

Excerpts researched by

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Fred Guweddeko in his article on Ethnic nationalism writes “Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech Jones in 1947 ordered the political development of ethnic groups to pre-empt. In Uganda the principles of Ethnic Nationalism brought the demands for ethnic political and social development ahead of nationalism.

1949 - 1957

Instead of Uganda's independence, ethnic groups preferred to get their own Busoga College, Lango College, Teso College, ethnic co-operative unions, ethnic hospitals, ethnic scholarships and ethnic local administrations (Guweddeko, 2003)”. Little wonder that this paradigm still holds to this day in Uganda.

Dr. Ronald Francis Clarke in his career outline writes, “On first appointment as Education Officer in the (then) Protectorate of Uganda (in 1958) I was in charge of English teaching and responsible for introducing drama production at Teso College, a relatively new Government secondary school in the Eastern Region (Clarke, n.d.)”. Uganda Government (Department of Education): 1958-61

Larry Olds in his book writes that “When I was teaching at Teso College Aloet (TCA) in Northeastern Uganda in the early 1960s, word came to us that the students at Sir Samuel Baker School a couple of hundred miles north had gone on strike. One of the objects of their strike, the rumor went, was a fellow teacher in the Teachers for East Africa program. The students’ complaint about him was that he “taught ferociously but unintelligibly.” I often wondered what they meant by that. Does it have anything to do with the problems of a banking approach to knowledge? I don’t know the answer, but it is a tantalizing turn of words (Olds, 2009)”

It has been very challenging to gather information on this great school TCA. The generations in the years to come must document and preserve the history. We currently all share this frustration as expressed by the researcher Stuart McConnell. “I spent a total of just over four weeks in Soroti, which contains archival material for the former district of Teso which has now been sub-divided into a multitude of districts).

The archive itself consists of a small room which had not been disturbed for some years before I arrived. Once I had my papers signed, I was for the most part left to my own devices, with an archivist opening the archive at 9am and closing around 4.30pm between Monday and Friday.

The archive does not have a working catalog. A catalog system was drawn up in the late colonial period, but since then materials have been shifted from room to room over the years and now sit on the floor and on shelves in no particular order. The colonial catalog that I had was therefore useless. The archive is dry, although many documents have been all but destroyed by termites. Although there are not a great number of files, some of those that are there were most useful. It is unfortunate, though, that many documents have been abused in the past, with some files containing no papers, while others seem to contain papers from a broad selection of files. Many reports are missing

I found many files entitled "District Annual Reports," although most did not actually contain the reports within. My enquiries as to who last used the archive bore no fruit. The archivist allowed me to take files to the hotel at

night by signing them out. By studying files in the evenings, I was able to pass them to an assistant who photocopied during the day while I worked in the archive (McConnell, 2004)".

References

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