

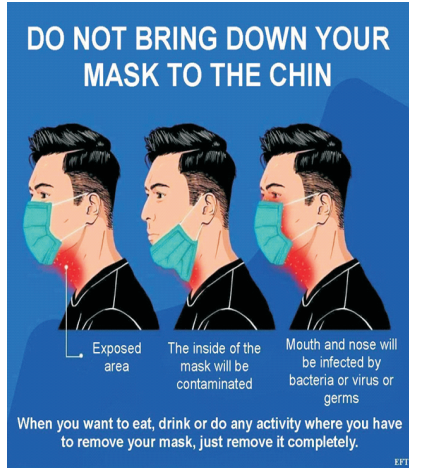


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TRULY INDEPENDENT



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CDCIans defy coronavirus



Partisans queue at the CDC Headquarters to view the remains of the late Rep. Munah Pelham-Youngblood

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Continental News

Parasite 'resistant to malaria drug' in Africa

A drug-resistant strain of the parasite that causes malaria has been identified by scientists in Rwanda.

The study, published in Nature, found the parasites were able to resist treatment by artemisinin - a frontline drug in the fight against the disease.

This is the first time scientists have observed the

resistance to the drug artemisinin in Africa.

The researchers warn that this "would pose a major public health threat" in the continent. Scientists from the Institut Pasteur, in collaboration with the National Malaria Control Program in Rwanda (Rwanda Biomedical Center), the World Health Organization (WHO), Cochin Hospital and Columbia

University (New York, USA) analysed blood samples from patients in Rwanda.

They found one particular mutation of the parasite, resistant to artemisinin, in 19 of 257 - or 7.4% - of patients at one of the health centres they monitored. In the journal article the scientists warned that malaria parasites that developed a resistance to previous drugs are "suspected

to have contributed to millions of additional malaria deaths in young African children in the 1980s".

When the first malaria drug, chloroquine, was developed, researchers thought that the disease would be eradicated within years.

But since the 1950s the parasites have evolved to develop resistance to successive drugs. Malaria infection is now commonly treated with a combination of two drugs - artemisinin and piperazine.

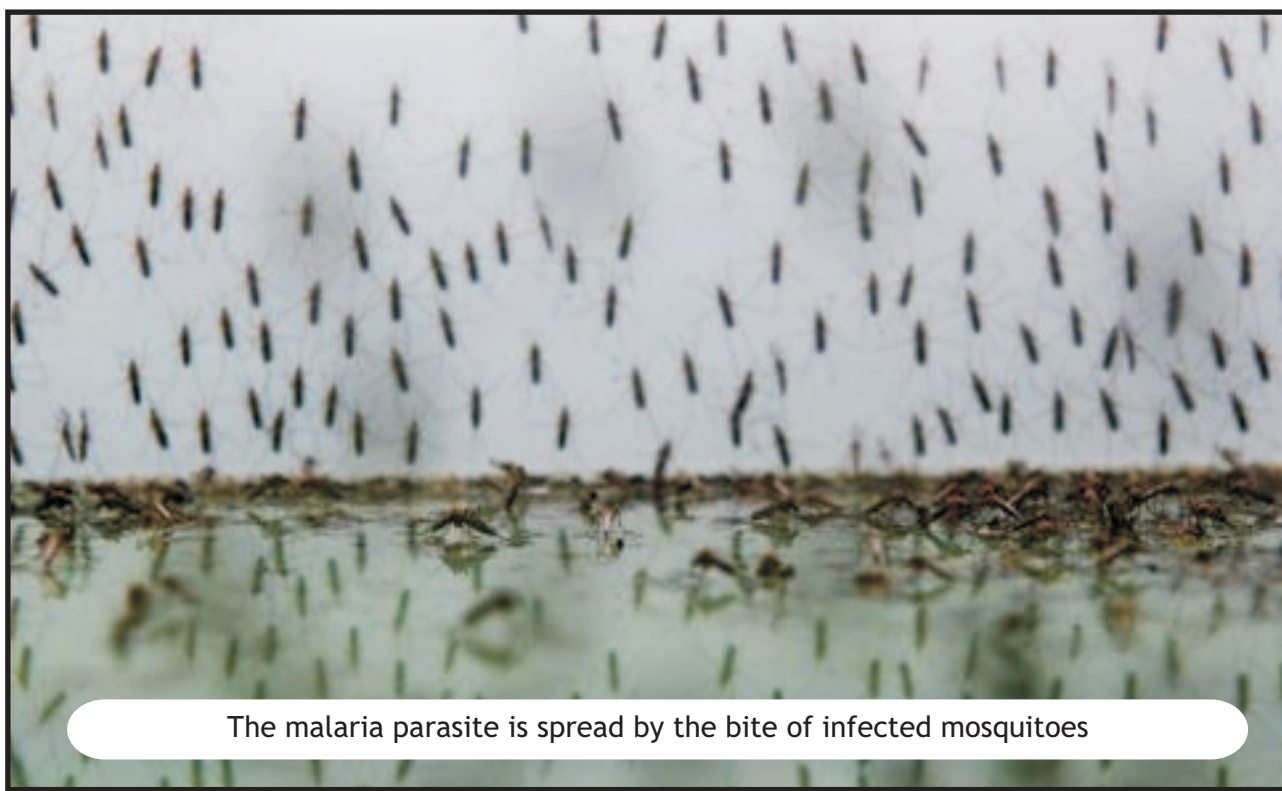
But then malaria parasites started developing a

resistance to artemisinin as well - this was first recorded in 2008 in South East Asia.

At the time scientists they feared that resistance to artemisinin could also occur in Africa and have devastating consequences

The research indicates that these fears may have been realised.

In 2018, African countries accounted for over 90% of the more than 400,000 deaths from malaria recorded. Professor Lang Linfu, who was one of the scientists involved in its discovery of artemisinin, explains how he made the breakthrough. BBC



The malaria parasite is spread by the bite of infected mosquitoes

Nigeria televangelist 'waiting to hear from God'

Popular Nigerian televangelist TB Joshua says he is "waiting to hear from God" before resuming church services in the commercial hub of Lagos. The Lagos State government says that services

can resume on Sunday, with half their capacity, after being shut for months to curb the spread of coronavirus.

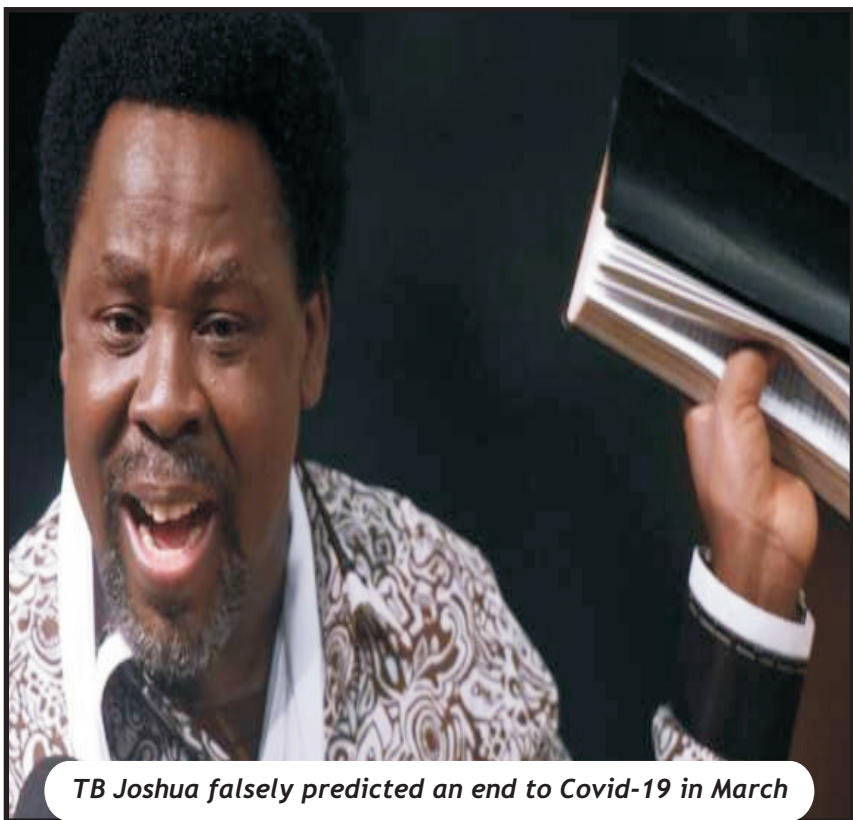
In a video posted on his Twitter account, TB Joshua said that "having heard from the authorities, we are now waiting

to hear from God.

"Please be assured that as soon as we hear from God, we will inform you when our services will resume," he added. The self-styled prophet caused controversy earlier this year when he predicted that the coronavirus pandemic would be over by 27 March, several days before a lockdown was imposed on the states of Lagos, Ogun and the capital, Abuja.

"By the end of this month, whether we like it or not, no matter the medicine they might have produced to cure whatever, it will go the way it came," he said to applause from his congregation at the time. When 27 March passed the televangelist found himself mocked for his "false prophecy".

But he defended himself - once again to cheers from worshippers - by saying: "What I meant was that the virus would be halted where it began, and in Wuhan [in China] it has stopped." BBC



TB Joshua falsely predicted an end to Covid-19 in March

Overnight millionaire hopes to find more gemstones

A small-scale miner in Tanzania, who became an instant millionaire after selling three rough Tanzanite stones for \$5.4m (£4.1m), has told the BBC he is optimistic that he will make other big finds of the rare gems in the near future.

Saniniu Laizer - who has been in the mining business in northern Tanzania for more than 15 years - said this was the first time he had struck

He warned that the business was not as easy as people think.

"It is very expensive to operate the mines. Most of the times we get loans, while at other times we are forced to contribute money among ourselves as small-scale miners," he told the BBC.

Mr Laizer has diversified his business interests and has ventured into other areas,



such luck.

He sold two stones to the government in June for \$3.4m, and a third on Monday for \$2m.

Mr Laizer said he was confident of discovering more of the precious stones - found only in northern Tanzania - because of analysis conducted by his geologist.

Some have envied Mr Laizer, while others have been inspired by him.

including the construction of shopping malls.

He has also used part of his fortune to build a school and a church in his community. "Farmers' and pastoralists' kids are often not attending school because schools sometimes are very far and children spend most of the time looking after animals," he said. BBC

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EDITORIAL

Political violence is not the answer

LAST WEEK THURSDAY'S (July 30) violence in Zwedru City, Grand Gedeh County, southeast Liberia by stone-throwing youths against opposition leader Alexander B. Cummings of the Collaborating Political Parties/Alternative National Congress, Montserrado County District#10 Representative Yekeh Kolubah and delegation, forcing them to hurriedly depart the county threatens peace and democracy in Liberia.

NOT ONLY THAT, it sets a very bad tone for the pending midterm senatorial elections across the country in December. It shows clearly that critical voices against the government or President George Manneh Weah would not be tolerated in areas considered stronghold of the governing Coalition for Democratic Change, CDC.

FOR MORE THAN four hours, thugs, including youths throwing stones and wielding machetes and sticks laid siege on a local entertainment center, B-2 Guest House in Zwedru, Grand Gedeh where the opposition leader and his entourage, including Representative Kolubah had spent the night, specifically threatening to mob the Montserrado District#10 lawmaker, if he came out of the premises.

THEY TOOK THE action on grounds that Rep. Kolubah is in the habit of publicly insulting President Weah, so Grand Gedeh County is a no-go area for him. However, the Joint Security led by troops of the Armed Forces of Liberia subsequently moved in and bundled the opposition politicians out of the county for safety of their lives.

THE VIOLENCE RECEIVED widespread condemnation from Liberians, including members of the Grand Gedeh County Legislative Caucus and the Indomitable National Youth League of the Alternative National Congress headed by Mr. Cummings. The caucus described the action as "shameful and embarrassing", while the ANC youth league notes that the woeful, undemocratic, appalling, dreadful and repulsive situation witnessed in Grand Gedeh County does not only roll back fresh memories of the country's bitter past, but shows to Liberians and the world at large that President Weah is either unwilling or unable to execute the duties and responsibilities assigned to the Office of the Presidency.

ALTHOUGH MR. WEAH, four days after the incident commented for the first time on Sunday, 2 August while worshipping at his Forky Kloh Jlah Family Fellowship Inc. along the Robertsfield Highway, telling supporters and Grand Gedeans: "If you love me, if you support me, please be peaceful and developmental," but the government's rather lukewarm response indicates complacency.

BARELY THREE MONTHS to the senatorial elections, the ruling CDC has vowed to retake Montserrado County from opposition Senator Abraham Darius Dillon at all cost, and already begun dishing out millions of Liberian Dollars to voters across the county for its candidate, incumbent Representative Thomas Fallah.

NOT ONLY SO, the administration is threatening employees in government who do not vote Coalition candidates with dismissal, including Traditional Leaders in Maryland County for recently welcoming the CPP Chairman Alexander B. Cummings to the county.

CDC CHAIRMAN MULBAH Morlu, speaking recently at the Pleebo City Hall in Maryland County, threatened to recommend dismissal of government employees who would not support the ruling party. "This government under his excellence George Manneh Weah will not allow any official who is working in government and not supporting the government. We will recommend the dismissal of anyone who will be in this government and then he/she is not supporting the agenda of government; we can't have people in government then they are fighting the government", Morlu threatened.

WE BELIEVE SUCH utterance might have contributed to the July 30th violence in Zwedru, and set a tone for what to expect as the nation prepares to go to the poll, creating an atmosphere of fear and uncertainty, particularly when previous electoral violence had gone uninvestigated.

COMMENTARY

By Edmund S. Phelps

The Robot Question

Although robots that can perform human labor will put downward pressure on wages in the short term, they also will increase the rate of profit, encouraging more investment and a recovery in the wage rate. It is not so much the economics of new technologies that should worry us, but rather the politics and ethics.

NEW YORK - The robots are no longer coming; they are here. The COVID-19 pandemic is hastening the spread of artificial intelligence (AI), but few have fully considered the short- and long-run consequences.

In thinking about AI, it is natural to start from the perspective of welfare economics - productivity and distribution. What are the economic effects of robots that can replicate human labor? Such concerns are not new. In the nineteenth century, many feared that new mechanical and industrial innovations would "replace" workers. The same concerns are being echoed today.

Consider a model of a national economy in which labor performed by robots matches that performed by humans. The total volume of labor - robotic and human - will reflect the number of human workers, H, plus the number of robots, R. Here, the robots are additive - they add to the labor force rather than multiplying human productivity. To complete the model in the simplest way, suppose the economy has just one sector, and that aggregate output is produced by capital and total labor, human and robotic. This output provides for the country's consumption, with the rest going toward investment, thus increasing the capital stock.¹

What is the initial economic impact when these additive robots arrive? Elementary economics shows that an increase in total labor relative to initial capital - a drop in the capital-labor ratio - causes wages to drop and profits to rise.

There are three points to add. First, the results would be magnified if the additive robots were created from refashioned capital goods. That would yield the same increase in total labor, with a commensurate reduction in the capital stock, but the drop in the wage rate and the increase in the rate of profit would be greater.

Second, nothing would change if we adopted the Austrian School's two-sector framework in which labor produces the capital good and the capital good produces the consumer good. The arrival of robots still would decrease the capital-labor ratio, as it did in the one-sector scenario.

Third, there is a striking parallel between the model's additive robots and newly arrived immigrants in their impact on native workers. By pushing down the capital-labor ratio, immigrants, too, initially cause wages to drop and profits to rise. But it should be noted that with the rate of profit elevated, the rate of investment will rise. Owing to the law of diminishing returns, that additional investment will drive down the profit rate until it has fallen back to normal. At this point, the capital-labor ratio will be back to where it was before the robots arrived, and the wage rate will be pulled back up.

To be sure, the general public tends to assume that "robotization" (and automation generally) leads to a permanent disappearance of jobs, and thus to the "immiseration" of the working class. But such fears are exaggerated. The two models described above abstract from the familiar technological progress that drives up

productivity and wages, making it reasonable to anticipate that the global economy will sustain some level of growth in labor productivity and compensation per worker.

True, sustained robotization would leave wages on a lower path than they otherwise would have taken, which would create social and political problems. It may prove desirable, as Bill Gates once suggested, to levy taxes on income from robot labor, just as countries levy taxes on income from human labor. This idea deserves careful consideration. But fears of prolonged robotization appear unrealistic. If robotic labor increased at a non-vanishing pace, it would run into limits of space, atmosphere, and so on.

Moreover, AI has brought not just "additive" robots but also "multiplicative" robots that enhance workers' productivity. Some multiplicative robots enable people to work faster or more effectively (as in AI-assisted surgery), while others help people complete tasks they otherwise could not perform.

The arrival of multiplicative robots need not lead to a lengthy recession of aggregate employment and wages. Yet, like additive robots, they have their "downsides." Many AI applications are not entirely safe. The obvious example is self-driving cars, which can (and have) run into pedestrians or other cars. But, of course, so do human drivers.

A society is not wrong, in principle, to deploy robots that are prone to occasional mistakes, just as we tolerate airplane pilots who are not perfect. We must judge costs and benefits. For efficiency, people ought to have the right to sue robots' owners for damages. Inevitably, a society will feel uncomfortable with new methods that introduce "uncertainty."

From the perspective of ethics, the interface with AI involves "imperfect" and "asymmetric" information. As Wendy Hall of the University of Southampton says, amplifying Nicholas Beale, "We can't just rely on AI systems to act ethically because their objectives seem ethically neutral."

Indeed, some new devices can cause serious harm. Implantable chips for cognitive enhancement, for example, can cause irreversible tissue damage in the brain. The question, then, is whether laws and procedures can be instituted to protect people from a reasonable degree of harm. Barring that, many are calling on Silicon Valley companies to establish their own "ethics committees."

All of this reminds me of the criticism leveled at innovations throughout the history of free-market capitalism. One such critique, the book *Gemeinschaft und Gesellschaft* by the sociologist Ferdinand Tönnies, ultimately became influential in Germany in the 1920s and led to the "corporatism" arising there and in Italy in the interwar period - thus bringing an end to the market economy in those countries.

Clearly, how we address the problems raised by AI will be highly consequential. But they are not yet present on a wide scale, and they are not the main cause of the dissatisfaction and resulting polarization that have gripped the West.

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+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan



Lord, every seed yield fruits after its kind

Dear Father;

Hmm, hayaka, so why are these people disturbing our village time like this? Oh, have they forgotten so soon that every seed has a fruit in it after its own kind?

I mean, who have ever seen a mangrove seed sown come up to bear orange or grape fruits? Nowhere. Absolutely, nowhere in the villages of this planet it has happened. Just as there is a fruit in every seed, so it grows and become that very fruit of the seed you have sown.

Hmm, what a sound word of wisdom my son.

Oh yes Father, it is. No one can sow a bad fruit (words) and expect to reap a good fruit (peace and prosperity) in the end. You must reap what you sow that is the law of the earth. Our people say the same rope that can hang monkey can also hank baboon.

Hmm, this one requires some explanation now oh my son.

Yes Father, I know it does. So let me put it in the context of our village. Today, in our village the people who are now masquerading as our leaders were once on the other side of the river. Pulling every strings that could trigger trouble for this highly forested village of ours.

They vowed to give a certain old lady headache-using all manner of threats that forced our neighbors and other villages afar to tag our village as "fragile"- a nomenclature that in itself has kept sound and serious investors away from our village up to this day. Any thought of doing business here in our village is seen as very risky for the fact that we are "fragile"- meaning we are ever ready to venture in to our most recent ugly past with no apology to the people from the other villages who spent their tax payers money and the lives of their soldiers to help us get this far.

Today, I hear say they are complaining because one little unknown man made popular due to their own ineptitudes now showing up as the seed they once sowed against a certain old lady-what a paradox?

Can you imagine this Father, a farmer rejecting the fruit of the seed he has sown? Didn't they prepare themselves for such a bumper harvest? I mean rather than crying here and there just accept it as the fruit of the seed you have sown-period.

I heard one of them describing this little figure's statement as "reckless." Can you also imagine this Father? The man who now describes this little figure's statement as "reckless" made more "reckless" statement (if I were to borrow his own grammar) that could have plunged our village back into where we came from some 17 years ago-oh yes.

Come to think of it, even the brother who no manages the Footballer's camp rained more insults at a certain old lady at the time more than this Footballer has received. Imagine you insulting you for 12 years and somebody just did it to you for little over two years and you are crying already.

One of the greatest Jamaican singers-Peter Tosh says "if you live in a glass house don't throw stone and if you can't take blow, don't throw blow." Simply-do onto others as you may want them to do to you.

To now hear that they are the ones calling in a certain group of church people is just ludicrous. And for these certain group of church people who could not rebuke them at the time to gown themselves and appear at the Traditional Council the other day under the guise of seeking clarity suggests to me that they, members of that certain group don't even understand the scriptures that they preach every Sunday. May I refer them to the book of Genesis when God spoke of things into being after their kinds or better still the law of sowing time and harvest time.

Now, they have begun plowing the ground sowing another seed that will likely yield ugly fruits that will spew into their faces. Their supporters are now saying which members of our village is allow in certain part of our village and they sit in bemusement.

But the good old Book says do onto others as you may want them to do to you. The time is coming that the very measures they are now using against others will play out right back to them. I hope their partisan preachers are watching and listening.



With Jones Mallay

LIBERIA POLITICAL

HOT-FIRE

fredrickdiamondm@yahoo.com

A Panorama View on Voodoo and Juju Powers Versus the Sudden Deaths of Innocent Young Liberian Politicians in the Liberian Legislature

The defeated party may continue to seek additional voodoo and juju support at all costs as a means of fighting back. But such a very serious dog fight often leads to another individual killing the other, and the one currently occupying the position can be three times vulnerable to the danger of the other person's voodoo and juju connections.

To be a Lawmaker within the Liberian Legislature is a superb lucrative business in Liberia. The job itself is capable to get one out of poverty sooner rather than later if he/she wins. The heavenly good news is that when one is elected as a representative, he/she is paid the sum of \$7000 US a month with additional fringe benefits including gas slips and security guard services, a cook not forgetting a gardener especially for the one that served as Speaker and or President pro tempore.

In the case of an elected Senator, he/she is paid US\$15000 a month with huge benefits for staying in power for 9-years or more. This is the reason while an elected position such as representative or senator comes with a dangerous price to pay.

Elected positions are considered outstanding, indispensable, and highly competitive. A representative or senator portfolio can attract wealth accumulation in a very short period, but it comes with a very big price. This political narrative revealed that the fight among multiple impoverished young adolescent Liberian politicians is a death or survival game in most instances.

To succeed as a representative or senator, one must engage in an extreme witchcraft initiatives, ritualistic killings, human sacrifice, ritual sacrifice, or the search for human body parts or to solicit a special ordained praying fanatic Man-Of-God who are spiritually inclined to fast and pray for victory in one's representative and or senatorial elections.

Others will use cash violence as another approach to willfully kill their opponents in cold blood. That is how desperate the representative and senate races can be in Liberia according to the source. Another chilling revelation speaks volumes about some innocent young politicians traveling as far as other African Countries like Benin, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Guinea, Togo to consult with blood-sucking oracles, voodoo and juju priests who demand fresh human parts to fix medicinal materials for success in any elected race in Liberia.

Those blood-sucking demons will first request for several fresh human hearts, young babies' eyes, fingers, tongue, private parts, brains, and several other sensitive human parts of an innocent child to be used purposely to destroy the lives of their opponents directly or indirectly in a representative or senatorial race in Liberia.

Another confirmed source revealed how some Liberian politicians go to Benin purposely to sleep with dead babies and dead pregnant women on display in caskets and the politician must stay in the casket for 4-days without food or water. Some are made to eat the flesh of a female's private parts with the desire of winning the representative or senate seat through such a high-level voodoo and juju encountered.

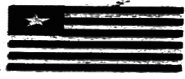
Some politicians are forced to have sexual intercourse with dead bodies to intensify their grip on power and to also eliminate their opponents instantly.

Another source pointed out that Liberian politicians interact with lived snakes primarily to get a 100% chance in a representative or senatorial election. Some politicians are given a special powder to sprinkle around the offices of their opponents that would make them very sick and they would eventually die before the race would commence in earnest. A blood-related substance is also given to a politician to place them on top of their opponent. These sad narratives have continued to reverberate across the Liberian Legislature up to present the source indicated.

Young politicians can either quit now and or redirect their interests and attention elsewhere or solicit strong backup support from a supernatural power either by drinking human blood or bathing themselves with said human blood simply to sustain themselves in power in the Liberian Legislature.

If for some reason a young man/woman is not ready for a prime-time elected position within the Liberian Legislature could be a very wise decision any sound-minded young Liberian politician could easily make or take the bull by its horns and die later.

MOVEMENT FOR PROGRESSIVE CHANGE (MPC) FINANCIAL STATEMENT



Republic of Liberia
Montserrado County

Office of the Notary Public
Monrovia, Liberia

NOTARY CERTIFICATE

Personally Appeared before me in my office within the City of Monrovia, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia, this 5th day of August, 2020, J. Edwin C. Walker, Jr. duly qualified and commissioned Notary Public for and in the County of Montserrado and in the Republic of Liberia, the Parties to the attached instruments

MOVEMENT FOR PROGRESSIVE CHANGE FINANCIAL STATEMENT RECEIVING HIGHER THAN 20% OF THE VOTES AND REGISTERED ON THIS DAY

And did in my presence and in the presence of each other execute and sign their genuine signatures as on the said Instrument (s) to be the person (s) they represent and that the same was made in my presence and declared by each of them to be their voluntary acts and in their own best interests.

Therefore, J. Edwin C. Walker, Jr., Notary Public aforesaid, have attached my Official Signature, Notary Seal to said Instrument and where Necessary.

I have affixed my genuine Signature attesting to this transaction by the power vested in me this

5th day of August A.D. 2020



NOTARY PUBLIC, MONTSERRADO COUNTY, R.L.



National Elections Commission



Annual Report 2020 Form 1

Form 1, Designation of Treasurer and Political Party Bank

A. Political party/Alliance/ Coalition

1	Name of Political Party/ Alliance/Coalition	Movement for Progressive Change
2	Address	Airfield - Sinkor - Monrovia
3	Telephone	0881339117
4	Email	mpc.mpc.2017@gmail.com

B. Treasurer

1	Name of Treasurer	Helen Taylor
2	Address	Airfield - Sinkor - Monrovia
3	Telephone	0778095990
4	Email	mpc.mpc.2017@gmail.com

C. Details of all party Bank Accounts

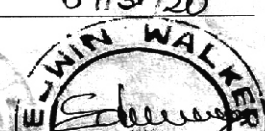
1	Name of Depository Bank	Liberian Bank for Development & Investment
2	Address	Ashmun & Randall Streets, Monrovia
3	Telephone	
4	Email	www.lbdi.net
5	Account number	002 US\$ 21920500501
6	Signatories	O'niel Paasewe

1	Name of Depository Bank	Liberian Bank for Development & Investment
2	Address	Ashmun & Randall Streets, Monrovia
3	Telephone	
4	Email	www.lbdi.net
5	Account number	002 US\$ 21920500501
6	Signatories	Honorable Simeon C.M. Freeman

1	Name of Depository Bank	
2	Address	
3	Telephone	
4	Email	
5	Account number	
6	Signatories	

O'niel Paasewe 07/31/20
Name of Party/Coalition/Alliance Chairman
Signature & Date

Helen Taylor 07/31/20
Name of Party/Coalition/Alliance Treasurer
Signature & Date



National Elections Commission



Annual Report 2020

Form 2

Form 2: Financial Summary

A. Financial Summary

1	Reporting period	01/08/19-07/31/20
2	Amount on hand at start of reporting period	\$ 10,015
3	Contributions received (from form 4) Summary	\$ 16,145 \$ 31,600
4	Expenditures Made (from Form 5)	\$ 16,145 \$ 31,600
5	Balance at the end of reporting period	\$ 10,015
6	Total Assets at the end of reporting period (from Form 2)	\$ 119,920
7	Total Liabilities at the end of reporting period (from Form 2)	None

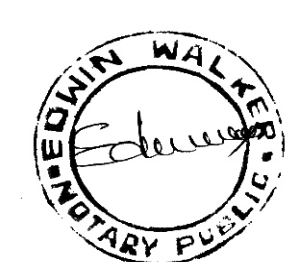
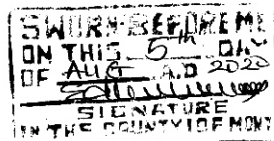
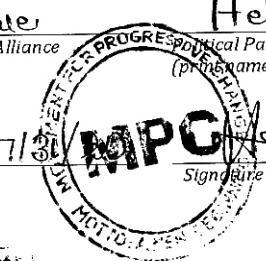
We, the undersigned do hereby certify that we have read the information on this form and it's supporting regulations and that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge.

O'niel Paasewe
Chairman of Party/Coalition/Alliance
(print name)

Helen Taylor
Political Party/Coalition/Alliance Treasurer
(print name)

07/31/20
Signature & Date

07/31/20
Signature & Date



MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Signs of trouble

-Cllr. Lavela Kobo Johnson alarms

By Ben P. Wese

Former Justice Minister Cllr. Lavela Kobo Johnson has outlined serious casualties under the George Weah led -government that he claims have gone with impunity, and alarms of signs of trouble

realize that after few weeks, those [incidents] become history and those that are killed or effected in the process become only casualty of George Weah led government," Cllr. Johnson says.

Speaking Tuesday, 4 August at the offices of his law firm, Cllr. Johnson cautions Liberians

not averted, put the country on a timed bomb.

Cllr. Johnson warns that the country may gradually slip into severe chaos unprecedented in Liberia's history, as he recalls the Montserrado County District #13 incident in Gardnersville, noting that the ruling party Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) youth league chair and Monrovia Mayor Jefferson Kogee allegedly led his CDC youth wing to participate in a violence.

He explains that Koijee and the CDC youth wing were visibly seen participating in the violence that unfolded with no results of investigation by the government made public for the Liberian people to know the decision taken by the government.

He states that President Weah had commissioned an investigation into that incident, just for the record.

Additionally, Cllr. Johnson says CDC supporters were allegedly involved in another violence in District #15 of Montserrado against opposition Representative candidate Ms. Tela Urey who was only exercising her political franchise as a bona fide Liberian with all the requisite qualifications to

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10



Liberia protesters clash with police

here.

"We wish to catalogue few [incidents] that remain fresh on the minds of every Liberian, wherein the government has made promises of bringing the perpetrators to book only to

to be mindful of the level of violence being perpetrated in the country with impunity, noting that the war has long been over, yet, Liberians continue to experience a pattern of violence which are the early warning signs that if

Cheesemanburg residents upset

-over abandoned prison project

By Emmanuel Mondaye

Residents of Cheesemanburg Township, Montserrado County are outrage over what they claim abandonment of a central prison construction project in the area.

A resident of the township Boika Molly, explains that during the regime of Ex-president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, residents provided 35 acres of land to the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) to construct a new prison facility for the area.

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) reportedly contributed US\$300, 0000.00 (Three Hundred Thousands United States Dollars) while the former Sirleaf administration provided US\$200, 000.00 (Two Hundred Thousand United States Dollars) when the project started.

However, Boika disclosed that to their surprise, the Ministry of Justice allegedly abandoned the project after elevation of two of the structures that form part of the prison facilities, leaving it to be

overtaken by huge bush.

He says residents of the township did not give the land to the Ministry of Justice to be left at the mercy of trees and bushes, but rather to be developed, which is not happening.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10



Cummings decries high rape cases in Liberia

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

The national chairman of the Collaborating Political Parties or CPP alarms here that reported rape cases in Liberia has become a pandemic.

Mr. Alexander Cummings notes however, that unfortunately, the administration of justice appears to weigh favorably for accused persons than it does in support of victims and survivors. "This imbalance is so bad that it is actually more difficult to report and investigate cases of rape and sexual abuse. As a result, many victims and survivors opt to endure in life-long silence and mental agony. The underfunding of our judicial sector and the flagrant efforts to politically influence and undermine justice is clearly destroying the lives of far too many of our citizens. It is also

can also be credited for shelving the law after passing it because cases of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) continue to rise. By their own numbers, the total number of SGBV cases for 2018 was 2,145 but increased in 2019 to 2,590 cases. So far this year, about 600 cases were reported from January-March with only 32 cases prosecuted. This is unacceptable," Cummings he expresses.

According to him, also unacceptable is the reported statistics that of these numbers, over 90 percent of men are alleged perpetrators. Mr. Cummings recounts that recently, a stepfather who raped his 15-year-old stepchild was apprehended and is under investigation, while a male officer of the Liberian National Police allegedly raped a 15-year-old girl in the King Gray Community, including a young girl allegedly raped by a Pastor.



Mr. Alexander Cummings

weaning public confidence in the justice system," he decries. Speaking in a news conference in Monrovia Wednesday, he cited that a prime example is the case of a CDC lawmaker and executive of the ruling Coalition, who continues to use his political influence, proximity to the President and affluence to imprison and try a young woman who is alleging that he had sexually harassed her, noting that this is the height of silencing, and where officials of the government should give voices to alleged victims and survivors, they are effectively silencing them. "Today, the statistics are grim. Not since the civil war has there been such a massive number of cases reported. It must be said that this government is credited for passing the Domestic Violence Law. But it

He says the CPP cannot continue to sit idly and fail these innocent victims many of whom, he laments, are being deprived of their adolescence.

"We must end rape, and sexual abuse and violence. To do this, we must fix the justice system. We can do this by repairing the prevailing institutional weaknesses to include: providing psycho-social support to survivors, as well as logistical, financial and other technical support to our health and legal systems to improve their investigatory and prosecutorial capacities," the opposition leader recommends. President George Weah has declared himself as chief feminist of Liberia, but the administration seems to have turned blind eyes on widespread abuses against women and girls here. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

National Elections Commission



Annual Report 2020 Form 3

Form 3, Assets and Liabilities

1	Name of Political Party/Alliance/Coalition	Movement for Progressive Change
2	Dates of Assessment of Assets	July 29, 2020



If any section does not provide enough space, attach a separate sheet to continue.

Assets List all monies, balance of bank accounts, business documentation, stocks, securities, bonds, real estates, vehicles and any fixed assets of the Political Party/ Alliance/ Coalition.

Description of asset	Location of asset	Current market value
Office Building-Headquarters	Airfield-Sinkor-Monrovia	\$40,000
Toyota Land Cruiser	Airfield-Sinkor-Monrovia	\$12,000
Pathfinder Jeep	Airfield-Sinkor-Monrovia	\$5,000
Toyota Pickup	Airfield-Sinkor-Monrovia	\$9,000
Office Building- Buchanan	Buchanan-Grand Bassa County	\$10,000
Office Building- Kakata	Kakata-Margibi County	\$10,000
Office Building- Gbarnga	Gbarnga-Bong County	\$10,000
Computer & Internet Accessories	Airfield-Sinkor-Monrovia	\$400
Conference Table-Headquarters	Airfield-Sinkor-Monrovia	\$300
Conference Room Set, Desk, Chairs	Airfield-Sinkor-Monrovia	\$700
Map (8pcs) Poles (8pcs) & Billboard (4) Mon, Buch, Gbarnga & Kakata		\$1,500
Bank Balance	LB DI	\$10,015

National Elections Commission



Annual Report 2020 Form 3B

Liabilities: State all debts, obligations, promissory notes, credits and guarantees for such liabilities.

Type of liability	Creditor	Terms of repayment	Value
X	X	X	X

Income: State all incomes realized during the last twelve (12) months (from business transactions)

Income (in US\$/LDS)	For period	Source of income
X	X	X

We, the undersigned do hereby certify that we have read the information on this form and its supporting regulations and that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge.

Oriel Paaseue

Chairman of Party/Coalition/Alliance (print name)

Signature & Date

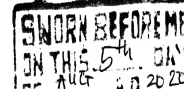
30/07/20

Helen Taylor

Political Party/Coalition/Alliance Treasurer (print name)

Signature & Date

30/07/20



National Elections Commission



Annual Report 2020 Form 4

Form 4, Itemized contributions (Due or Donation)

1	Name of Political Party/Alliance/Coalition	Movement for Progressive Change
2	Report period	From: 08/01/19 To: 07/31/20



Note all monetary and non-monetary contributions and donations

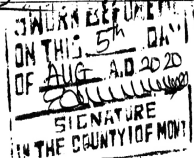
Name	Address	Occupation	Description of contribution	Value	Date received
Hon. Simeon Freeman	Beverly Hills/Brewerville	Business Man	3 Vehicles	\$26,000	09/15/17-07-31-20
Hon. Simeon Freeman	-/-		Payment for 4 offices	\$12,000	
Hon. Simeon Freeman			COVID-19 Response 1500 bags of rice	\$19,500	05-28-2020-07-28-2020
Hon. Simeon Freeman			COVID-19 Response 2000 pcs of nose mask	\$500	05-28-2020-07-28-2020
Members	Airfield-Sinkor	membership nationwide	Cash/Due	\$750	11-05-2019-05-07-2020
Hon. Simeon Freeman	Beverly Hills/Brewerville	Business Man	3rd National Convention	\$3200	06-25-27-2020
Hon. Simeon Freeman			Conference table set	\$300	06-24-2020
Hon. Simeon Freeman			Cash/Rent payment	\$6000	04-01-2020
Members	Airfield-Sinkor	Members	Cash/Due	\$250	09-05-2019-11-09-2020

We, the undersigned do hereby certify that we have read the information on this form and its supporting regulations and that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge.

Oriel Paaseue

Chairman of Party/Coalition/Alliance (print name)

Signature & Date

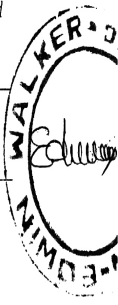


Helen Taylor

Political Party/Coalition/Alliance Treasurer (print name)

Signature & Date

07/30/20



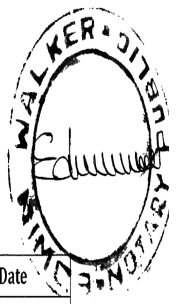
National Elections Commission



Annual Report 2020 Form 5

Form 5, Itemized Expenditure

1	Name of Political Party/Alliance/Coalition	Movement for Progressive Change
2	Report period	From: 08-01-19 To: 07-31-20



List all expenditure made during the reporting period

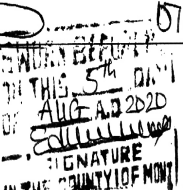
Name of recipient	Address	Purpose	Value	Date
Mrs. Letitia Reeves	Duport Road	Rent payment for Headquarter	\$6000	04-01-20
Oriel Paaseue	Airfield-Sinkor	Cash for 3rd National Convention	\$3200	06-25-27-20
Oriel Paaseue	Airfield-Sinkor	Cash for COVID-19 (1500) bags of rice	\$19,500	05-18-07-28-20
John D. Barbone	Airfield-Sinkor	Cash for COVID-19 (2000) pcs nose mask	\$350	05-18-07-28-20
Catherine Gaudin	Airfield-Sinkor	Cells/plumbing/Renovation	\$515	06-26-07-30-20
Oriel Paaseue	Airfield-Sinkor	Conference table, Chair, & Transport	\$1300	03-14-07-30-20
Catherine Gaudin	Airfield-Sinkor	Internet accessories/Subscription	\$750	12-03-19-07-29-20
John D. Barbone	Airfield-Sinkor	Cash/Allowance for Officials	\$400	07-24-2020

We, the undersigned do hereby certify that we have read the information on this form and its supporting regulations and that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge.

Oriel Paaseue

Chairman of Party/Coalition/Alliance (print name)

Signature & Date



Helen Taylor

Political Party/Coalition/Alliance Treasurer (print name)

Signature & Date

07-31-20

Français

La mouvance présidentielle qualifie les menaces de l'opposition de « paroles vides »

La Coalition pour le changement démocratique (mouvance présidentielle) a qualifié d'insensés les propos du sénateur du comté de Montserrado, Abraham Darius Dillon, qui a mis en garde le président George Manneh Weah contre toute tentative de tripoter les élections sénatoriales de mi-mandat en décembre, au

risque de perdre son fauteuil présidentiel sous la pression de la rue.

« C'est une propagande bon marché et vide de sens », a martelé la coalition au pouvoir.

Animant un point de presse à Monrovia le 4 août au siège du Congrès pour le Changement Démocratique (Parti au pouvoir) à Congo Town, le président national de la majorité présidentielle,

MulbahMorlu, a déclaré que les propos du sénateur du comté de Montserrado sont un signe clair de défaite bien avant les élections sénatoriales spéciales de décembre 2020.

« Le sénateur Dillon sent la défaite et la seule option qu'il a est de répandre le mensonge, d'induire le peuple en erreur par une propagande bon marché », a-t-il dit.

Selon lui, le sénateur du Parti de la Liberté n'a pas la capacité de perturber la paix du pays car le CDC est prêt à le déloger dans les urnes le 08 décembre.

Le sénateur Abraham Darius Dillon, la semaine dernière, a mis en garde le président George Manneh Weah contre toute tentative de tricoter les résultats des prochaines élections sénatoriales qui auront lieu le 08 décembre 2020 sous peine d'être chassé du pouvoir.

L'opposition craint que le parti au pouvoir ne truque les élections. « Nous savons ce

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



La NEC annonce la révision de la liste électorale en vue des prochaines élections sénatoriales

La Commission électorale nationale (NEC) a dévoilé le chronogramme des activités électorales, dont la révision de la liste électorale, en vue des élections sénatoriales de mi-mandat prévues pour avoir lieu le 8 décembre 2020.

La présidente de la NEC, Mme Davidetta Brown-Lassanah, a déclaré mardi 4 août que la révision de la liste électorale de 2017 est conforme à la résolution conjointe du parlement en vue de garantir l'authenticité des prochaines élections.

« Dans le cadre de la résolution conjointe signée par le parlement libérien relative à l'organisation du référendum et des élections sénatoriales le 8 décembre 2020, la commission électorale a été demandée de mettre en place un mécanisme permettant aux principales parties prenantes d'examiner la liste électorale », a déclaré Mme Brown-Lassanah.

Pour garantir l'authenticité et la crédibilité des élections de 2020, dont le référendum, et des élections à venir, la liste électorale de 2017 doit être

révisée et la NEC doit faire participer les techniciens des partis politiques et des parties prenantes, a indiqué le numéro un de la commission électorale.

« Aujourd'hui, nous sommes très heureux d'avoir atteint cet objectif. Sur cette note, le conseil d'administration de la NEC et le personnel lancent aujourd'hui cette revue de la mise à jour de la liste électorale », s'est-elle réjouie.

Le commissaire Brown-Lassanah a également indiqué que la mise à jour de la liste

électorale est une injonction de la Cour suprême du Libéria.

La Commission électorale a ainsi demandé à chaque parti politique de soumettre le nom de ses techniciens pour faire partie du processus qui devrait durer deux semaines.

A rappeler que la liste électorale fut le sujet du contentieux lors des élections présidentielle et législatives de 2017. L'ancien porte-étendard du Liberty Party, feu

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Présidentielle en Guinée : le parti d'Alpha Condé réuni pour désigner son candidat

Le Premier ministre de Guinée, Kassory Fofana, a ouvert mercredi la convention électorale du parti au pouvoir chargée de désigner son candidat à la présidentielle, plaidant en faveur du président Alpha Condé dont l'éventuelle candidature à un troisième mandat est vivement contestée par l'opposition.

"Cette convention se tient à un moment particulier où le monde est confronté à la pandémie du Covid-19 et où les violences sont récurrentes. L'adversité est menaçante mais je suis sûr que nous sortirons victorieux sous le leadership du président Alpha Condé", a déclaré M. Fofana devant quelque 350 délégués du

début d'année d'une nouvelle loi fondamentale lors d'un référendum boycotté par l'opposition, permet selon ses partisans à M. Condé, 82 ans, élu en 2010 et réélu en 2015, de remettre les compteurs à zéro. M. Condé, qui n'était pas présent à l'ouverture de la convention, a jusqu'à présent entretenu l'ambiguïté sur ses intentions, répétant que "c'est (son) parti qui décidera".

L'opposition guinéenne, qui est persuadée qu'Alpha Condé briguera un troisième mandat, avait d'abord appelé à manifester jeudi, avant de reporter le rassemblement "en raison des examens scolaires".

Lancée mi-octobre par le Front national pour la défense



Rassemblement du peuple de Guinée (RPG) réunis au Palais du peuple, siège de l'Assemblée nationale à Conakry. La convention doit durer jusqu'à jeudi. La date du 18 octobre proposée par la commission électorale pour le premier tour de la présidentielle, n'a pas encore été validée par le chef de l'État.

"C'est la convention pour la consécration du professeur Alpha Condé. Nous voulons qu'il soit notre candidat", a déclaré à l'AFP un délégué de Kouroussa, en Haute-Guinée (centre), Fantamady Diakité.

La Constitution guinéenne limite le nombre de mandats à deux, mais l'adoption en

de la Constitution (FNDC), formé des principaux partis d'opposition et d'organisations de la société civile, la mobilisation anti-Condé, plusieurs fois réprimée, a fait des dizaines de morts parmi les manifestants.

Alpha Condé, ancien opposant historique, est devenu en 2010 le premier président démocratiquement élu après des décennies de régimes autoritaires dans cette ancienne colonie française d'Afrique de l'Ouest où plus de la moitié de la population vit dans la pauvreté malgré la richesse de son sous-sol.

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Français

La mouvance présidentielle

que nous ont causé le trucage des élections », a déclaré Dillon à un groupe de chefs religieux qui s'étaient rendus à son bureau pour s'enquérir du sens de sa déclaration selon laquelle le mandat du président sera écourté s'il truque les élections.

Le président Morlu dit comprendre le sénateur Dillon, car « s'il continue de battre le tambour de guerre, c'est parce qu'il a peur et se sent déjà battu bien avant le début la bataille électorale ».

« Mais aucune menace ne peut sauver Dillon maintenant, car il est loin derrière les lignes de bataille. Il ressentira la colère des militants du CDC et de tous les Libériens dont l'esprit est éclairé et qui savent qu'il n'a rien fait depuis qu'il a été élu sénateur, à part l'organisation des violentes manifestations et les menaces », a dit le président national du parti au pouvoir.

« Quoiqu'il ne soit capable de renverser ce régime, nous ne prenons pas ses menaces à la légère car lui et ses cohortes sont capables de provoquer des troubles majeurs qui risquent de causer des pertes en vies humaines et la destruction des biens publics et privés. Néanmoins, les militants du CDC doivent continuer à rester pacifiques et concentrés. Il ne faut pas qu'ils suivent le chemin destructeur de la violence. Comme je l'ai souvent dit, si quelqu'un vous gifle sur l'oreille droite, tendez-lui l'oreille gauche, rien ne justifie la violence », a-t-il déclaré.

Parlant des récentes violences qui ont eu lieu dans le comté de Grand Gedeh, où le chef de l'opposition Alexander Cummings et le représentant Kekeh Kolubah ont été attaqués par des jeunes qui seraient membres de la ligue des jeunes du parti au pouvoir, Morlu a déclaré que l'état de droit doit à tout moment rester le seul recours pour résoudre les

autres, car rien ne justifie la violence.

« Si l'arc de l'univers moral se pliait vers la justice dans toutes les situations relatives à l'expression de griefs dans le pays, alors cela devait être fait par l'État de droit et non par la violence », a-t-il ajouté.

« La violence est antithétique du CDC ; nous devons tous embrasser la tolérance et la liberté d'expression. Cependant, les insultes et l'indiscipline flagrante contre le président et les dirigeants de notre pays, les chefs, les anciens et les fonctionnaires ne relèvent pas du contexte et de la définition de la liberté d'expression. Insulter les dirigeants nationaux est non seulement contre la paix, mais aussi anti-culturel et viole toutes les normes et tabous sociaux. Ce modèle de comportement irresponsable est appelé déviance et doit être condamné et stoppé. Ainsi, alors que nous nous hâtons tous de condamner la violence, nous sommes tous sous la contrainte morale de condamner également la déviance, des actions qui vont à l'encontre des normes et standards sociaux, menant des réactions négatives du public », a-t-il déclaré lors de la conférence de presse.

Il a indiqué que dans ce contexte, les militants du CDC conviennent tous clairement que si la situation qui s'est produite dans le sud-est ne peut être justifiée, il s'agit pourtant le résultat d'un acte de provocation exagérée, en particulier lorsque l'on commence à appeler les populations du sud-est des « poulets à abattre », en présence du chef de l'opposition, Alexander Cummings, qui aurait donné son approbation tacite.

Les violences qui se sont produites jeudi dernier à Zwedru, dans le comté de Grand Gedeh, ont été largement condamnées par les Libériens tant dans le pays qu'à l'étranger, ainsi que par le groupe parlementaire de Grand Gedeh qui a qualifié cet acte de « honteux et embarrassant ».

La NEC annonce la révision

et le Parti de l'unité l'avaient qualifiée de source de fraude électorales.

Pour sa part, Ciapha Gbolie, vice-présidente des affaires politiques de la Coalition nationale démocratique, S'exprimant au nom des partis politiques, a applaudi la commission électorale du

indépendante pour ce qu'il a qualifié de bon début du processus.

« Comme nous nous sommes plaints du nettoyage de la liste électorale, nous voulons dire que vous avez obtenu notre soutien le plus complet. Nous allons envoyer nos représentants pour nous assurer que la liste électorale est en

COMMENTAIRE

By Edmund S. Phelps

La question du robot

NEW YORK - Les robots ne sont plus notre avenir, ils sont bel et bien là. La pandémie de COVID-19 précipite la propagation de l'intelligence artificielle (IA), mais peu d'entre eux ont pleinement pris en compte les conséquences à court et à long terme.

En ce qui concerne l'IA, il est naturel de commencer du point de vue de l'économie sociale - la productivité et la distribution. Quels sont les effets économiques de robots capables de reproduire le travail humain ? Ces préoccupations n'ont rien de nouveau. Au XIXe siècle, bien des gens redoutaient que les nouvelles innovations mécaniques et industrielles ne remplacent les travailleurs. Les mêmes inquiétudes s'expriment à nouveaux frais de nos jours.

Prenons le modèle d'une économie nationale dans laquelle le travail effectué par les robots correspond à celui effectué par les humains. Le volume total de main-d'œuvre - robotique et humaine - reflétera le nombre de travailleurs humains, H, plus le nombre de robots, R. Dans ce cas, les robots sont additifs - ils ajoutent à la population active plutôt qu'ils ne multiplient la productivité humaine. Pour compléter le modèle de la manière la plus simple, supposons que l'économie ne comporte qu'un seul secteur, et que la production globale soit produite par le capital et la main-d'œuvre totale, humaine et robotique. Cette production assure la consommation du pays, le reste étant orienté vers les investissements, ce qui va ainsi augmenter le stock de capital.

Quel est l'impact économique initial de l'arrivée de ces robots additifs ? L'économie élémentaire montre qu'une augmentation de la main-d'œuvre totale par rapport au capital initial (une baisse du ratio capital-travail) entraîne une baisse des salaires et une augmentation des bénéfices.

Il faut ajouter trois points à cela. Premièrement, les résultats seraient amplifiés si les robots additifs étaient créés à partir de biens d'équipement remodelés. Cela produirait la même augmentation de la main-d'œuvre totale, avec une réduction proportionnelle du stock de capital, mais la baisse du taux salarial et l'augmentation du taux de profit seraient plus importantes.

Deuxièmement, rien ne changerait si nous adoptions le cadre à deux secteurs de l'École autrichienne, dans lequel la main-d'œuvre produit les biens capitaux et où les biens capitaux produisent les biens de consommation. L'arrivée de robots diminuerait encore le ratio capital-travail, comme dans le cas du scénario à secteur unique.

Troisièmement, il existe un parallèle frappant entre les robots additifs de ce modèle et les immigrants nouvellement arrivés dans leur impact sur les travailleurs autochtones. En poussant à la baisse le ratio capital-travail, les immigrants, à leur tour, ont initialement fait chuter les salaires et augmenter les bénéfices. Mais il faut noter qu'avec le taux de profit élevé, le taux d'investissements va augmenter. En raison de la loi du rendement décroissant, ces investissements supplémentaires vont faire baisser le taux de profit jusqu'à ce qu'il soit retombé à la normale. À ce stade, le ratio capital-travail sera ramené à ce qu'il était avant l'arrivée des robots, et le taux salarial sera ramené à la hausse.

Certes, le grand public a tendance à penser que la « robotisation » (et l'automatisation en général) conduisent à une disparition permanente des emplois, et donc à la « paupérisation » de la classe ouvrière. Mais ces craintes sont exagérées. Les deux modèles décrits ci-dessus sont extraits du progrès technologique familial qui entraîne une hausse de la productivité et des salaires, ce qui rend raisonnable d'anticiper que l'économie mondiale maintiendra un

certain niveau de croissance de la productivité du travail et de la rémunération par travailleur.

Il est vrai que la robotisation durable pourrait laisser les salaires sur une trajectoire inférieure à celle qu'ils auraient suivie autrement, ce qui risque d'entraîner des problèmes sociaux et politiques. Il peut s'avérer souhaitable, comme Bill Gates l'a suggéré un jour, de prélever des impôts sur les revenus du travail robotisé, tout comme les pays imposent des taxes sur les revenus du travail humain. Une idée de ce genre mérite d'être prise au sérieux. Mais les craintes d'une robotisation prolongée semblent irréalistes. Si la main-d'œuvre robotique augmentait à un rythme non nul, elle se reproduirait dans les limites de l'espace, de l'atmosphère, et ainsi de suite.

En outre, l'IA a apporté non seulement des robots « additifs » mais également des robots « multiplicatifs » qui améliorent la productivité des travailleurs. Certains robots multiplicatifs permettent aux gens de travailler plus rapidement ou plus efficacement (comme dans la chirurgie assistée par l'IA), tandis que d'autres aident les gens à accomplir des tâches qu'ils ne pourraient pas accomplir autrement.

L'arrivée de robots multiplicatifs ne doit pas nécessairement conduire à une longue récession de l'emploi et des salaires globaux. Pourtant, tout comme les robots additifs, ils ont leurs « inconvénients ». De nombreuses applications de l'IA ne sont pas entièrement sûres. L'exemple évident est celui des voitures sans pilotes, qui peuvent percuter (et qui l'ont déjà fait) des piétons ou d'autres voitures. Mais, bien sûr, il en va de même des conducteurs humains.

Une société n'a pas tort, en principe, de déployer des robots susceptibles d'erreurs occasionnelles, tout comme nous tolérons des pilotes d'avion qui ne sont pas parfaits. Nous devons en estimer les coûts et les avantages. À des fins d'efficacité, les individus devraient avoir le droit de poursuivre en justice les propriétaires de robots pour des dommages et intérêts. Inévitablement, une société se sentira mal à l'aise avec les nouvelles méthodes qui introduisent de « l'incertitude ».

Du point de vue éthique, l'interface avec l'IA implique des informations « imparfaites » et « asymétriques ». Comme le dit Wendy Hall de l'Université de Southampton, en amplifiant l'argument de Nicholas Beale, « nous ne pouvons pas simplement compter sur les systèmes d'IA pour qu'ils agissent de manière éthique parce que leurs objectifs semblent neutres sur le plan éthique. »

En effet, certains nouveaux dispositifs peuvent porter de graves préjudices. Les puces implantables pour l'amélioration cognitive, par exemple, peuvent causer des dommages irréversibles aux tissus cérébraux. La question est donc de savoir si des lois et des procédures peuvent être instituées pour protéger les gens contre un degré de préjudice raisonnable. Ceci une fois exclu, un grand nombre de gens appellent les entreprises de la Silicon Valley à mettre en place leurs propres « comités éthiques ».

Tout cela me rappelle les critiques formulées à l'égard des innovations tout au long de l'histoire du capitalisme de l'économie de marché. L'une de ces critiques, le livre *Gemeinschaft und Gesellschaft* du sociologue Ferdinand Tönnies, est finalement devenue influente en Allemagne dans les années 1920 et a conduit au « corporatisme » que ce pays a connu, tout comme l'Italie dans l'entre-deux-guerres - mettant ainsi fin à l'économie de marché de ces pays.

De toute évidence, notre façon d'aborder les problèmes suscités par l'IA sera lourde de conséquences. Mais ces problèmes ne sont pas encore présents à grande échelle et ne sont pas la principale cause de l'insatisfaction et de la polarisation qui s'est emparée de l'Occident.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Massive education proposed to limit domestic violence



By Winston W. Parley

Amidst reported 900 cases of Sexual and Gender - Based Violence (SGBV) against women and children through January to May 2020, Liberian National Bar Association (LNBA) president Cllr. Tiawon Gongloe proposes that the government through the Ministries of Gender, Education and Internal Affairs undertakes massive public

awareness to limit violation of the law.

Presenting Thursday, 6 August during a policy dialogue in Congo Town on Domestic Violence Law under the auspices of ActionAid Liberia and other stakeholders, Cllr. Gongloe warned that in the absence of massive public education, people will continue to violate laws, even though ignorance to the law is no excuse.

“The Ministries of Gender and Social [Protection] and Education, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs should engage in massive public awareness on the existence of this law,” he says.

He notes that generally domestic violence is committed by the strong against the weak in every household, and most often the wives and children are the victims while once in a while, the husband can be a victim because he is physically weak or non-violent.

Cllr. Gongloe says the Domestic Violence Act is good for making every household in Liberia a safe place for every member, and serves as a deterrence for perpetrators of domestic violence.

But he suggests that the Ministry of Internal Affairs deploys monitors in all of the counties here with the motives to make unannounced visits to homes as a way of encouraging adherence to the domestic violence law.

According to him, the idea

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Man held for goat theft

By Emmanuel Mondaye

Scores of community watch team members in Kingsville Township, Montserrado County have apprehended a 51-year-old man, Moses Pewee, for allegedly stealing a goat.

Witnesses told this paper the incident happened early Tuesday, 04 August, as members of the watch team conducted regular patrol in the community when they discovered suspect Pewee carrying the goat on his shoulder.

Patrick KlahSayon disclosed that when suspect Pewee encountered them, he attempted escaping the community but was apprehended and turned over to the Liberia National Police (LNP) for investigation.

Patrick recounted that unscrupulous individuals have been in the constant habit of stealing livestock owned by Abraham Keita, a resident of Kingsville Township.

He disclosed that Mr. Keita had complained to the watch team that criminals were



stealing his cattle, so he needed its assistance to whosoever involved to book.

He said watch team members then started monitoring the community when suspect Moses fell in their dragnet with a female goat that was already pregnant before allegedly killing it.

Patrick narrated further that after the suspect was arrested, he (Moses) pleaded for forgiveness but the watch team refused on grounds that so many goats had been stolen by

unidentified persons from Kingsville.

He said suspect Moses is the first criminal arrested by the watch team since it was informed by Mr. Keita, noting that more criminals would be apprehended under their watch.

He added that the suspect was safely protected to avoid angry residents from attacking and wounding him before the police could arrive to receive Moses' living body. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Signs of trouble

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participate in the democratic process here.

“The violence in District 10 on the road wherein a group known as sabu unit, and protector of President Weah invaded Representative YekehKolubah's party where individuals got wounded,” he continues.

“Again, no investigation or punishment against the perpetrator has ever been launched. The 72nd broad day fatal shooting of an innocent lady by a police officer is another example of violence which occurred under the watchful eyes of President Weah and the Liberian people remain witnesses to his inaction in all of these instances,” Johnson narrates.

The former Justice Minister continues that CDC supporters also flogged Deputy Police Inspector General for Operations Marvin Sackor at the CDC party headquarters, and yet the public is left at sea on what action the government has taken on that incident.

Cllr. Johnson further points out the recent violence carried out in Grand Gedeh County against opposition Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) delegation in Zwedru.

He says he joins all the peace-loving Liberians to vehemently condemn the cowardly act of all those who perpetrated the violence on the CPP delegation that was ending its southeastern tour.

“Mr. President, your true

colors are showing very fast and it appears that you need to be yourself and don't let power or the authority take over your ability to govern this country,” Cllr. Johnson cautions President Weah.

He notes that the president cannot successfully govern this country if he sits idle and allow violence to take over Liberia.

“what I can promise you Mr. President is that Liberia as a country will no longer sit idle for chaos to overtake its territory and you as the president will provide peace, stability, unity and tranquility during your term of office or we will demand of it from you through the rule of law and by the very oath you took to preside over this country as its president,” Cllr. Johnson says.

He states that one cannot complain about the heat while in the kitchen, saying the president has no excuse from providing that leadership that he fought for over 12 unbroken years.

“Liberians will not take your excuses to the market at all,” Cllr. Johnson warns.

According to Cllr. Johnson, he gathered information that Grand Gedeh County Superintendent Kai Farley allegedly told Representative Kolubah and the CPP delegation to leave Grand Gedeh County because the people of the county did not want them there.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

Cheesemanburg residents

Cont'd from page 5

The 35 acres of land is situated in central Cheesemanburg, adjacent the main car road leading to the township. The reported abandonment gives the area a bad look, which is currently covered in by bush and trees.

He calls on the Ministry of Justice to provide reasons for abandoning the construction project, noting that the land will not be there without it being developed in line with agreement entered into with the residents.

The project for the Cheesemanburg prison

compound was reached after former Liberian President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf observed the Monrovia Central Prison Compound, the government's maximum detention center in South Beach community, Center Street is overcrowded.

When the Commissioner of Cheesemanburg Township, Thomas Cassell, was contacted via mobile phone on the issue, he requested this paper to give him some time to investigate the matter before making any comment. *-Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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CDCians defy coronavirus

In defiance of health regulations here, ruling Congress for Democratic Change partisans, supporters and sympathizers in their thousands converged at the party's headquarters in Congo Town, outskirts of Monrovia, obstructing normal traffic flow in the Sinkor belt, to receive remains of late CDC lawmaker, Munah Pelham Youngblood.

The fallen lawmaker represented Montserrado County Electoral District#9 in the House of Representatives. She died July 2020, following

various communities across the capital in campaign style to their headquarters to pay last respect to the fallen partisan and lawmaker in flagrant disregard to social distancing, a critical health regulation in avoiding mass infection of the Coronavirus that has affected more than 1,000 persons here, including nearly 80 deaths.

However, party authorities set up hands washing stations at the headquarters' entrance and requested the flock to comply accordingly, including wearing of face masks before getting into the compound situated along the Tubman Boulevard.

Mr. Weah is quoted as saying the deceased was not just a loyal partisan and fighter of the CDC, but also a family member.

"She told me she wanted to go and rest because she had suffered too long. I am sure she is resting with the Lord", he told reporters.

When visited residence of the deceased last month, President Weah described fallen Representative Munah Pelham-Youngblood as a symbol of love, a true revolutionary and astute advocate for justice.

He encouraged the



Partisans queue at the CDC Headquarters to view the remains of the late Rep. Munah Pelham-Youngblood

protracted illness in Ghana, where she had gone to seek medication.

Her demise has been described as a serious impact on the struggle for gender equality and women empowerment in Liberia. She was a strong advocate for social justice, outspoken and staunch member of the CDC.

But despite stern warnings by the Ministry of Health and President George Manneh Weah for citizens to wear masks in public, observe social distancing and hands washing, CDCians Thursday, 06 August trekked from

President George Manneh Weah, Tuesday, August 4, signed the Book Of Condolence at the Capitol for Representative Youngblood.

The ceremony, which was characterized by sorrow and lamentations, was graced by several officials of government, including House Speaker Bhofal Chambers, Senate President Pro-Temp Albert Cheat, and many others.

According to the Executive Mansion, the President paid homage to the fallen Representative and briefly reflected on her life and his relationship with her.

bereaved family to trust and count on God for lasting comfort and peace as they mourn the death of their daughter, sister, mother and role model.

Meanwhile, President Weah has declared five days of national mourning at which time the Liberian flag must be flown at half-mast.

The late Rep. Youngblood is expected to be laid to rest on August 8, 2020 in Monrovia, the Executive Mansion says. - **Story by Jonathan Browne**

Massive education

Cont'd from page 10

of the massive public education on existing laws is that there are so many cases coming to the police stations and the courts, which are now overwhelming these organs of the justice system and may "take us so many years, maybe hundred years" to actually get them dealt with.

He warns that the absence of proper awareness on existing laws may appear like laws are set as a trap to prosecute violators.

Dr. Linda Birch, president of Liberia Medical and Dental Council says health practitioners face challenges at the various medical hubs when it comes to playing their roles in implementing the law, calling for political will and government's support to minimize these cases.

She suggests that there should be precedence set, void of selective justice, noting that "you cannot prosecute one person and another person commits the same act and when it comes to implementation of the law, it's a different thing."

Further, Dr. Birch discloses that health facilities hardly see domestic violence being reported by victims with the true story, saying victims will report motor accidents even when it is glaring that they are a victim of domestic violence.

"So if the people themselves are not willing to explain the story as it is, that itself creates a challenge for us

because you cannot go forward, you can't proceed," she says, adding that victims flee health facilities if further efforts are made to invite security.

Human Rights Commission Country Director Madam Caroline Browne states that domestic violence is more than just physical abuse, but it also includes emotional, physical and economic abuses, which is seen in homes where parents would refuse to provide financial support for their family.

Ms. Patience Landford, representing ActionAid Liberia, says through partnerships with stakeholders including the Association of Female Lawyers of Liberia (AFELL), they have been able to come together to actualize the empowerment of women and address sexual and gender - based violence here.

She thanks participants for their commitment in showing up at the dialogue in seeking a way to harmonize Liberian laws to ensure cohesiveness across the board.

Atty. Vivian Neal, AFELL president, says the statistics of 900 reported cases of sexual gender - based violence against women and children from January to May this year is alarming, saying it suggests that civil society must continue to contribute its ideas and efforts to finding lasting solution that will end violence against women and children.

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Starts from back page

You on your own

couldn't be difficult to tell the president but Mr. Blama kept things in secret until foreign source brought the full deal to the Executive Mansion, that unfair and the president to his decision to serve as deteriorate to others.

Minister McGill narrated that the sector also involved the Forestry Development Authority but the authorities of FDA also were left out of the discussion, so that makes it difficult for anyone to understand the entire deal and creates shade.

He noted if Mr. Blama knew that others should be involved those sectors should have been involved in the initial discussion, "it is unfortunate that he finds himself in that situation, every contract, agreement and concession interaction, the Ministry of Justice must be involved. When the matter was brought to our attention, the Justice Ministry was contacted and the ministry told us that legal procedurals were not followed," he said.

On August 05, President Weah dismissed Blama, Executive Director of

Environment Protection Agency (EPA). Mr. Blama, who was recently reinstated by the President, was dismissed on Wednesday, August 5th for acts of fraud.

Mr. Blama on March 7 2020, reportedly unilaterally signed US\$20million contract without the signatures of the Ministers of Justice and Finance contrary to the law and established governmental principles and procedures. Investigation conducted by the Ministry of Justice established that, Mr. Blama did not adhere to legal

requirements, standard procedures regarding the selling of the Government of Liberia assets.

Mr. Blama challenged the government to prosecute him with evidence if he did any wrong. He had been in conversation with the Minister of State for Presidential Affairs, Mr. Nathaniel McGill and the Minister of Finance concerning the agreement and they both expressed optimism that it would be a fruitful agreement.

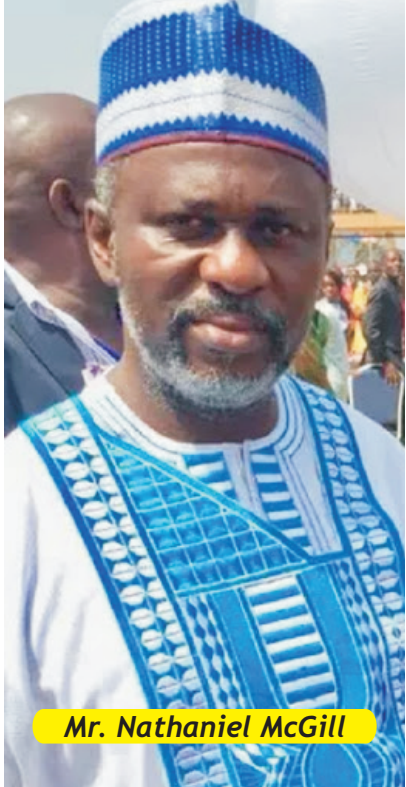
"It's a platform like the

Green Climate Fund, like the Adaptation Fund, like the Global Environment Facility Fund - it's the same kind of platform set up globally. We have had this discussion with the finance minister before, I've had the discussion with the Minister of State and they are aware," he said.

He explained that he signed the agreement on March 8, though it was dated on March 07 before leaving for Switzerland where he later returned COVID-19 positive.

You on your own

-McGill tells Blama to take responsibility



Mr. Nathaniel McGill



Mr. Nathaniel Blama

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Liberia's Minister of State for Presidential Affairs, Mr. Nathaniel McGill has sharply responded to the recently dismissed Environmental Protection Agency Executive Director Mr. Nathaniel Blama on the allegation that Minister McGill was briefed on the US\$20 million deal that led to his dismissal.

Minister McGill cautions Mr. Blamato take full responsibility of his action and should stop shifting blames.

Speaking yesterday, August 06, at his residence along the Roberts International Highway, Minister McGill said he wouldn't deny having discussion with Mr. Blama on the issues but the discussion did not reach the point to

signing of deal or committing the government to company that he (McGill) did not know.

The presidential minister averred that it is impossible for one head of a government's agency to commit the government to financial or any deal that has legal responsibility.

"The president makes decision based on what is right and normally I wouldn't deny if I had prior knowledge about the deal because according to Mr. Blama, I was briefed but it does not qualify him to sign a deal on behalf government without the input of Finance and Justice Ministries. They are statutorily charged with these functions especially anything of legal and financial matters. I support anything legal that we as government can use to raise money but the fact is I have no

knowledge neither the Ministry of Finance. I spoke with the Minister of Finance when the document relating to the deal came to the country through a foreign source. Yes indeed, there are conversations about the sector to see how Liberia can sell carbon hydrate or CO2Bit coins but to say we discussed and concluded, that's far from the reality," he said.

CO2BIT is part of an international dispersed group of technologists and philanthropists undertaking the oration and support of CO2Bit, a Shun Network Bashed Digital asset created as a mechanism to finance and promote the proliferation of sustainable carbon neutral energy generation projects and assets to enable evolving participation in global economy.

Minister McGill further stated that there have been several discussions on how the government can start a deal by giving out the carbon hydrate but the government is yet to find a suitable company for such deal.

According to him, he told President George Manneh Weah that he (McGill) talk to the Finance Minister as to whether he's in the know of the deal but the Minister Samuel Tweah and Justice Minister, Cllr. Frank Musa Dean both said they have no idea of the deal.

He asserted that if he was in the know of the deal, it

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The Searchlight Communications Inc., Publishers of the New Dawn newspaper is seeking applications from young females between the ages of 18-28 for an internship placement within the business department of the paper as sales agents.

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