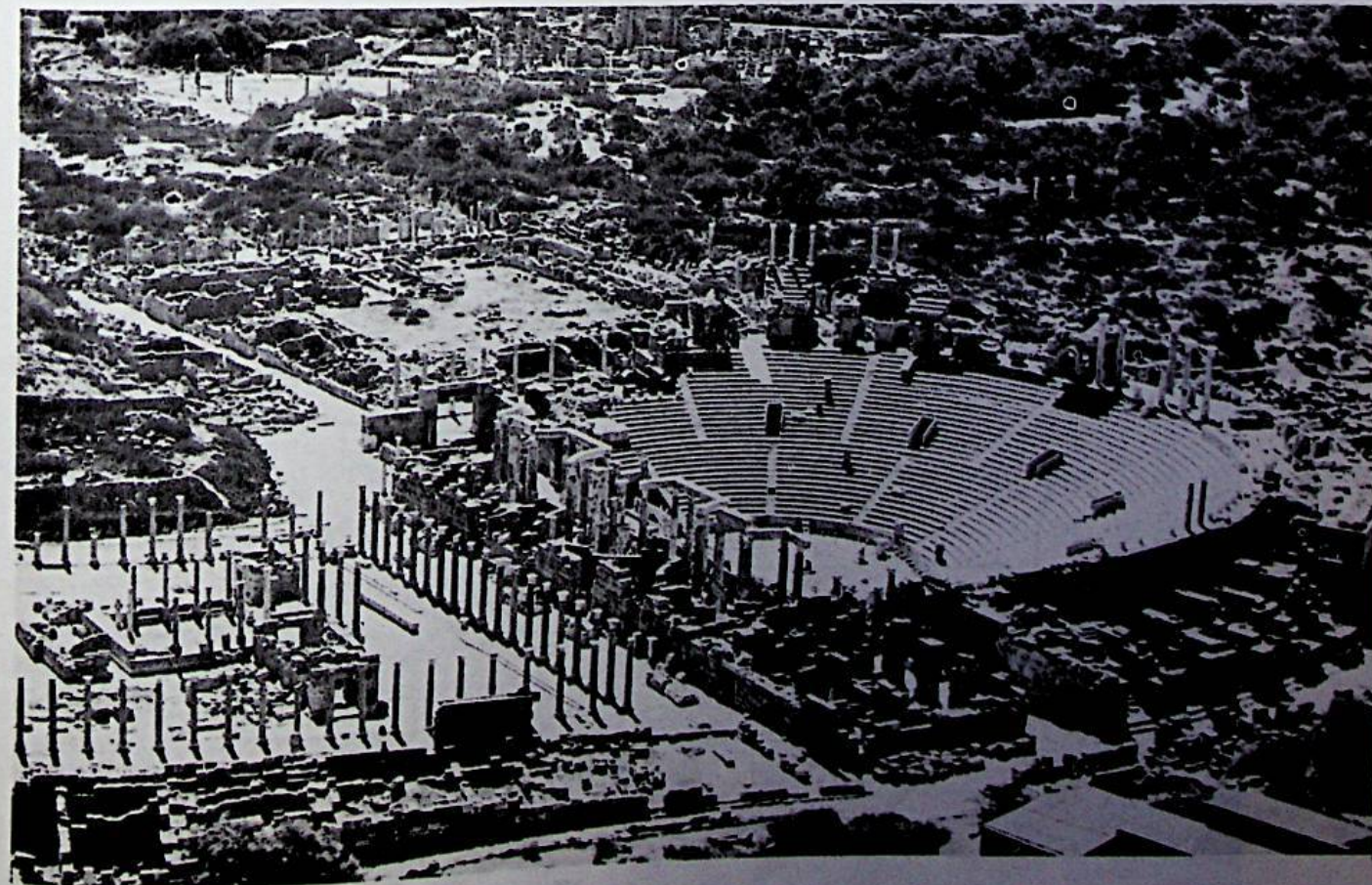
Maziq has laid down a tourist programme which is considered to be the bases of development of the tourist industry in Libya. The tourism programme envisages the setting up of splendid hotels and motels along the coastal road and at the sites of ancient ruins. This will provide tourist with the amenities in the way of accommodation, restaurants and good service. The tourism authorities have made arrangements to supply tourists with pamphlets, leaflets and maps about the main ancient ruins, towns and roads. These services will no doubt prove an important factor in the growth of tourist activity in our country.



Cyrene.



A bird's view of Sabratha.



Leptis Magna

In offering tourists our excellent service and good amenities, we aim, not only at increasing our national income from tourism, but also at giving Libya a good reputation. Tourists will leave with a good impression and, on their return home, will tell their compatriots through clubs, newspapers and books, thereby rendering a good service to Libya and enabling it to occupy an appropriate place among tourist countries in the world.



*Old town, Tripoli*

*Leptis.*



*Pre-historic rock paintings in Sahara*



Plaster work on the ceiling of Ahmed Pasha Mosque in Tripoli.

Leptis Magna



## Development Projects Make Headway

As a young nation blessed with a huge oil wealth which has considerably increased the national income, Libya has adopted a policy of scientific planning for the exploitation of this income to achieve high standard of development in various fields. The Ministry of Planning and Development, through its technical and administrative departments, has an overall supervision over the execution of the projects envisaged in the Five-Year Plan.

Since the Five-Year Plan consists of projects connected with all Ministries, there is close coordination and cooperation between the Ministry of Planning and Development and other Ministries. As a result of this fruitful cooperation in the execution of the various projects envisaged in the Five-Year Plan, nearly 22% of the Plan Development projects have been completed 65% of these projects are being carried out and scientific studies and preliminary examination of the remaining projects are being made.

Through a special committee set up for this purpose, the Ministry of Planning and Development supervises all the technical, economic and financial aspects of the various Ministries development projects and review their economic and social effects.

In close cooperation with other Ministries, the Ministry of Planning and Development has carried out a number of surveys and studies. These include:

1. A general survey of the agricultural sector in Libya and the preparation of short and long term programmes to encourage and develop this sector, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.
2. A general geographical survey of Tripoli in cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry with a view to determine the sites of schools which will be needed during the coming years.
3. Study of the Wadi Meginine Project in cooperation with the Ministry of Works and the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.
4. Preliminary study of the project of building a central hospital in Tripoli in cooperation with the Ministry of Health.
5. A general preliminary survey of Agedabia.
6. Study of the projects for the improvement of Be-

nina Airport and Sebha Airfield and for the extension of Idris Civil Airport.

7. Preliminary study of natural gas resources with a view to determining the available quantities and its potential use for generating electric power for industrial purposes.
8. Practical steps have been taken for the preparation of comprehensive plans to cover all towns and villages of the Kingdom. These plans are due to be ready for implementation by December 1966. These plans centre mainly on housing and communications.

The technical and administrative departments of the Ministry are taking practical steps for the study of the framework of trade and national economy with a view to the preparation of a planned programme, which will ensure the stability of existing prices in the commercial field, and also with a view to the stepping up and expansion of local trade. In addition, studies are being made to examine the possibility of creating of new industries which can make good use of the national resources available in the country.

In preparation for the forthcoming Five-Year Plan, the Ministry of Planning and Development has decided to benefit from the experience of the existing plan and so avoid any mistakes encountered hitherto. A technical committee has been set up and entrusted with the task of suggestions, studies and statistics in this respect and also with the approval of the outlines of the forthcoming Plan.

The National Planning Council coordinates policies connected with the Development Plan and has already taken a number of decisions on coordination and the supervision of the executive steps to be followed in carrying out all the projects envisaged in the Five-Year Plan.

Prominent among the coordination work of the Council is the examination of the financial policy of each project and its effect on the plan prior to its execution.

In order to expedite the execution of projects, planning offices have been set up in the competent Ministries for implementation of a decision taken in this respect by the National Planning Council.

# Drive for Education

Within a short period of time since independence, Libya was able to achieve great progress in the field of education by establishing schools and educational institutes throughout the country.

The Ministry of Education laid down development programmes for construction of school buildings after the marked increase in the number of applications for school places as a result of the immense thirst for education among all classes.

As a result of these vast development programmes, 175 schools, with a total of 1,025 classrooms, have been completed, in addition to 224 schools, with a total of 2,315 classrooms, which are being built. Other buildings are envisaged in the building programme of the Five-Year Plan.

To bring about a complete and comprehensive education, the Education Law has been issued. This Law defines the aims of education as the creation of a good generation which believes in its great Muslim heritage and looks forward to the attainment of human ideals.

The Law provides for the reconstitution of the Higher Education Board which has been entrusted with the supervision of the education policy.

In the sector of education the teacher assumes the primary responsibility for creation of a good generation. The teacher looks after the upbringing of men and leaders of the future. That is why the aim is to give teachers adequate rewards, both materially and morally. Teachers have been given teaching allowances and plans are being made to provide teachers with suitable accommodation - all this with a view to stimulate their belief in their role in society and to encourage them to carry out this role as best they can and so that teachers will be in the forefront of people working for a prosperous future.

The Ministry of Education seeks, from time to time, to review the general policy of education with a view to improving and strengthening the educational systems - hence the review of school syllabuses and text books for all stages on the basis of up-to-date

systems of education. The review has been centered, in particular, on syllabuses and text books closely related to Libya's environment, such as history, geography, national education etc., and special books have been written on these subjects so that pupils will grow up fully aware of everything related to their homeland and compatriots.

As schools are one of the fundamental factors for the education and upbringing of children, in addition to the role of the family in this respect, the Ministry of Education has focused its attention on spiritual education, hence the Ministry's efforts for the teaching of the Holy Quran and religious instruction in all schools.

The school is the centre of cultural radiation and pupils should benefit from school libraries and from the two public libraries planned for Tripoli and Benghazi.

The battle we are launching against ignorance and lack of education has called for the creation of an educational system capable of achieving tangible benefits in the shortest possible time. The Ministry of Education has, therefore, established, in addition to traditional schools, evening schools, schools for adults and schools for combating illiteracy... The Ministry of Education has prepared legislation and programmes for the launching of a big campaign to eradicate illiteracy.

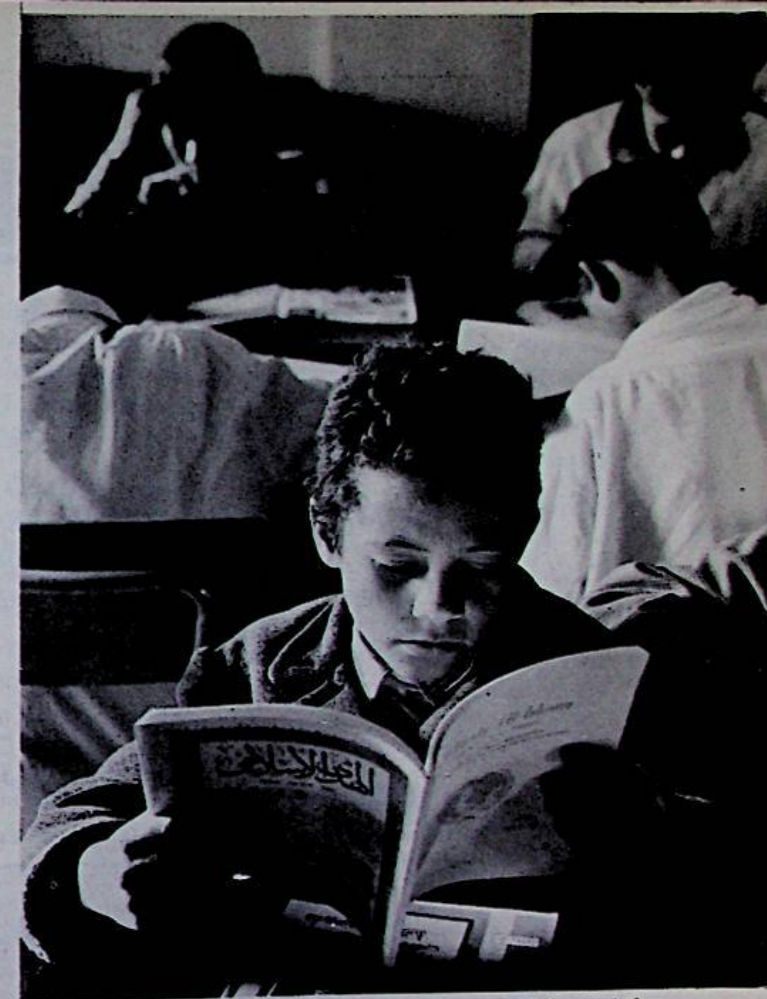
To provide the technical skills needed for the achievement of more production the Ministry of Education has established several institutes, the graduates of which will meet the needs of industry, commerce, agriculture etc... These institutes have been provided with the necessary technical and scientific equipment to enable them to play their role fully in the training of skilled technicians.

The health of individuals and people depends, to a large extent, on nutrition. The School Feeding Programme therefore, aims at providing the pupil with a nutritional meal and, through pupils, at the creation of nutritional movements among all classes.

As recreation is important for pupils, recreational programmes are an essential part of school activities and are closely supervised. These recreational activities are meant to be useful to pupils in their practical lives and for their physical and mental well-being.

The opening of the Higher College for Teachers is in line with the educational policy which aims at completing the various University Colleges. The project for building two University towns in Tripoli and Benghazi is being carried out in order to enable the University to admit a large number of students.

The Ministry of Education provides scholarships to students to enable them to continue their university or higher education abroad on subjects which are not taught at home.



Inside the School Library.

Free university education.



# News of the MONTH

Unesco's Deputy Director-General paid a few-day visit to Libya early this month at the invitation of the Ministry of Education. He held talks with the Premier and other Government officials.

★ ★ ★

Libya's first cement plant is due to begin operating in two years' time, supplying half the country's cement needs. It will cost around £L. 2 million.

★ ★ ★

Two thousand Roman coins were dug up in GARGARESH recently.

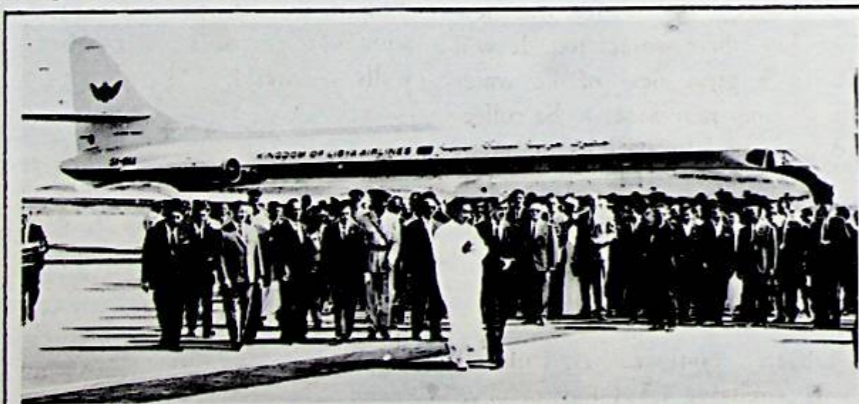
The coins, dating from the fourth century, were found in an amphora in a good state.

★ ★ ★

Radio Libya's orchestra on a 24th December - gave its biggest ever concert in celebration of Independence Day. Ten well known singers had written songs for the occasion.

★ ★ ★

The Libyan University has so far produced 750 graduates from its 4 colleges. Out of these, 385 are arts graduates.



H. R. H. The Crown Prince inspecting K. L. A. caravelle fleet.

The Kingdom of Libya Airlines will increase the number of its aircrafts and open new local air routes by the end of next March.

This will make it possible to link, in an air network, Tripoli and Benghazi with other towns, including Tobruk, Beida, Sebha and Ghadames.

Two jet aircrafts will also be purchased to be used for official purposes. They may be used too in cases of emergency to carry the seriously sick from remote areas to hospital.

KLA town offices have been opened in Tripoli and Benghazi.

Regular passenger service between Tripoli, Benghazi, Tobruk, El-Beida, Sebha and Benghazi will be started by the Kingdom of Libya Airlines before the end of March next year.

Negotiations are going on between the airlines and a foreign firm to acquire more planes.

The cabinet has authorised the airlines to purchase 2 jets airliners for official use.

The Government has decided to ban Libyan oil exports to Rhodesia and prohibit Rhodesian aircraft overflying Libya or using its airports. It has also been decided to suspend economic and financial relations with Rhodesia in compliance with the decision of the recent African summit meeting in Accra and the Security Council resolution.

★ ★ ★

One hundred and seventy five schools, containing 1,025 classrooms, have been built in Libya. In addition, 244 schools are being constructed.

★ ★ ★

The seventh Arab Scouts Jamboree will be held in Libya next summer. Libya will be represented by 630 scouts, in addition to more than 100 scout leaders to supervise the Jamboree.

★ ★ ★

Moroccan, Algerian and Tunisian delegates who visited Libya recently expressed their admiration for the steps taken by the Government for industrial development.

★ ★ ★

Libya will be the first country from which malaria is completely eradicated.

★ ★ ★

The Ministry of Education has reached an agreement with UNESCO for the later's supply of experts to study the technical aspects of its activities in the fields of agricultural and industrial education, teacher training and library organisation.

Ministry of Industries is planning fish canning factories to be established in Tripoli and Benghazi.

The factories will be started with the help of individual capital.

It is estimated that the government will contribute £L. 700,000 to the Tripoli fish factory.

★ ★ ★

Speaking at meeting of the organization he expressed sorrow on the plight of Palestine refugees living on international charity while usurpers exploit their property. He added this human tragedy will continue to face U.N. and poison the atmosphere till the Palestine people achieve their usurped homeland.

★ ★ ★

Libyan representative to the international refugees conference handed over a cheque of \$ 20,000 to its chairman as aid to refugees from the Libyan Government.

★ ★ ★

An international consultant firm will submit plans for Benghazi drainage system, roads, electricity supply and telephone service

★ ★ ★

Ministry of Public Works has already approved plans for construction of 600 houses for people of modest means in Benghazi.

Tender for construction of these houses has been awarded to a firm which will start construction work within a fortnight. Besides 300 new villas will be constructed in Benghazi.

Plans have already been completed

for construction of the main mosque in Benghazi. A firm specialized on Arab architecture has been entrusted the task.

★ ★ ★

Work on main roads construction has been completed in the proposed new town of El-Marj.

A number of 85 new houses have already been constructed in the town. By the end of April 200 new houses will be constructed.

Merj will have a new 200 beds hospital. During the current financial year 250 new houses, government buildings and the main mosque will be completed.

Besides the water supply system and drainage system for the new town have been completed. It will receive a great deal of its water supply from rain water to be collected in a specially built water reservoir.

★ ★ ★

Libyan, National Agricultural Bank purchased 4,531 tons of olive oil at a cost of £L. 900,000 from the farmers during 1964-65 season.

Seasonal credits were offered to the farmers a 4.5% instead of 6.5%. The medium term loans were offered at 3% instead of 6.5% and the long term loans were offered at 2%.

These credits are helping farmers to meet their seasonal as well as long term requirements which will lead to the agricultural growth in the country.

The Bank has reserved £L. 2 million for long term credits in order to help Libyan farmers take over farms belonging to the foreigners.

More than a dozen big highway projects will be started next year. The biggest is rebuilding the 1,600 Kms. coast road across Libya from west to east. All projects are due to be completed within three years.

★ ★ ★

Radio Libya will transmit programmes in English and Italian next year. Broadcasts in other languages may take place later on. The necessary equipment has already arrived and transmissions will be made from two news radio stations in Tripoli and Benghazi.

★ ★ ★

The Ministry of Agricultural Huabandry has ended equipping 80 wells in different parts of Libya, in addition to repairing a number of wells and water tanks.

★ ★ ★

The commanding officer of the British training ships H.M.S. Torquay, which visited Tripoli last month, expressed satisfaction with the progress five Libyan cadets were making.

★ ★ ★

The first round-table conference of Arab Social Insurance Institutions was held in Tripoli in November. It made recommendations for betterment of social services.

★ ★ ★

Libya's flag was hoisted over Gurgi British military barracks when these were handed over to the Libyan authorities on December 15th. This was a first step in the evacuation of British forces from Libya.

★ ★ ★



P. M. receives British Parliamentary Delegation in Al-Beida.

Both houses of the Libyan Parliament have unanimously approved a draft law amending concession agreements of some oil companies.

On the evening of January 3, the House of Representatives met to consider the draft law and listened to the Petroleum Affairs Committee's report on the subject. Mr. Hussain Mazek, the Premier and the rest of the cabinet attended the session.

In its report the committee said that through its study of the draft law and the circumstances which accompanied the issuance of the decree amending some sections of the petroleum law, the draft law was responding to the country's higher interests and preserving the people's right in acquiring a fair share of the royalties of its petroleum wealth.

Further, the committee said, the draft law gave oil companies operating in Libya in accordance with concession agreements a final opportunity lasting at the maximum

until January 15, 1966 to reconsider their position and put an end to their hesitation.

The draft law in addition gave the cabinet the right to take any steps it deemed suitable to ensure its enforcement.

The Prime Minister, praising the honourable stand taken by the House to preserve the country's higher interests, announced that five of the seven hesitant or reserved oil companies had now complied with the amendments. The other two were contacting the government regarding their compliance, he said, « but it was important that the draft law be issued to prove that when we insist on preserving the people's rights we mean what we say. »

In turn, the Senate, on January 4 met to consider the committee's report which was unanimously endorsed after having been debated article by article.

A British parliamentary delegation attended the opening ceremony of Libyan Parliament on December 7, 1965 in El-Beida.

The six man delegation toured Libya for 9 days meeting prominent leaders and visiting historic sites.

Speaking to the pressmen in Tripoli the leader of the delegation Mr. Pargiter said the members of the delegation feel proud to visit this newly born yet ancient country.

Referring to the state opening of Parliament he said members of the delegation were impressed by the splendour of the buildings and the dignity of the proceeding Mr. Pargiter praised the speech of Premier Mazek describing the great development programme being undertaken by making wise use of newly discovered wealth to improve the conditions of the people. He expressed hope that the British industry and technicians will be able to play a significant part in this development.

Mr. Pargiter praised the Libyan hospitality and welcome the delegation received everywhere and expressed hope that many Libyans will also come to Britain.

Replying to a question about the delegation's meeting with Mr. Mazek he said we discussed the development schemes and resources of Libya.

Mr. Pargiter commended the Libyan stand on Rhodesia saying if more countries adopt a similar policy towards the Rhodesian problem the success in Rhodesia is near.

★ ★ ★

A committee of 15 international experts has been formed recently to submit plans for the proposed opera house in Tripoli and Benghazi.

The committee will submit its report within 3 months.



الخطوط الجوية الليبية الملكية

## KINGDOM OF LIBYA AIRLINES

بنغازي طرابلس  
 ليبيا ذهابا وايابا في الصباح والمساء  
 اثينا ايام الثلاثاء والخميس والاحد  
 القاهرة ايام الاثنين والاربعاء  
 مالطة ايام الجمعة  
 باريس ايام الخميس - الرجوع ايام السبت  
 روما ليبيا ما عدا ايام الجمعة  
 تونس ايام الخميس

