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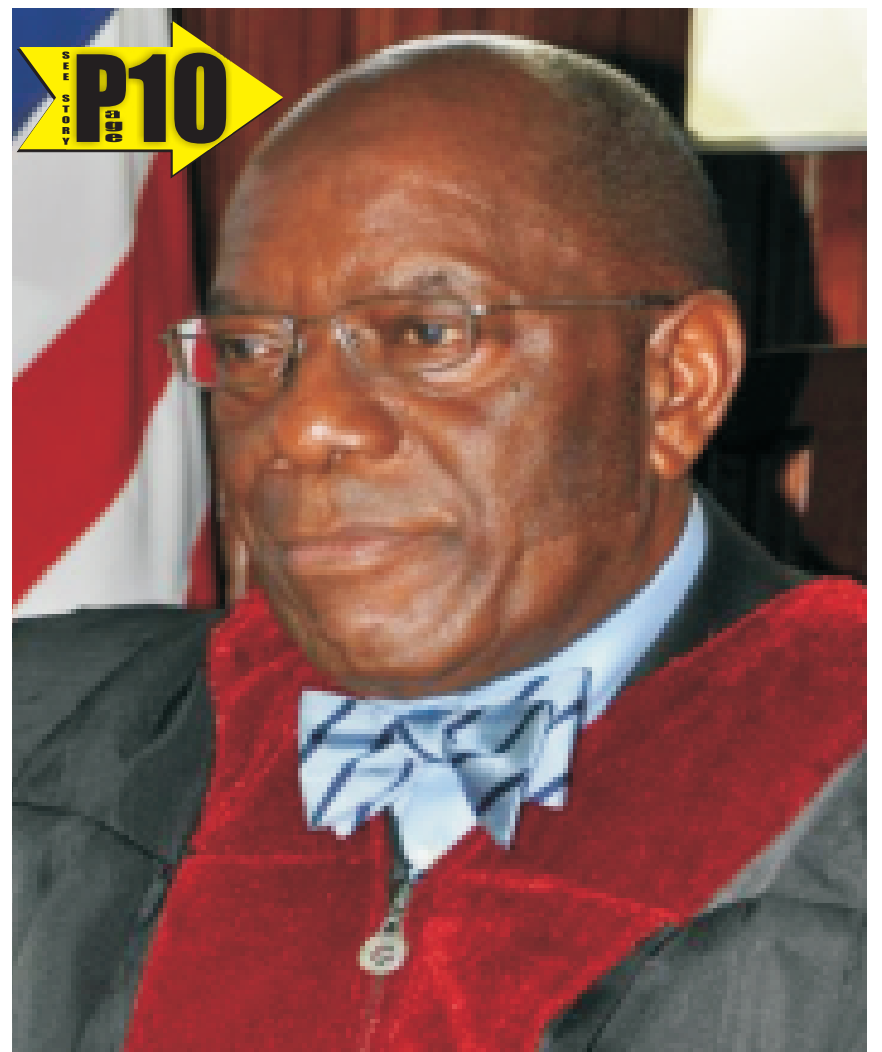
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The Late Representative Adolph A. Lawrence

District #15 mourns lawmaker's death

House to challenge Banks



Retired Associate Justice Philip A.Z. Banks, III



Continental News

Algeria army chief urges leader removed

Algeria's army chief of staff has demanded President AbdelazizBouteflika be declared unfit to rule after weeks of protests against him.

Speaking on state television, Lt Gen Ahmed Gaed Salah said:

"We must find a way out of this crisis immediately, within the constitutional framework."

The president has already agreed not to stand for a fifth term in upcoming elections, which have been delayed.

Demonstrators accuse the 82-year-old of a ploy to prolong his 20-year rule.

Talks have been set up to oversee the country's political transition, draft a new constitution and set the date for elections. But they do not yet have a date to start.

Protests against MrBouteflika began last month after the president, who has rarely been seen in public since suffering a stroke in 2013, said he planned to

stand for another term. But people have continued to march even after he agreed not to stand, instead demanding immediate change.

Lt Gen Gaed Salah - who is

also deputy defence minister and seen as loyal to MrBouteflika - has previously said the military and the people had a united vision of the future, hinting at the

armed forces' support for the demonstrators.

What did the army chief say?

Lt Gen Gaed Salah said the constitution was "the only guarantee to preserve a stable political situation",

and called for the use of Article 102, which allows the Constitutional Council to declare the position of president vacant if the leader is unfit to rule.

"This solution achieves consensus and must be accepted by all," he said to the applause of officers watching

the speech.

Under the constitution, the head of the Senate, AbdelkaderBansallah,

would become the acting head of state until an election could be held.

The dramatic intervention by the armed forces chief of staff is the latest development after weeks of sustained protest in Algeria.

Earlier this month Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia announced his resignation and was replaced by Interior Minister NouredineBedoui.- BBC



Image copyrightAFP/GETTYImage: President AbdelazizBouteflika has led Algeria since 1999

Nigeria voters 'threatened' in delayed poll

Election observers say they witnessed the intimidation of voters and violence during the supplementary elections held in Nigeria at the weekend.

The European Union

Election Observation Mission said that there were groups of men with weapons who intimidated and obstructed the voting process.

In particular, the EU mission said local and

journalists were prevented from accessing parts of Kano state where the supplementary elections were being held.

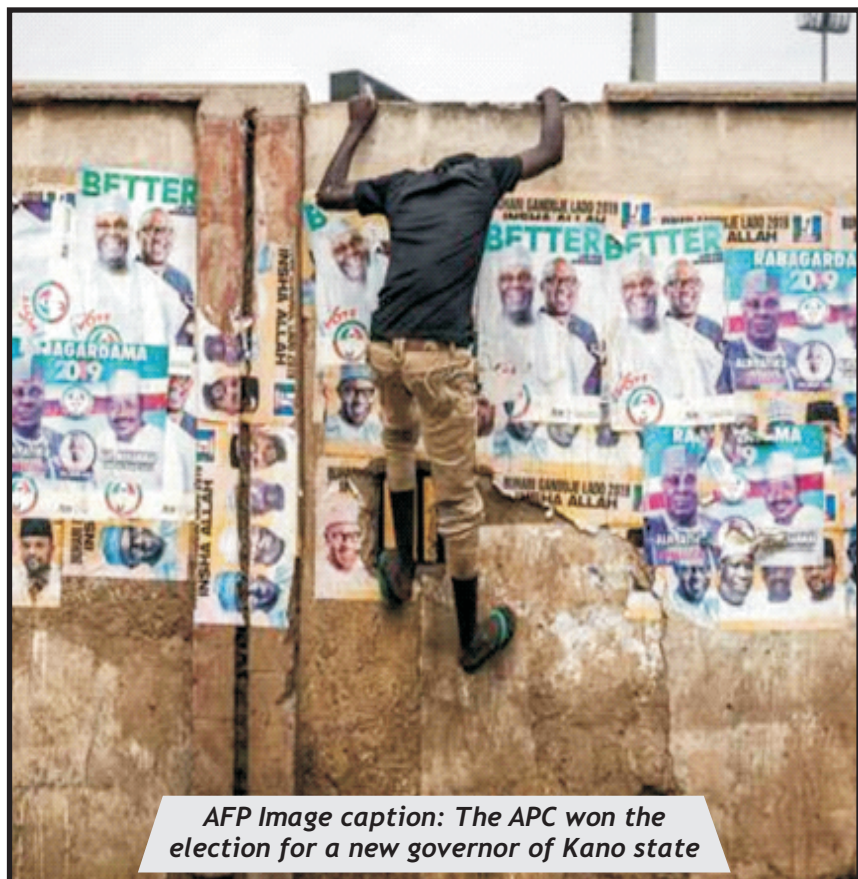
The mission said it was disturbed that both the Independent National Electoral Commission (Inec) and security agencies did little to address the violence, which spread to many parts of Kano state.

The police and Inec are yet to respond to the EU statement.

Nigeria's electoral commission declared the candidate of the ruling All Progressives Congress party winner of the Kano governorship poll.

So far the APC of President MuhammaduBuhari controls 16 states, while the main opposition PDP won 12 states from the gubernatorial polls.

The elections were held in five states after the country's electoral commission cancelled ballots in some areas and called for a rerun.- BBC



AFP Image caption: The APC won the election for a new governor of Kano state

Comoros presidential results 'delayed'

The Comoros' election body has delayed releasing presidential election results, an electoral source told Reuters news agency.

It adds that opposition candidates have rejected the outcome.

Observers from the African Union, Common Market of

adds.

On Monday, police used tear gas to disperse demonstrators led by opposition leaders protesting over the vote.

The presidency used to be rotated around the three Indian Ocean islands that make up the country every five years - a system which was



AFP Image caption: Comoros islanders voted on Sunday

Eastern and Southern Africa and Eastern African Standby Force said on Monday the voting process was full of irregularities that led them to conclude it lacked credibility or transparency.

The government has banned public gatherings in the capital, Moroni, Reuters

put in place to stop constant coups.

But a referendum last year increased term limits, allowing President AzaliAssoumani to run for re-election. He is running against 12 opponents but is widely expected to win.-BBC

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EDITORIAL

NaFAA's gaffe

WHATEVER DISCUSSIONS THAT were held at the World Bank Headquarters in Washington, DC, between the Director General of the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) and the World Bank, may have been fruitful, but the outcome, as released to the Liberian populace through a NaFAA's press release, particularly a reported commitment of US\$21 million to Liberia for a fisheries project underway which was promptly denied by the latter poses a serious image embarrassment not only for the government, but the entire country.

WHATEVER WENT WRONG with the dissemination of the information that clearly boomeranged, NaFAA Director General Emma Glassco, should learn some lessons from there to guide herself in future engagement with international partners, specifically multilateral financial institutions such as the World Bank.

NAFAA HAD REPORTED in Monrovia that Director General Glassco paid a follow up visit to the WB headquarters on a US\$21 million fisheries project in Liberia under the West Africa Regional Fisheries Project or WARFP.

THE RELEASE DETAILS that the money will be used to construct state of the art fishing and processing facilities and establish landing jetties in targeted five coastal counties, including Montserrado.

BUT THE WORLD Bank says it has made no commitment to fund a US\$21 million fisheries project in Liberia, contrary to the NaFAA's release. The Bank clarifies that whether Liberia will have a new project with focus on fisheries will be determined after its new Director for Regional Integration comes on board on May 1, 2019, and a strategic decision will be made to fit the country's priority needs.

NOW, THE PUBLIC relations package from NaFAA perhaps was not properly timed or strategic, disclosing financial commitment that has not been finalized. And this is where Madam Glassco should take cue from.

IT IS NOT outcome of all discussions held with bilateral partners that should be hurriedly brought to the public, particularly in matters that concern funding.

WE KNOW THE NaFAA boss may have out of anxiety, been unable to restrain herself in breaking a success story by being very circumspect. Perhaps it was in her strong quest to gain approval from the highest authority of the land.

HOWEVER, WE CAUTION Madam Glassco that when engaging bilateral and multilateral partners, bordering on financial commitments, make sure that all sides are in concert with any public statement on the outcome before running with it to avoid such embarrassment.

THE INTENTION OF the press release may have been good, particularly after the follow up meeting in Washington DC, but perhaps partners' reaction was not given a second thought, specifically if no written and signed commitment were made, which presupposes that negotiations could be still ongoing hence, issue about exact amount of money was not necessary at this time.

The New Dawn
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COMMENTARY

By Marion Turner

Brexit and the Speaker's Tale

The recent dramatic intervention in the Brexit debate by the Speaker of the British House of Commons highlights the continued importance of a 643-year-old institution. But whether current incumbent John Bercow is upholding the office's honorable tradition of speaking truth to power probably depends on one's view of Brexit.

OXFORD - The Speaker of Britain's House of Commons, John Bercow, is all over the news in the United Kingdom at the moment. And, as the Brexit crisis rumbles on, he has become something of a YouTube star across Europe.

On March 18, Bercow revived a parliamentary rule from 1604 to prevent Prime Minister Theresa May's government from bringing the same withdrawal agreement with the European Union back to Parliament after two earlier lopsided votes against it.

The Speaker's position goes back much further even than 1604. But, because Bercow's intervention has changed the trajectory of Brexit, the office has attracted more attention than it has in a very long time. Where did the Speaker come from, and why was the position created during England's so-called "Good Parliament" of 1376?

Back then, the English parliament was already different from others in Europe, because it included a House of Commons with real power, most importantly over taxation. In 1376, the Commons strengthened itself significantly by electing a Speaker, so that it could speak "with one voice" and not be divided or picked off by the more powerful Lords.

The country was in chaos at the time. King Edward III was senile, and his eldest son (the Black Prince) died during this parliament, leaving a nine-year-old heir. Meanwhile, a corrupt coterie was running amok at court. The Commons asserted itself by putting forward a Speaker, emphasizing that "what one of us says, all say and assent to." It then invented impeachment in order to condemn the king's corrupt advisers and his mistress, Alice Perrers.

The Speaker took his authority from the group and insulated himself against personal attack with a "protestation" - making it clear that he was not speaking of his own accord but as a representative of others, and that his words could be "corrected" by his companions.

Moreover, the Speaker emphasized that ordinary people had the right to make serious interventions in political debate. The Lords repeatedly tried to divide and rule the Commons, initially refusing to answer charges unless they were brought "individually." But the Commons held firm, asserting its right to speak with one voice and to "maintain the accusations in common."

The Commons originally elected a Speaker to help it speak truth to power, find strength in numbers, and resist intimidation. The voices of the less important were no longer drowned out or fragmented, and could challenge entrenched aristocratic authority.

It was a political innovation that also inspired a new kind of poetry. Whereas earlier collections of tales such as Boccaccio's Decameron had featured only upper-class narrators, the new role of Speaker fired the imagination of the English poet Geoffrey Chaucer, who was himself a member of Parliament in the 1380s. In particular, it informed the Canterbury Tales, a work that reflected Chaucer's passionate belief that the voices of common people should be heard and preserved. By putting assertive, non-aristocratic voices - such as a cook, a sailor, a wife, a lawyer, and a rural parson - at the heart of his work, Chaucer broke radically with tradition.

As the poem's narrator, Chaucer borrows the "protestation" idea. He frequently tells us that he is simply repeating what his pilgrims said, and pleads with his readers to "blameth not me" if they find anything rude, offensive, or even revolutionary. And one of Chaucer's pilgrims echoes the parliamentary Speaker by saying he will "make protestation" that he is speaking "under correction" of others.

Chaucer included parliamentary scenes in other poems, most notably Parlement of Foules. The bird parliament in this poem is clearly influenced by the English one - it has common birds as well as aristocratic ones, and, importantly, the groups of birds pick representatives to speak for them. Whereas the upper-class birds talk endlessly and get nothing done, the forceful and vulgar lower-class birds take decisions and make progress.

An interesting footnote to this story is Chaucer's son, Thomas, went on to serve as Speaker in the fifteenth century, under the Lancastrian regime. He served in 15 parliaments, and was Speaker five times - walking a very difficult line with King Henry IV, who notoriously clashed with his eldest son, Prince Hal, in these turbulent years. Thomas repeatedly managed to maintain the Commons' integrity without falling out of favor himself.

Bercow's recent intervention in the Brexit debate highlights the continued importance of a 643-year-old British institution. But whether the current incumbent is upholding the honorable tradition of speaking truth to power probably depends on your view of Brexit.

O-PED

By J. Bradford DeLong

The Fed Board Unmoored

BERKELEY - In December 2015, the right-wing commentator Stephen Moore, US President Donald Trump's pick to fill a vacancy on the US Federal Reserve Board of Governors, savagely attacked then-Fed Chair Janet Yellen and her predecessor, Ben Bernanke, for maintaining loose monetary policies in the years following the "Great Recession."

According to Moore, who is not a professional economist, investors had "become hyper-dependent" on the Fed's "zero-interest-rate policy ... just as an addict craves crack cocaine." This "money creation," he surmised, had yielded "nada" in terms of "helping juice the economy, creating jobs, or giving the American worker a pay raise." Worse, the United States had already "tried this before - twice - and both times the story ended badly with a pop of the bubble ... in 1999-2000 and ... in 2008-09." The lesson, he concluded, is that, "Micromanaging the economy through the lever of money creation at the grand fiefdom within the Fed doesn't work."

Or does it? Moore himself is probably not the most reliable judge. On December 26, 2018, he savagely attacked Yellen's successor, Jerome Powell, for raising interest rates to unwind the very approach that he had condemned three years earlier. "If you cut engine power too far on a jetliner," he warned, "it will stall and drop out of the sky." Moore complained that after having "risen by 382 points on hopes that the Fed would listen to Trump and stop cutting power," the Dow Jones Industrial Average had "plunged by 895 points" on the news of another interest-rate hike. This, he concluded, was evidence that "the Fed's monetary policy has come unhinged."

Moore called on Powell to "do the honorable thing ... and resign." But, failing that, he hoped that Trump would simply fire the Fed chair. "The law says he can replace the Federal Reserve Chairman for cause," Moore observed in an interview that same week. "Well, the cause is that he's wrecking our economy."

If Moore's approach to legal reasoning seems deficient, one must wonder how he would approach monetary policymaking. Judging by his own statements, a three-month Treasury rate of 0.26% driving a ten-year rate of 2.3% was far too low in December 2015, whereas a three-month rate of 2.42% driving a ten-year rate of 2.55% is far too high today.

What should we make of this? A generous interpretation is that Moore's view of the economy has not changed, and that he has consistently offered his analyses in good faith. In that case, he must genuinely believe that any deviation from a ten-year rate of around 2.4% poses an unacceptable risk - either of creating addicts or of wrecking the economy.

Another generous interpretation is that Moore has consistently offered his analyses in good faith, but has changed his view of the economy. If so, he must be very sorry for having misled people. And presumably, he would be willing to apologize personally to Bernanke, Yellen, and anyone who may have heeded his bad advice between 2010 and 2016.

Of course, a less generous interpretation is that Moore has not changed his view of the economy, and was acting in bad faith during the years of the Obama administration. Or, less likely, he is acting in bad faith now, after having conducted himself in an honest manner up until 2016.

As it happens, none of these interpretations applies, because they are all predicated on the false assumption that Moore actually has an informed perspective of the economy. To my mind, he does not.

True, Moore has consistently advocated low government spending and opposed progressive taxation. He might even support more open immigration policies, as one would expect from a self-proclaimed free-market conservative. Then again, his views may have changed since he started advising Trump in 2016. After all, he already seems to have abandoned his previous commitment to free trade.

That comes as no surprise. Throughout his career as a partisan talking head, Moore's economic analysis has never had any basis in empirical reality. To the contrary, he has repeatedly shown that he will say whatever needs to be said to please his political master.

Needless to say, Moore is wholly unfit to serve in the office to which he is being nominated. He has absolutely no business overseeing US monetary policy. The same is true of any president who would appoint him and any senator who would vote to confirm him.¹

OPINION

By Hannah Storm

Bad News for Women

LONDON - Nancy Pelosi is the highest-ranking elected female politician in the history of the United States. Theresa May is only the second female British prime minister. Amal Clooney is a world-renowned human-rights lawyer. Serena Williams is arguably the greatest female athlete of all time.

All four are succeeding in environments where high-achieving women are the exception rather than the rule. Yet parts of the media have portrayed them in a way that suggests their achievements and abilities are secondary to their appearance, age, or association with other people, particularly the men in their lives.

Consider Pelosi, the Speaker of the US House of Representatives. On the day she was elected to serve another term in the post, The New York Times published a tweet accompanying an image of her: "Nancy Pelosi, wearing a hot pink dress, ascended to the marble dais in the center of the House chamber to accept the wooden gavel." The tweet was later deleted, with the Times calling it "poorly framed." But it spoke volumes about the sexism, whether implied or overt, that still exists at the heart of the media industry.

Theresa May has been one of Europe's leading female politicians for most of the past decade. Yet the British media have long been fascinated by her love of fashion, devoting many a column inch and image to her sartorial choices and penchant for shoes, instead of focusing on her policy decisions. The subconscious effect of the messaging is to diminish May's role as a woman in a male-dominated world.

Clooney knows exactly what it feels like to be judged by association. In August 2015, the Associated Press published a tweet that read: "Amal Clooney, actor's wife, representing Al-Jazeera journalist accused in Egypt of ties to extremists." The tweet drew widespread criticism, and the AP later referred to her as a human-rights lawyer. But the episode underscored the media's obsession with "clickbait" and the need for more outlets to pause before publishing pictures or words that reinforce outdated gender stereotypes.

Williams has won a record 23 Grand Slam singles titles, but some media outlets have perpetuated the sexism and racism she has faced from inside the old-fashioned, male-dominated tennis world. A media storm erupted last September after Williams lost the final of the US Open and accused tennis officials of treating her more harshly than men. The umpire had earlier penalized her for getting coaching signals from the stands, breaking her racket, and calling him a "thief."

Some of the subsequent media coverage reduced Williams to the trope of the angry black woman, and a cartoon of her outburst in the Herald Sun newspaper in Melbourne, Australia, sparked a furious backlash from critics who deemed it racist and offensive. The newspaper defended the cartoon as satire and said its critics were being politically correct.

Billie Jean King, who helped pioneer the women's tennis tour, later thanked Williams via Twitter "for calling out this double standard," whereby women are often described as "hysterical" while men behaving the same way are "outspoken." By continuing to use such terms, the media reinforce the message that women and girls should not strive for leadership positions, and must still overcome many barriers to achieve their potential in a man's world.

Although depressing, the media's portrayal of women is not surprising, given the gender imbalance in the industry. According to the Global Media Monitoring Project, which produces a quinquennial report on gender in the news, the representation of women in the media has changed little in the past two decades. Women still rarely occupy positions of power in newsrooms, and female journalists tend to cover less serious topics than their male counterparts. Furthermore, women are the subjects of fewer news stories, and female experts are outnumbered as sources by their male counterparts in nearly every field.

But it's not all doom and gloom. Over the past few years, some high-profile media outlets have acknowledged their failings and sought to fix systemic imbalances. Bloomberg and The Wall Street Journal, among others, are committed to increasing the number of women in leadership roles, as well as improving the conditions of female staff and editorial coverage of women.

Elsewhere, the Women's Media Center runs SheSource, an online database of female experts for journalists. Poland-based NewsMavens produces a weekly round-up of news chosen by women to counterbalance the media's prevailing male-dominated perspective, while France 24's The 51% is a weekly show that almost entirely features women and how they are reshaping the world.

But for every news outlet working to change the gender narrative, there are others that remain woefully sexist. We still have a long way to go until the media cover women in a balanced way and finally put hoary stereotypes to rest.

The media have a responsibility to reflect society not only as it is, but also as it should be. This means more reporting about women - particularly in male-dominated industries - and portraying them in the same light as the men they cover. Otherwise, these successful women will not be perceived as role models to emulate. After all, we can't be what we don't see.

ARTICLE

ARTICLE

Can Investments Be Too Efficient?

By Diane Coyle



funded projects.

In a new book, *The Cost-Benefit Revolution*, the American legal scholar Cass Sunstein applauds the gradual expansion of reliance on cost-benefit analyses to guide regulatory policy in the United States since the 1980s. Other countries also use cost-benefit analysis, with the United Kingdom's Treasury, for example, publishing a manual on how to conduct one.

But efficiency isn't everything, and the long-term benefits of an investment are not always clear from the start. In fact, we should be glad that earlier generations were not tethered to cost-benefit analysis.

In Victorian London, the engineer Joseph Bazalgette built a sewage system with enough

projects from the more common white elephants for which operational and maintenance costs are out of line with value. And construction often ends up costing far more than anticipated. Bent Flyvbjerg, an expert on mega-projects, describes them as "over budget, over time, over and over again," showing that nine out of ten have cost overruns - often of 50% or more of the original estimate.

Part of the challenge in assessing major or (potentially) iconic investment projects is that standard cost-benefit analysis does not work for projects that are likely to change significantly the economy's growth rate, as the Erie Canal did, by stimulating trade. It works only for smaller marginal decisions. It certainly does not account for the power of narratives to shape economic outcomes, as described by the Nobel laureate economist Robert J. Shiller.

CAMBRIDGE - In 1831, when Charles Darwin boarded *The Beagle* for its five-year voyage of exploration, ships navigated with the help of chronometers, which showed the precise time at a reference location. That time, when compared to the local solar noon, could be used to determine current longitude. To ensure precision - the motion of the waves affected timekeeping - a ship needed at least three chronometers. *The Beagle* had 22.

Like the nineteenth-century voyager, the modern engineer prizes redundancy, in the form of back-up and failsafe mechanisms (most would consider the standard triplicate provision to be adequate). Economists, however, privilege efficiency over redundancy - an approach that, despite its obvious merits, also has shortcomings.

To be sure, it would be a caricature to say that an economist's perspective disparages backups in safety-critical systems. But, when it comes to investment decisions, economists focus on the most efficient use of resources, as revealed by cost-benefit analysis.

There is obviously a lot of sense in this: public policy - whether spending taxpayer money or regulating business - should return as much value as possible. The cost-benefit analysis helps to ensure



capacity to last for over 150 years; it is only now being expanded. Thomas Jefferson thought that the Erie Canal project was madness, yet its cost - around \$100 billion in today's dollars - was recouped relatively quickly. No economist wielding plausible estimates of discount rates and expected benefits would have supported the construction of the Sydney Opera

Economists should recognize the limitations of cost-benefit analysis and offer a more rigorous method for analyzing the non-marginal, non-linear feedback mechanisms that affect major investments. More broadly, efficiency cannot be the sole criterion for organizing the economy. That should have become obvious a decade ago, when the systemic vulnerabilities of financial markets, with their single-minded focus on profit maximization, were laid bare.

Similarly, just-in-time supply chains - which cut costs by reducing the amount of goods and materials held in stock - have proved vulnerable to natural disasters (like floods) or other disruptions (like worker strikes). At a time when protectionism is on the rise, the risk of trade disruptions is only increasing.

From a political perspective as well, optimal efficiency is not always desirable. In a democracy, reconciling conflicts of interest among stakeholders may require that we sacrifice some efficiency. One might think of it as a form of redundancy that delivers political resilience.

Determining exactly how much efficiency should be sacrificed, and in which cases, is never easy. Even *The Beagle* may have overdone the redundancy: it returned in 1836 with 11 of its onboard chronometers still working. But given the long-term impact of Darwin's work on that voyage, the benefits vastly outweighed the unnecessary cost.

Diane Coyle is Professor of Public Policy at the University of Cambridge.



that excessive optimism does not lead to wasteful spending. It can also avert the strategic gaming of investment decisions, driven by, say, competition between regions or among suppliers for taxpayer-

House - or any of the iconic municipal buildings gracing many cities worldwide; utilitarian concrete cubes would have been far more efficient.

The challenge is to distinguish potentially iconic

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Weah consoles family of fallen Rep. Lawrence

The President George Manneh Weah, has consoled family members of fallen District 15 Representative, Adolph A. Lawrence when he paid a visit

at the home of the family Monday, March 25, 2019.

The late Lawrence, who was Representative of District 15, Montserrado County, died in a tragic motor accident on

the Robertsfield Highway while returning to Monrovia from Buchanan, Grand Bassa County.

Sitting by the widow of the fallen representative, who is also a member of the National Legislature, Senator NyonbleeKargga Lawrence, President Weah extended his condolence to the Lawrence family and encouraged them to be strong during their difficult time of bereavement.

The President, who was joined by several officials of government at the home of the fallen lawmaker, said his government was deeply saddened by the tragic death of the representative. He expressed hope and prayer that God would grant the family solace.

The late Rep. Lawrence was a member of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) of which President Weah is the Standard-bearer. *-press release*



Prosecutor calls for calm in Bong

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong

Bong County Attorney Jonathan Flomo has called on citizens of the County to remain calm as government works to bring to justice perpetrators in the alleged murder of 15-year-old Satta Banda.

The late Satta was allegedly murdered in cold blood in late September 2018 by her boyfriend Clarence David in Gbartala, Bong County.

his watch as County Attorney for Bong, he remains committed to exercising his duty without fear or favor.

Satta's boyfriend Clarence David and other suspects were arrested and charged with murder by the Bong County Crime Services Division of the Liberia National Police (LNP).

Our correspondent says suspect David and the other



Speaking in an exclusive interview with our Bong County correspondent recently in Gbarnga, County Attorney Flomo calls on family members of the late Satta and dwellers of Gbartala to remain patient, assuring them that the case will be on the docket for hearing as soon as possible.

Mr. Flomo has trashed report that the late Satta's case is now dead, stating that under

suspects are behind bars awaiting court trial.

Attorney Flomo says people need to understand the workings of the criminal justice system of the country.

During police preliminary investigation in the case, it was established that the late Satta was allegedly raped by some individuals before being killed. *--Edited by Winston W. Parley*

Call to increase taxes on plastic

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong

Resident of Bong County Mr. Abraham L. B. Freeman is calling on government to increase taxes on the manufacturing and importation of plastics and plastic products.

Speaking recently in Bong, Mr. Freeman warns that the proliferation of plastics in Liberia if not controlled, will have a negative impact on the country's environment.

He believes that if taxes are increased on the importation of plastics in the country, the proliferation of plastic bags in the streets will be curtailed here.

Mr. Freeman also wants the government of President George M. Weah to develop and enforce rules that prevent sellers from providing plastics to their customers.

Speaking on the effect of plastics on the environment, Freeman says when plastic is dumped on the land, it interacts with water and forms dangerous chemicals.

When these chemicals seep underground, he says they degrade the water quality.

Mr. Freeman warns that plastic is a man-made material produced by putting together special units of certain chemical materials, which create a texture that cannot

get rotten for hundreds of years.

According to him, plastic was invented in 1907, by Leo Hendrik Baekeland in America.

"Less than 100 years later, the impact of plastic is being felt in our environment because so many plastic

destruction for the natural environment, leading to long-term issues for plants, animal and people.

Mr. Freeman recommends that all plastic should be burned and citizens of the country should refuse to take plastic from anyone who wants



products are thrown away and it is realized that plastic almost lasts forever in the environment and therefore the waste mountains get bigger," Freeman stresses.

He reveals that the effect of plastic pollution on the environment causes

to give it to them.

He calls on citizens to always carry a bag in the market to place their items in it or use other bags that are not made of plastic at all times. *--Edited by Winston W. Parley*

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LINSU admits disrupting MOJA anniversary

By Emmanuel Mondaye

The Liberia National Students Union (LINSU) president Mohammed Kamara says LINSU disrupted the 46th Anniversary Celebration of the Movement for Justice in Africa (MOJA) on 23 March to claim organizers' attention that they did not include LINSU in the program.

Some top politicians here were forced to flee for safety when thugs from LINSU besieged the G. W. Gibson High School Campus on Capitol Bye-Pass where MOJA was holding its anniversary program.

Campus - based Students Unification Party (SUP) Standard Bearer Martin K.N. Kollie of the University of Liberia had been selected by MOJA to serve as a panelist during the 46th Anniversary celebration.

But MOJA's decision to select Mr. Kollie did not please LINSU, as its president Kamara raises argument that the decision was a disservice to his institution.

According to Mr. Kamara, LINSU has been in the vanguard of students' advocacy struggle along with MOJA in the late 1970s for social change and



Protesting students, Sen. Conmany B. Wesseh and LNBA President Cllr. Gongloe

peaceful environment for students' participation in the decision - making process of the country.

"When LINSU was struggling for a political environment" that protects, defends, and sustains the political advocacy for their colleagues who were being intimidated, harassed, and sometimes prevented from acquiring education in the country by those in power those days, Mr. Kamara wonders where was the Students Unification Party in

the struggle.

MOJA was founded in 1973 as a leftist Pan-African movement dedicated to the struggle for social justice and democracy in Liberia with chapters in Ghana and The Gambia. Some of its pioneering members include Henry Boimah Fahnbulleh, Dew Tuan-Wreh Mason, River Gee County Senator, Conmany B. Wesseh, and former interim president Dr. Amos C. Sawyer, among others.

To the disbelief of Dr. Tokpa

Nah Tipoteh, Senator Wesseh, the President of the Liberia National Bar Association Cllr. Tiawan Gongloe and other guests, MOJA's anniversary celebration for this year was disrupted when LINSU thugs stormed the event on Saturday at G.W. Gibson.

A member of the progressive community, John H. T. Stewart, was giving the history of MOJA when over 75 thugs dressed in T-shirts with inscription Liberia National Student Union, LINSU, invaded the auditorium.

They compelled Mr. Stewart to quietly leave the stage, as the hooligans sang anti-democratic songs, branding the gathering as a disservice to

the student community for selecting SUP leaders Martin K.N. Kollie and Carlos Edison to serve as discussants.

LINSU president Kamara claims that the presence of SUP officials was intended to downplay LINSU's contributions to the changing political process of the University of Liberia and the nation in particular that allows campus - based students politics to be retained.

He maintains that LINSU's action was intended to remind MOJA Anniversary organizers that LINSU had something to say on behalf of its membership which was allegedly never recognized by MOJA anniversary planners.

Meanwhile, opposition Liberty Party (LP) has strongly condemned the recent action of LINSU, led by its President Mohammed Kamara for disrupting the 46th anniversary of MOJA.

LP discloses that it is very disheartening that LINSU that claims to be in the vanguard of students politics and struggled for social justice would behave in such a manner and faction that is condemnable by every Liberian.

An official of the LP issued the condemnation during an interview with local broadcaster Truth FM on 26 March. --Edited by Winston W. Parley

ECOWAS challenges Liberian students on career choices

By Winston W. Parley

The Special Representative of the President of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission Amb. Babatunde Ajisomo has urged

observance of ECOWAS Volunteer Day (EVD), Amb. Ajisomo says "unfortunately, not only in Liberia," proper career counselling is lacking in much of the society.

The one - day ECOWAS

heard motivating messages delivered by a number of officials Tuesday, including Deputy Youth and Sports Minister Audrian Smith - Forbes; Mr. Benedict Roberts, Chair of ECOWAS Volunteers



the need for Liberian students to "have a proper career path."

Giving a keynote speech Tuesday, 26 March at the Monrovia Vocational Training Center (MVTC) during the

Volunteer Day graced by students from some high schools here was celebrated under the theme "Effectively Selecting Careers in a Fast Paced Modern Society."

Participating students

Program Coordinating Council; and Mr. KanioGbaiGbala, in an effort to inspire the participants.

In his message, Amb. Ajisomo notes that the few number of teachers that are

available in schools are overstretched, some of whom he says are teaching up to four subjects, even outside their areas of specializations.

He says this is the reason why career counselling should be given the highest priority.

"For employers, investors are looking for competent people. They don't have patience to wait to train people," he says.

According to the ECOWAS Envoy, this is why some foreign companies are seen bringing in people from overseas [to work] when they establish offices in Liberia and elsewhere.

He challenges students to bear in mind that for them to choose a suitable course that will have linkage to their wish, fulfilment and societal expectation, they need to get prepared starting from the primary school level.

While choosing career paths, Amb. Ajisomo also urges students to pay attention to moral values, maintain peaceful conducts, promote development and avoid acts

like teenage pregnancy, rape and other vices that could hinder their chances to excel.

In remarks, Mr. Benedict Roberts, Chair of ECOWAS Volunteers Program Coordinating Council in Liberia calls on students to have the passion and motivation to be volunteers to change the lives of others.

He urges students to prepare themselves because there will come a time when ECOWAS will be looking for local volunteers.

Also speaking, Deputy Youth and Sports Minister Audrian Smith - Forbes calls on students to follow the flow, go with their hearts and be compassionate about what they do in their career path, saying God has a way of taking you places.

She challenges the youth of today to take full advantage of the opportunity Liberia has to offer, citing agriculture, medical field, engineering, information technology and management, among others as huge career opportunities.

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Français

La procédure de destitution suspendue suite au décès d'un député

La mort subite du représentant du district 15 du comté de Montserrado, le représentant Adolph Lawrence, a entraîné la suspension des audiences dans le procès en destitution du juge associé Kabineh M. Ja'neh au Sénat libérien.

Annonçant la décision de repousser l'audience le lundi 25 mars, le juge en chef et président de la cour suprême du Liberia, Francis S. Korkpor, a déclaré que quoique le regretté Rep. Lawrence ne soit pas membre du Sénat, son épouse NyonbleeKargna Lawrence l'est.

Le juge Ja'neh est en procès au Sénat libérien pour inconduite présumée, abus de pouvoir discrétionnaire, fraudes et corruption.

L'une des affaires ayant déclenché son procès en destitution concerne un litige foncier qui l'opposait à une certaine Madame Annie Yancy Constance.

Le parlement l'accuse d'avoir usé de son pouvoir en tant que juge adjoint de la



Late Rep. Lawrence with wife Sen. Nyonblee Kangar Lawrence



cour suprême pour influencer un jugement en sa faveur devant la Cour suprême afin de prendre possession de manière frauduleuse du terrain qui faisait l'objet de conflit.

Mais comparaisant en tant que témoin expert dans ce procès, l'ancien juge associé à la retraite de la cour suprême du Libéria, Philip A. Z. Banks III,

a indiqué que la démarche suivie par le Sénat dans le cadre de la procédure de destitution est juridiquement contestable.

Son témoignage en tant qu'expert semble avoir contredit les propos de certains sénateurs et représentants selon lesquels le processus de destitution est e

une affaire purement politique et doit se poursuivre en dépit de la protestation du juge Ja'neh qui dénonce une violation flagrante de son droit à une procédure légale.

Les nouvelles du décès de Lawrence sont tombées tôt lundi matin. Selon certaines informations, le véhicule 4x4 au volant duquel était le législateur serait entrée en collision avec un camion défilant à Tower Hill, sur la route de Roberts International Airport (RIA), dans le comté de Margibi.

Le représentant Lawrence revenait à Monrovia après avoir célébré son cinquantième anniversaire à Buchanan, dans le comté de Grand Bassa. L'étudiante Gwendolyn Wilson, leader d'un groupe syndical estudiantin a été aussi tuée

dans l'accident et deux autres étudiants blessés gravement.

Le président du Parti de l'unification des étudiants (SUP) de l'université du Libéria (UL), Carlos T. Edison, et Aaron Cassell seraient dans un état critique au centre médical John F. Kennedy de Monrovia.

Le Représentant Lawrence, le mari de la sénatrice NyonbleeKargna - Lawrence du comté de Grand Bassa, a été déclaré mort à l'hôpital John F. Kennedy dimanche soir.

Le juge en chef Korkpor a d'abord déclaré que l'Assemblée législative était en deuil avant de suspendre l'audience du lundi 25 mars, soulignant que la sénatrice Kargna-Lawrence, a été présente depuis le début de la procédure de destitution du juge Ja'neh.

Juste avant sa mort soudaine, la Chambre des représentants a accédé à la demande du représentant Lawrence, la semaine dernière, en invitant le ministre de la Justice, Frank Musa Dean et l'inspecteur général de la police, le colonel Patrick Sudue, à comparaître pour donner plus d'explications concernant l'enquête sur la mort dans des circonstances mystérieuses de Matthew Innis, responsable de la Banque centrale du Libéria (CBL).

À la demande du représentant Lawrence, les fonctionnaires avaient donc reçu l'ordre de comparaître devant la Chambre avec tous les documents requis cette

Le député Lawrence KangarNyonblee n'est plus !

Le chagrin est grand et la déception énorme chez les proches et amis de feu Lawrence KangarNyonblee, député du district 15 du comté de Montserrado, qui a trouvé la mort dans un accident tragique à peine quelques heures après la célébration de son cinquantième anniversaire à Buchanan, dans le comté de Grand Bassa.

Le Représentant Lawrence

est décédé dimanche matin dans un accident de circulation sur la route de l'aéroport international Roberts avec l'étudiante Gwendolyn Wilson, leader d'un groupe syndical étudiantin. Les autres occupants de la voiture sont encore dans des conditions critiques.

L'épouse du regretté Lawrence, la sénatrice NyonbleeKangar Lawrence,

avait posté quelques instants plutôt une vidéo montrant la célébration du 50e anniversaire de son mari.

La nouvelle de la mort soudaine de Lawrence est tombée tôt lundi matin 25 mars, un peu plus d'une semaine après l'inhumation de la sénatrice du comté de Montserrado, Geraldine Doe - Sheriff, le samedi 16 mars.

La mort du représentant Lawrence met maintenant le Libéria dans une situation qui l'oblige à organiser deux autres élections partielles dans le seul comté de Montserrado cette année.

Il y a déjà eu deux élections partielles à Montserrado en 2018 pour pourvoir aux postes vacants créés à la suite de l'élection du président George MannehWeah et de l'élection subséquente au Sénat libérien du représentant en exercice Saah Joseph, qui a remplacé le président Weah au Sénat.

Après avoir célébré son 50e anniversaire le dimanche 24 mars à Buchanan, dans le comté de Grand Bassa, le représentant Lawrence aurait décidé de revenir à son véhicule

Articles traduits
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A taxicab that was transporting the suspects



One suspect mobbed to death



A bleeding suspect hiding from his attackers

Monrovia. En route, hélas, son véhicule 4x4 rentre en collision avec un camion défilant à Tower Hill, sur la route de l'Aéroport International Roberts, dans le comté de Margibi, et décède sur le champ.

Le conducteur du camion serait en fuite. Nos efforts visant à établir des contacts avec la police libérienne pour plus de détails n'ont pas abouti lundi,

mais une station de radio locale a annoncé que le porte-parole de la police, Moses Carter, avait indiqué que la police enquêtait sur cette tragédie.

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représentants a accédé à la demande du représentant Lawrence, la semaine dernière, en invitant le ministre de la Justice, Frank Musa Dean et l'inspecteur général de la police, le colonel Patrick Sudue, à comparaître pour donner plus d'explications concernant l'enquête sur la mort dans des circonstances mystérieuses de Matthew Innis, responsable de la Banque centrale du Libéria (CBL).

À la demande du représentant Lawrence donc, les fonctionnaires avaient reçu l'ordre de comparaître devant la Chambre avec tous les documents requis cette semaine.

Français

Burkina Faso : le général Dienderé confronté aux enregistrements téléphoniques

Au Burkina Faso, reprise du procès sur le putsch manqué de 2015 devant le tribunal militaire de Ouagadougou. Après le général Djibrill Bassolé, c'est au tour du général Gilbert Dienderé de faire face aux enregistrements de conversations téléphoniques. Environ 200 fichiers contenant les conversations de l'ex-chef d'état-major, en particulier de Blaise Compaoré, seront diffusés dans la salle d'audience. Et dès les premières bandes, le parquet militaire et les avocats des victimes estiment que, contrairement à ses déclarations, le général Gilbert Dienderé avait bel

intervention des combattants du Mouvement national de libération de l'Azawad (MNLA) durant le coup d'Etat. « Ils ne nient pas, ses avocats vous les avez entendus, qu'il s'agissait d'une conversation avec le défunt Djéri Maïga qui était le président du Mouvement national de libération de l'Azawad, un groupe armé donc dans le nord du Mali, qui fait un compte-rendu des préparatifs qu'il aurait eus avec ses hommes en attendant un signal du général pour pouvoir lui apporter leur secours », explique Prosper Farama.

Pas de déclaration du général Dienderé

Pour les avocats du général Gilbert Dienderé,



et bien planifié le coup d'Etat de septembre 2015.

Dans l'une des conversations, s'adressant à son interlocuteur, la voix attribuée au général Gilbert Dienderé affirme ceci : « Je l'ai fait, mais vous ne m'avez pas suivi ». Et pour maître Prosper Farama, l'un des avocats des parties civiles, cette déclaration est une preuve que le coup d'Etat avait bien été prémédité : « Mais c'est une déclaration libre, volontaire du général Dienderé. Voilà la preuve palpable et patente, comme il le dit lui-même, qu'il l'a fait. »

Le procureur militaire accuse le général Gilbert Dienderé d'avoir prévu une

rien ne prouve que ces conversations et les déclarations sont de leur client. Selon maître Olivier Yelkouni, l'ex-bras droit de Blaise Compaoré n'a jamais demandé l'intervention des combattants du MNLA au Burkina Faso : « Ce ne sont pas des éléments suffisants qui prouvent en tout cas la paternité d'un coup d'Etat. Ce sont des gens qui sont en train de proposer de faire des choses, et lui il écoute et dit : on va voir. »

Quant au général Gilbert Dienderé, il n'a fait aucun commentaire sur le contenu des bandes, demandant au tribunal de s'en tenir à ses premières déclarations lors de son interrogatoire.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Marion Turner

Le Brexit et l'histoire du speaker

OXFORD - Le speaker de la Chambre des communes britannique, John Bercow, apparaît partout dans les médias au Royaume-Uni ces derniers temps. Tandis que la crise du Brexit continue de gronder, l'homme au marteau devient une star sur YouTube à travers l'Europe.

Le 18 mars, Bercow a invoqué une règle parlementaire de l'an 1604 pour empêcher le gouvernement de la Première ministre Theresa May de soumettre à nouveau devant la Chambre l'accord de sortie convenu avec l'Union européenne, après deux votes massifs contre ce texte.

L'existence du speaker remonte bien avant 1604. L'intervention de Bercow ayant cependant modifié la trajectoire du Brexit, ce poste attire aujourd'hui plus d'attention que jamais. Quelle est l'histoire de ce poste, et pourquoi a-t-il été créé en 1376 pendant la période du « Good Parliament » en Angleterre ?

À l'époque, le parlement anglais est différent des autres chambres d'Europe, dans la mesure où il fait intervenir une Chambre des communes au pouvoir réel, notamment en matière d'impôt. En 1376, l'institution se renforce significativement en élisant un speaker, afin que la Chambre des communes parle « d'une seule voix », et qu'elle ne se retrouve pas divisée ou malmenée par les lords les plus puissants.

Le pays est à cette période en plein chaos. Le roi Édouard III est devenu sénile, et son fils aîné (le Prince Noir) meurt précisément pendant cette législature, laissant derrière lui un héritier âgé de neuf ans seulement. Dans le même temps, une faction corrompue gère piètrement la cour. La Chambre des communes va alors s'affirmer en désignant un speaker, en soulignant : « Ce que déclare l'un d'entre nous, tous l'expriment et y consentent ». Elle mettra par la suite en place l'impeachment, afin de condamner les conseillers corrompus du roi, ainsi que la maîtresse du souverain, Alice Perrers.

Le speaker tire son autorité du groupe, et s'isole lui-même de toute attaque personnelle via une « protestation », faisant clairement savoir qu'il ne s'exprime pas en son nom propre, mais en tant que représentant des autres, et que ses propos peuvent être « rectifiés » par ses compagnons.

Par ailleurs, le speaker insiste sur un principe selon lequel les Anglais ordinaires auraient le droit d'intervenir sérieusement dans le débat politique. Les lords s'efforceront à maintes reprises de diviser pour régner sur la Chambre, refusant dans un premier temps de répondre à ses accusations à moins qu'elles soient adressées « individuellement ». Mais la Chambre tiendra bon, affirmant son droit de parler d'une seule voix, et de « maintenir communes les accusations ».

La Chambre élit ainsi à l'origine un speaker

pour exprimer la vérité face au pouvoir, puiser de la force dans le nombre, et résister aux intimidations. Les voix moins importantes ne seront plus étouffées ou divisées, et pourront désormais défier une autorité aristocratique profondément ancrée.

Cette innovation politique va également inspirer une nouvelle forme de poésie. Tandis qu'auparavant les recueils de nouvelles, tels que Le Décaméron de Boccace, faisaient exclusivement intervenir des narrateurs de la haute bourgeoisie, le nouveau rôle du speaker va nourrir l'imagination du poète anglais Geoffrey Chaucer, lui-même membre du parlement dans les années 1380. Cette inspiration donnera en particulier naissance au Contes de Canterbury, œuvre illustrant la conviction passionnée de Chaucer selon laquelle les voix communes devraient être entendues et préservées. En inscrivant au cœur de son œuvre plusieurs voix non aristocratiques et affirmées - celles d'un cuisinier, d'un marin, d'une épouse, d'un homme de loi, et d'un pasteur des campagnes - Chaucer va radicalement rompre avec la tradition.

Narrateur du poème, Chaucer emprunte l'idée de « protestation ». Il rappelle à maintes reprises se contenter de répéter ce qu'expriment ses pèlerins, et prie ses lecteurs de ne pas la « blâmer » s'ils découvrent des propos rudes, offensants, voire révolutionnaires. L'un des pèlerins de Chaucer fait écho au speaker du parlement, en affirmant via une « protestation » parler « sous le contrôle » des autres.

Chaucer inclut des scènes parlementaires dans d'autres poèmes, notamment dans le Parlement des Fous. Dans son poème, le Parlement des Oiseaux est clairement influencé par la Chambre anglaise. Il réunit des oiseaux communs, aristocrates et, plus important encore, le groupe d'oiseaux choisit des représentants qui parleront son nom. Tandis que les nobles volatiles se perdent en paroles et en inaction, les oiseaux plus communs et plus déterminés parviennent à prendre des décisions ainsi qu'à accomplir des avancées.

Anecdote amusante de cette histoire, le propre fils de Chaucer, Thomas, poursuivra l'œuvre en devenant lui-même speaker, au XVe siècle, sous le régime lancastrien. Ils exercera sous 15 législatures, et occupera le siège de speaker à cinq reprises - arpentant un chemin difficile sous le roi Henri IV, qui affrontera son fils le Prince Hal pendant ces années agitées. Thomas parviendra systématiquement à maintenir l'intégrité de la Chambre des communes, tout en conservant lui-même sa stature.

La récente intervention de Bercow dans le débat autour du Brexit souligne l'importance continue d'une institution britannique vieille de 643 ans. À la question de savoir si l'occupant actuel du siège de speaker se montre à la hauteur d'un honorable tradition consistant à exprimer la vérité face au pouvoir, la réponse dépend de votre propre point de vue sur le Brexit.

Articles traduits

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PERSPECTIVES

With Bai M. Gbala, Sr.
March 22, 2019

Public Policy . Economics . Democratic Politics . Political/Economic Decentralization . Public Dishonesty . Dual Citizenship

Impeachment Trial of The Associate Justice Of The Supreme Court of Liberia

Cont'd from last edition

Land Disputes throughout Liberia

Then there is this Big One. There are confusions, conflicts and disputes by and between farmers, individuals, Communities (of their traditional Community Land Rights), Counties and Civil war powerful-Encroachers, Nationwide. The case of the Cooper Beach Landowners and illegal encroachers/squatters is typical example right here in the nation's capital suburb of Paynesville.

Encroacher/squatters invaded and built on land that they do own simply because they depend on lawyers, their apparent business partners and members of their ethnicity, who are, apparently, "politically-connected lawyers" some of which are court judges who baffle, delay and obtained continuance for years to the point that rightful owners are tired out with court expense, allowing the illegal encroachers/squatters to evade eviction.

In this case, the Supreme Court rendered a definitive decision in favor of the Cooper Land Owners but they have not, yet, been able to have or take possession of the land from the illegal encroacher/squatters, because the Ministry of Justice with Supreme Judgement and instructions to evict the illegal encroachers/squatters will has not intervene. The lawful owners are still waiting for ministry of Justice for years!! These are some of the issues, the issue is potential for violence.

The Reported Critical Issues of the Trial

Impeachment Prosecutors presented their case against Cllr. KainehJa'Neh, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, for "official misconduct," mainly, "Abuse of judicial power, misuse of public office, the Annie Constance Land Case, the Road Fund Case" and among many others of eight charges against the Associate Justice.

The Prosecuting Lawyers argued that the Road Fund issue is based upon contractual agreement by and between the Government of Liberia and the following Petroleum importers - Srimex of Musa Bility, Connvex of Adallah Sheriff, Aminata& Sons of SiakaToure, Kailondo Petroleum of George Kailondo, MOTC, Nexium Petroleum, West Oil Investment, NP Liberia, Mayoubah& Sons, Inc., and Petro Trade - who collected US \$0.25 per gallon of gas from the public to be paid to the Government of Liberia for national Road construction, etc. but failed and refused. Of the US \$31 million raised during the budget year of 2017-2018 that should have been paid to the government, US \$11 million is owned by Srimex of Musa Bility and Connvex of Abdallah Sheriff.

The Prosecuting Lawyers claimed that rather pay the money already collected from the public to the government, the two companies ran to their business partner, his Honor KabinehJa' Neh, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, the in Chambers who advised them to file a writ to the Supreme Court requesting a Stay Order to stop them from paying the government's due and payable Road funds; that Associate Justice Ja'Neh received kick-backs from the two businessmen, Musa Bility and Abdallah Sheriff; that Associate Justice Ja 'Neh continues to receive kickbacks and related payments, while the businessmen continue to collect and keep the government Road funds illegally; and that the Prosecution says that it will present evidence to prove all allegations.

In His Defense

On the witness stand in his defense and on cross examination, for almost more than an hour, the leaned counselor-at-law and Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, Cllr. KabinehJa 'Neh was unable to answer/explain or dislodge deeply-penetrating questions regarding Prohibition that he allegedly issued as Chamber Justice in favor of his alleged business partners; Road Funds withheld illegally from the government of Liberia and continue to be withheld by the business partners; and kickbacks and related illegal payments received and being received by the Associate Justice, all regarding the Road Fund Case.

The Associate Justice muddled through about other issues, disregarding the Road Fund Case. This approach caused legal analysts and observers to conclude that the Associate Justice is highly likely to be "booked" on this one - the Road Fund Case.

Lastly, regarding the Judiciary Function, Liberia is still in the woods held hostage by Public Policy Paralysis and graft/geed - due to Liberia corruption, Inc. deeply-rooted in lies, thievery, banditry, poli-trics and criminals.

House to challenge Banks

By Ethel A. Tweh

Lawyers representing the House of Representatives say they will provide an expert witness to give rebuttal to all the statements made by retired Associate Justice Philip A.Z. Banks, III.who testified as expert witness for defendant Associate Justice Kabineh M. Ja'neh.

Justice Ja'neh is being tried at the Liberian Senate on the basis of accusations by lawmakers that he used his influence as Associate Justice to secure a ruling in his favor at the Supreme Court to take possession of a land being claimed by 94 - year - old Madam Annie Yancy Constance, among many other charges.

But he denies the charges.

His lone witness in the impeachment trial, retired Justice Banks bluntly told the hearing that the actions taken by the House of Representatives to carry on the impeachment without concurrence with the Senate, and by not respecting due

impeachment process, the ad - hoc committee set by the House to investigate the matter did not issue out any writ of summon to Justice Ja'neh to have him appear for investigation.

According to the witness, there is no way to proceed with impeachment if there are no uniformed rules as directed by the Constitution.

The counsels for the House of Representatives requested Chief Justice and presiding officer Francis S. Korkpor, Sr. to dismiss expert witness Banks' testimony.

The prosecuting lawyers say they want the expert witness' testimony to be dismissed as if the testimony has never been given.

They claim that Justice Banks is not qualified to be an expert witness on grounds that he doesn't hold a degree in constitutional law.

The lawyers contend that the fact that Justice Banks teaches



process are unconstitutional.

Justice Banks said when the new Constitution was written in 1984 and came to use on January 6, 1986, impeachment proceedings was removed from political to legal, clarifying lawmakers' claim that the impeachment is political.

The expert witness testified if what the House of Representatives did in the impeachment is illegal, any action taken by the Senate which serves as trial of facts can be challenged legally on constitutional grounds.

Retired Justice Banks said the Legislature comprises of two Houses, noting that the allegations contained in the Bill of Impeachment should be defined by both houses rather than a single house.

He testified that if the House of Representatives wanted to impeach any official, the Senate should be aware.

The witness explained that because there was no rules to govern the

constitutional law at the Law School doesn't give him the right to give an expert opinion.

Further, they argued that Justice Banks has not written a book on the constitution before.

Cllr. Albert Sims, representing the House, says the expert witness should have given his expert opinion on what he was called upon to do and leave the rest with the trial of facts to make the decision and not for him to start making comments.

But the Chief Justice has rejected the application made by the lawyers representing the House of Representatives to dismiss retired Justice Banks' testimony.

Chief Justice Kporpor insists that these arguments should be addressed to the Senators who trial of facts in the impeachment and have the final decision making power in the proceedings.

He denies the motion.--Edited by Winston W. Parley

District#15 mourns lawmaker's death

By Lewis S. Teh

Residents of Montserrado County Electoral District# 15 are shock over the death of their lawmaker, Representative Adolph A. Lawrence in a car crash early Monday, 25 March along the Robertsfield highway in Margibi County, barely a day after celebrating his 50th birthday. District#15 covers Logan Town, Jamaica Road and Caldwell Island, a densely populated Monrovia suburb.

The New Dawn visited the area Tuesday and spoke with some grieving residents on the tragic loss, which they blame on recklessness from national government, particularly the Liberia National Police for failure to regulate defective vehicles plying the streets and highways.

The late Representative Lawrence was enroute to Monrovia from Grand Bassa County when his vehicle crashed into a failing pickup truck on Tower Hill, Margibi County during early morning hour thus, killing him instantly and a female riding with him, Ms. Gwendolyn Dabah Wilson, a recent graduate of the University of Liberia.

Three other occupants of the car, who sustained injuries, are admitted at the John F. Kennedy Hospital in Monrovia, including a student leader of the UL, Carlor T. Edison, whose condition is said to be critical. Speaking to this paper in an exclusive interview, a resident of the district, who is also a



Late Rep. Lawrence with wife Sen. Nyonblee Kangar Lawrence



lecture of Public Administration at the United Methodist University on Ashmum Street, Mr. Emmanuel M. Peters says, failure of government to electrify the Robertsfield highway, and inability of the Liberia National Police to institute road safety measures that would regulate movement of trucks are some of the factors responsible for the death of Rep. Lawrence.

“The death of Rep. Lawrence is caused by the government because of their inability to electrify the highway that leads to the national airport; this is a shame; how many peaceful citizens will continue to lose their lives?” he asks.

He maintains that government should take the blame for all of the tragic road accidents across the country, lamenting that yesterday, it was a little

girl with a bright future; today, it is Rep. Lawrence. Who knows what will happen tomorrow?

Remembering the life of the fallen lawmaker, Mr. Peters laments the people of District# 15 will miss the late Representative Lawrence for his efforts in providing scholarships to his constituents, noting that he (Adolph Lawrence) had scholarships in almost every school across the district; “and I think that is something residents of this district will not forget so easily.”

“Though he did not perform to our expectation at the Legislature,

but he did what he could do and that is something that every resident residing in this district will miss him for”, says Peters.

According to him, the late Rep. Lawrence went as far as buying a property in King Peters town with the intent to have built a hospital for the people of this district. “Unfortunately, he is no longer with us and it’s saddened that we lost such a great man”, he adds.

Also speaking, district coordinator Ezekiel Shannon, says he’s frustrated over the manner in which the

government is handling the death of Rep. Lawrence, stressing that he was a statesman, so government should attach seriousness to investigation surrounding the accident to get to the bottom. He says the late Rep. Lawrence was very instrumental in discharging his functions as a lawmaker for the district noting, “This is something that he will be remembered for.”

“Today, as you can see, the Logan Town Broad Street that is paved; it was through the advocacy of the late Rep. Lawrence; the vacuum he has created [by his death] in this district cannot be filled by anyone. Residents here can attest to this.”

The sudden death news of Rep. Lawrence’s came early Monday morning, 25 March over a week after burial of the late Montserrado County Sen. Geraldine Doe-Sherif on 16 March. The Senator Doe-Sherif died on 10 February from protracted illness at Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital in Ghana, exactly four days following her 52nd natal day.

Their passing has left the government with the resource-demanding task of conducting two separate by-elections for the Senate and the House in coming months.

Biometric IDs

Starts from back page

here that there are many benefits associated with the the Biometric Foreign Residents ID Card.


According to him, they include helping the Government in establishing a clean database of non-Liberians residing in Liberia; providing foreign residents with a convenient ID credential to be used for travel and the conduct of business throughout the country and make it easier and convenient for foreign residents to travel in an out of Liberia.

He concludes that since the registration process started months ago, a little over 3,000 persons have

been processed and issued Liberia Citizen’s ID Card.

For his part, LIS Acting Commissioner Moses K. Yebleh maintains that the his entity is working along with the NIR to ensure that people who obtain Liberian Citizen Identification Cards are citizens of the country and not foreigners or aliens.

He calls on all foreign residents and aliens residing in the country to adhere to government’s mandate to ensure that they are captured in the database of the LIS and NIR.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



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Addendum #1

To

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

For

Supply and Delivery of Three (3) Sport Utility Vehicles (SUVs) for Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission (LERC)



Background and Context

The United States of America, acting through the Millennium Challenge Corporation (“MCC”) and the Government of Liberia (the “Government” or “GoL”) have entered a Millennium Challenge Compact for Millennium Challenge Account assistance to help facilitate poverty reduction through economic growth in Liberia (the “Compact”) in the amount of approximately 256,726,000 USD (“MCC Funding”). The Government, acting through Millennium Challenge Account - Liberia (the “MCA Entity”), intends to apply a portion of the MCC Funding to eligible payments under a contract for which this RFQ is issued.

MCA-Liberia now invites Quotations from legally constituted suppliers to provide the required goods. More details may be found in the Request for Quotation (RFQ) which is available free of charge at the email address below. This RFQ is open to all eligible suppliers who wish to submit their quotations.

This RFQ is for:

Supply and Delivery of Three (3) Sport Utility Vehicles (SUVs) for Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission (LERC)

How to Participate in the Process:

Interested manufacturers/suppliers should send an email to MCALiberiaPA@cardno.com requesting a copy of the complete RFQ with Specifications, which is free of charge.

Important activities and dates:

No.	Activity	Dates
1	Release of RFQ	March 22, 2019
2	Deadline for Submission	March 28, 2019 by 3:00 pm

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Biometric IDs for foreigners set for April



By Emmanuel Mondaye

The National Identification Registry (NIR) has set 1 April as the date for the commencement of the issuance of Biometric Foreign Residents Identification Cards

to aliens and foreign nationals residing in Liberia.

Addressing a news conference at NIR's head office in Congo Town Monday, 25 March, NIR Executive Director J. TiahNagbe asserts that the Biometric Foreign

Residents Identification Cards will have the same technical features of the National Citizen's Identification Cards.

He however says the color and status will be different.

He explains that the process in obtaining the Foreign Resident Identification Card will be thorough and rigid, mainly requiring the submission of an Alien Resident Permit (ARP) from the Liberia Immigration Service (LIS) as a first step in the application process.

The NIR boss discloses that after acquiring ARP, the name of the applicant for the Foreign Resident ID Card will be verified against an officially approved listing of legal foreign residents submitted to the NIR by the LIS.

According to him, the institution will shortly extend the exercise to 14 counties here upon the conclusion of modalities with the immigration authorities.

Meanwhile, Mr. Nagbe has disclosed

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Messi's net worth, salary revealed

This season will be the first where Lionel Messi assumes full duties of being captain of Barcelona after Andres Iniesta left the club.

The Argentina international become the best-paid player in La Liga last November by agreeing a new deal to extend his stay at Barcelona until 2021.

The Argentine's existing contract was set to expire in



the summer of 2018 and whether at Camp Nou or elsewhere, it was never in doubt that he would land a

major pay day.

Despite a disappointing World Cup tournament where Argentina crashed out at the last-16 stage, Messi remains a talisman in Barcelona.

What is Messi's net worth?

Messi's net worth is estimated to be between £200m and £230m, and probably comes in a touch lower than Ronaldo's.

Who is Cllr. Kuku Y. Dorbor?

Counselor Kuku Y. Dorbor, former law maker, entrepreneur and professional lawyer has practiced in the Liberian Judiciary system for protracted period of time and possesses a lot of experience. She is a corporate lawyer with specialty in Litigation.

She has the ability to prepare legal documents such as, (Lease and Sales Agreements, Contracts, Article of Incorporation, By Law and Constitution, Legal Opinions, Pleadings amongst others). She has also made legal representation at Magisterial Courts, Circuit Courts and the Supreme Court of Liberia, amongst others. She is a personality with excellent organizational skills and change-driven, possesses high level of interpersonal skills and integrity. She is endowed with ability to negotiate in difficult circumstances between government and corporate entities.

During her tenure in the 52nd Legislature Hon. Kuku sponsored a bill titled: An Act Creating a Public Domestic Debt, an anti-corruption bill, seeking to restore public confidence in government's Public Financial Management System, and a Poverty Alleviation Bill, seeking to save public resources which would otherwise be expended on dubious public debts payment, besides co-sponsoring series of bills in the interest of Mother Liberia.



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