

Nigerians like slogans

LAGOS (Reuters)—Nigerians have an astonishing relish for slogans and mottoes whether in business, politics or even religion.

This is illustrated by a teenage boy who inflates bicycle tires in Enugu, capital of the eastern group of provinces. He proudly proclaims his enterprise on a signboard as the Nigerian Pneumatic Corporation.

On a huge signboard in front of a shack which passes for a garage, a motor mechanic will advertise himself as a "Doctor of Cars."

An ill-equipped watch repairer will describe himself as a "Wizard of Watches."

Many a shoemaker is a "Master of Leather" while radio mechanics are "Doctors of Electronics."

Nigerian native doctors and herbalists sometimes display a poster reading "Doctor of All Diseases." One doctor in Ibadan, western Nigeria, proclaims himself "Doctor of Death."

In the field of transport slogans and catch-phrases are widely used.

Usually displayed on a motor vehicle above the windshield or scrawled on the body are slogans varying from "Massacre," "Never say die," "Stormy Weather," "No condition is permanent" and "No telephone to Heaven" to more pious ones such as "The Lord Is My Shepherd," "Save me, oh God" and "God's time is the best."

Taxis, which cruise at sometimes frightening speed, carry such names as "Land Jet," "VC-10," "Rocket," "Satellite," and "Stormy Weather."

Political parties made use during the last election campaign of such lavish slogans as Operation Bulldozer, Operation Knockout, Operation Caterpillar, Operation Liquidation, Operation Broom, "Life more abundant" and "Forward ever, backward never."

Attempts oyster hatching

LIVERPOOL, N.S. (CP)—A Liverpool businessman hopes to harvest oysters by the acre.

Charles Kelsey is undertaking an experiment dealing with oyster hatching with the eventual aim of establishing a profitable oyster industry on Nova Scotia's South Shore and other areas of the province.

The basis of the experiment, being conducted by the Port Joli Oyster Co-operative Ltd., is the testing of hatching methods for cultivating oyster "farms."

The water north of Massachusetts is generally too cold to guarantee the growth of young oysters. In the experiment, research is being conducted into hatching oysters in tanks through which heated and purified sea water is passed.

The temperature can be lowered to acclimatize the oysters to the northern waters or raised for breeding purposes.

In its natural sea environment, a female oyster lays as many as 4,000,000 to 5,000,000 eggs, but only about one-half of one per cent survive and this proportion takes five years to reach maturity.

Mr. Kelsey notes that under ideal hatchery conditions and through a program of artificial feeding, full oyster maturity can be achieved in three years.

The Liverpool businessman, who is chairman of the Liverpool-Queens Industrial Commission and owns his own book-binding company, foresees an oyster hatchery covering one acre in which millions of oysters could be bred for commercial purposes. He estimates a yield of up to 80 barrels of oysters an acre.

Depression helped him

EASTEND, Sask. (CP)—It's the Depression that did it, says Jim Armstrong, who at 90 runs a 640-acre wheat farm.

He credits a Depression diet for his physical fitness and longevity.

"We went through the wringer in the 30s and got toughened up on jack rabbits and cracked wheat," he says.

Mr. Armstrong celebrated his birthday in August as he prepared to harvest his 60th crop. He performs all the chores on his farm with the exception of seeding and harvest when he hires an extra hand.

Born at Scotstown, Que., he frequently visits his native province driving his own car. In his youth he was a logger and river driver.

Bill Beck, one of his old friends and in his 80s, says there are several people in the district still "kicking up their heels" at the age of 90 or more.

Whether it is the climate, the water, the scenic beauty of the surrounding hills, or the diet Mr. Armstrong mentions, we seem to have more folk around here who have passed the four score marker than any town of similar size in Saskatchewan," he says.

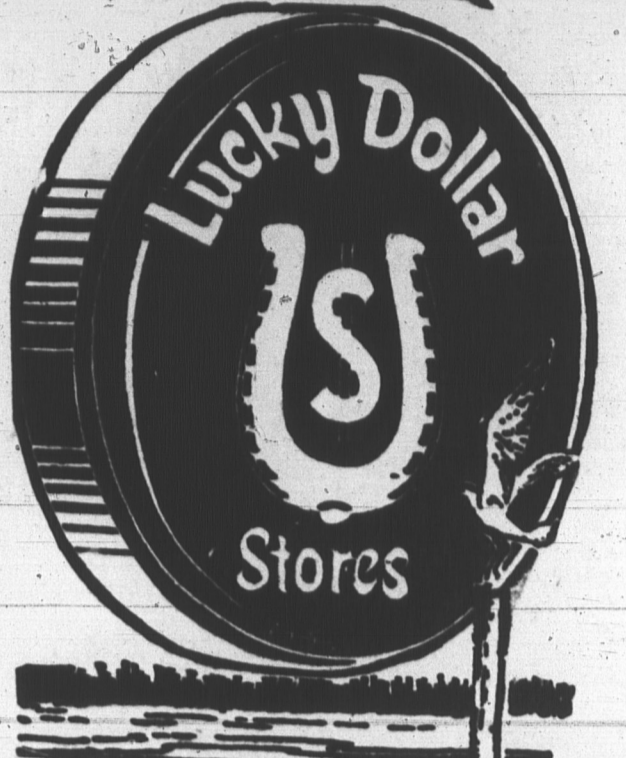
Mr. Armstrong, when asked why he did not remarry, said he just hasn't the time. "Besides it is cheaper to use a can opener," he said.

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