

NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS

present

A
Musical
Arabian
Night

KISMET

at the
NATIONAL THEATRE

director and choreographer

LARRY OAKS

musical director

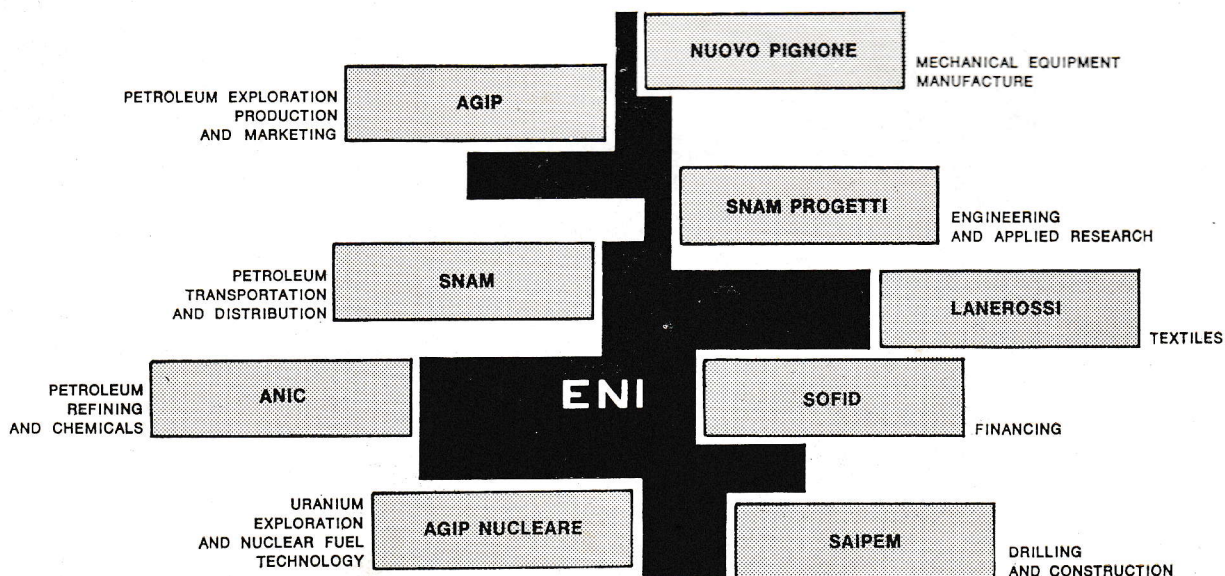
TONY DAVIES

DEC. 1971

ENI

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ROME - ITALY



What is ENI?



ENI, Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi, which may be translated National Hydrocarbons Authority, is an Italian State-owned holding company created in 1953 by Act of Parliament for promoting and carrying out activities of national interest in the petroleum industry. In 1967, the company's Charter of Incorporation was amended to include also the chemical and nuclear industries.

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AGIP is head of the group of companies interested in petroleum exploration, production and petroleum product marketing. ANIC heads the ENI group interests in petroleum refining and petrochemicals. SNAM's field covers hydrocarbons transportation and distribution and sale of natural gas. AGIP NUCLEARE coordinates activities in the nuclear sector. The other 5 main companies are affiliates of the 4 main significant subsidiaries just mentioned. NUOVO PIGNONE is head of the mechanical industry division which manufactures electronic and other industrial control equipment; SNAM PROGETTI is an engineering firm (petroleum and petrochemical plants) and operates research and development laboratories; SAIPEM drills oil and gas wells, constructs petroleum and petrochemical plants and pipelines; LANEROSI is the head company for textiles, and SOFID takes care of providing financing of Group activities.

**PREMIERE PERFORMANCE IN AID OF
GERTRUDE'S GARDEN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**

ARRANGED BY

ROTARY CLUB OF NAIROBI NORTH

ON NOVEMBER 30th

May I join in the welcome extended to all you generous people who have once again answered the call of Rotary Club of Nairobi North to come to this Premier arranged in support of your Children's Hospital at Gertrude's Garden.

The Hospital is, like the Nairobi Show, "on the move" and we are contemplating very considerable enlargements in the future. The need for a great increase in Paediatric Hospital beds is easy to estimate where one observes the great population explosion of the country — all populations start as Children as most parents are very well aware — and of the 13 million people in Kenya to-day about 7 million are under 15 years of age. Most of these Children are well fed and healthy; many however are neither, and even the healthy Children have accidents or become ill from time to time.

We are contemplating an increase in our beds to be built in conjunction with the Bohra Road Clinic for the Physically disabled as well as our existing commitments; to bring us from 50 to 100 beds. This could be an expensive venture with an initial capital outlay in the order to £300,000 we have plans outlined for such development, and Rotary are anxious to take part in this scheme.

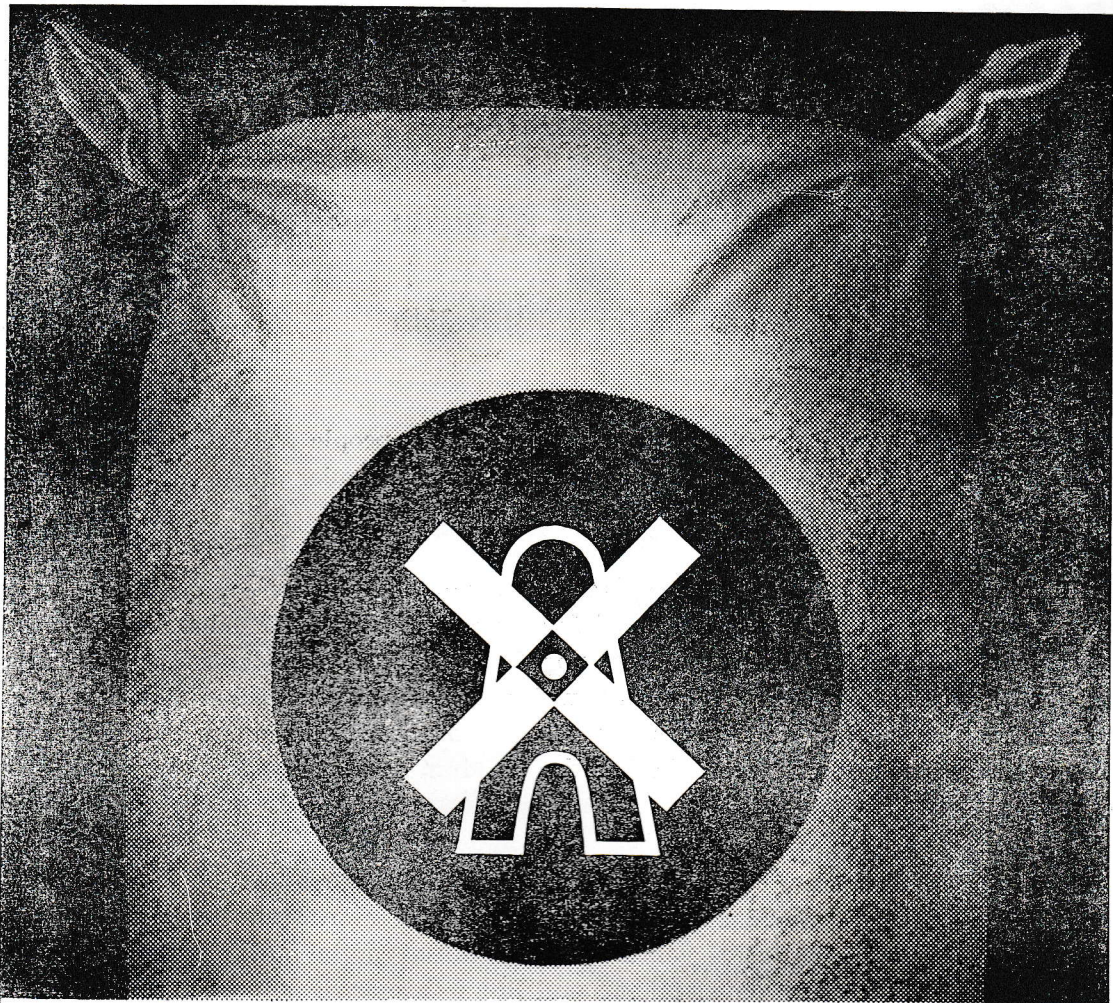
We need a modest sum of money to-night to finance a film perhaps, a brochure to expound the detail of the idea so as to interest the world; a little bonito to catch a marlin? But even bonitos cost money to produce.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking you all for your support to-night and for your great generosity to our Hospital in the past.

GERALD E. NEVILL

M.C.H. F.R.C.S.

CHAIRMAN OF GERTRUDE'S GARDEN.



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Make a Note of the Following Dates:—

SUNDAY, 5th DECEMBER

MONDAY, 13th DECEMBER

MONDAY, 27th DECEMBER

SUNDAY, 2nd JANUARY, 1972

SUNDAY, 9th JANUARY, 1972

SUNDAY, 16th JANUARY, 1972 (Limuru)

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CHARITY PREMIERE PERFORMANCE OF KISMET

ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1971.

IN AID OF
GERTRUDE'S GARDEN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.
PROGRAMME LUCKY NUMBERS

1st PRIZE: Week-end for two at SAMBURU. Kindly donated by Block Hotels Limited.

2nd PRIZE: One night for two at AMBOSELI. Kindly donated by Eboo's Tours and Safaris Limited.

3rd to 8th PRIZES: Two 500 gram packets Connoisseur Coffee. Kindly donated by Naumann Gepp (East Africa) Limited.

9th to 14th PRIZES: One bottle Gilbey's Gin. Kindly donated by Gilbey's East Africa Limited.

List of prize winning numbers will be displayed in the foyers during the interval on November 30th and prizes can be collected at the Managers Office. In addition, ROTARY CLUB OF NAIROBI wishes to thank the NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS for their help in organising the Charity Performance and LUFTHANSA Office for help in selling the tickets.



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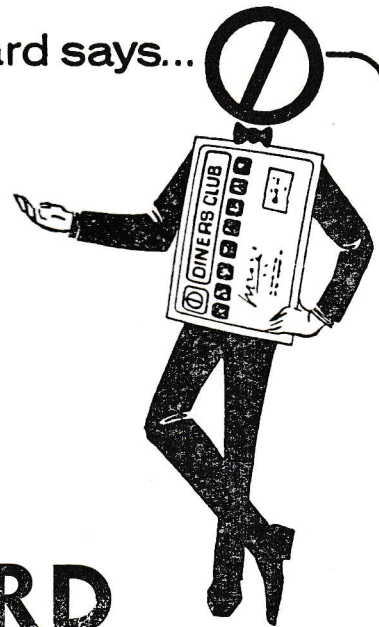
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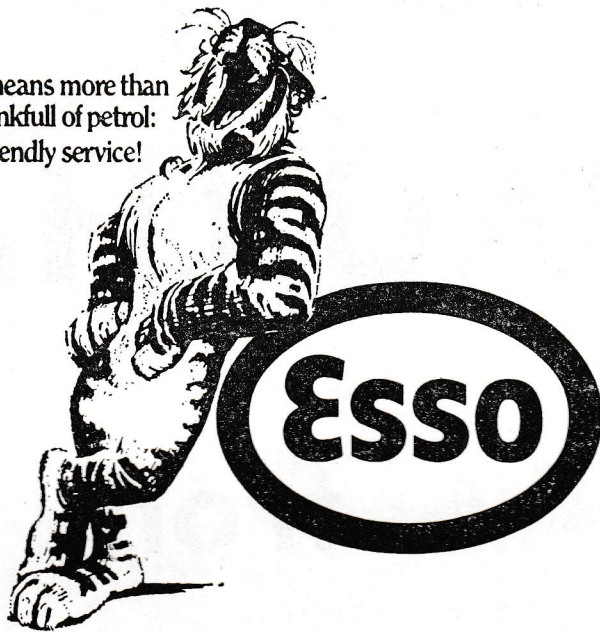


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KENYA NATIONAL THEATRE
THE NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS

Present

KISMET

(A MUSICAL ARABIAN NIGHT)

Music and Lyrics by:

ROBERT WRIGHT and GEORGE FORREST
(From the Themes of Alexander Borodin)

Book by:

CHARLES LEDERER and LUTHER DAVIES
(Based on the Play by Edward Knoblock)

By arrangement with:

MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL, NEW YORK

Director & Choreographer:

LARRY OAKS

Musical Director:

TONY DAVIES

Assistant Musical Director and Chorus Master:

PETER CANNING



"Jawan"
WALTER HINDS



"The Poet"
TONY THACKER



"Chief Policeman"
BARRY BUTTIFANT



"Princess Samaris"
JULIE VALETTE



"The Wazir"
EDWARD SCOTT



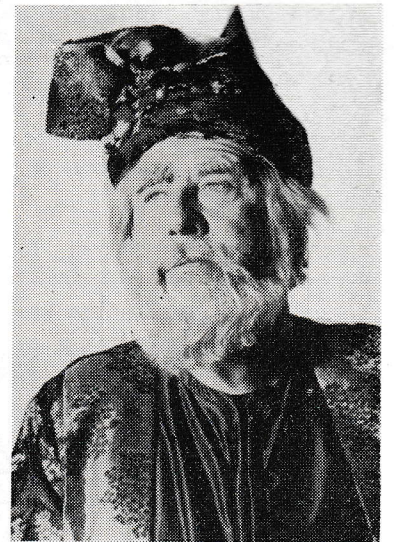
"Princesses of Ababu"
**Christine Johansen, Anne
Moody and Gay Moore**



"Princess Zubbediya"
LESLEY BUTLER



"The Caliph"
TORE TUNOLD



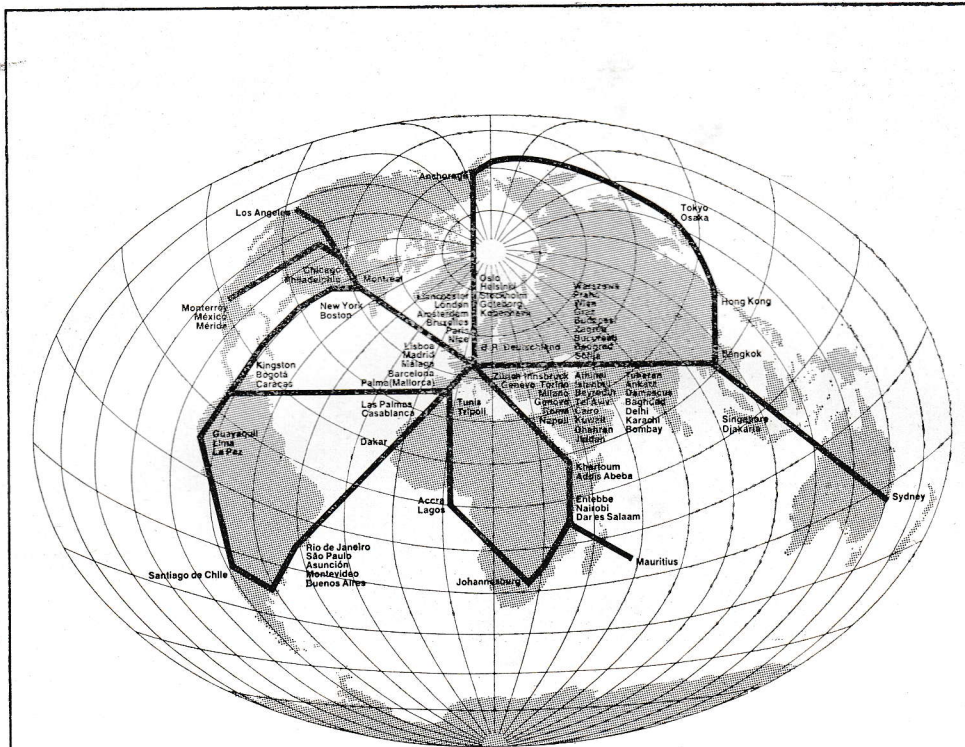
"Omar"
RURIK RONSKY



"Marsinah"
KATE RICHARDSON



"Lalume"
MARLENE DOCHERTY



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ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



Photograph by J. Moran of Harrogate.

LARRY OAKS

Theatre, Tel Aviv (in Hebrew). He worked on 'THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE', starring Vanessa Redgrave at Wyndham's Theatre, London, where he staged the Tango for two girls, one of whom — Olivia Hussey — was later to play Juliet in Zeffereilli's 'ROMEO AND JULIET', Romeo being played by Leonard Whiting, who had been in 'OLIVER!' as the Artful Dodger. He has choreographed dance sequences for several of A.T.V.'s 'PLAY OF THE MONTH' series; amongst the artists were Paul Schofield in Strindberg's 'DANCE OF DEATH' and Celia Johnson in 'HELEN and EDWARD and HENRY'. He worked on a film called 'THE FLIGHT OF THE DOVES', starring Ron Moody and Jack Wild, which was shot in Ireland and due to be released shortly. He worked on 'THE SONG OF NORWAY' which was shot entirely on location in Norway and Denmark and was the first musical to be filmed in Cinerama.

Since last September Mr. Oaks has been at the York Theatre Royal as choreographer and director. He was one of the main directors and organisers of an International Youth Festival held in York to commemorate that city's 1,500 anniversary, working with 1,600 performers presenting 85 performances in 2 weeks. Since he was here last year for "FIDDLER" he has also staged a "rock" musical called "THE LAST DAYS OF ISAAC" which went to the English National Theatre (Old Vic) and directed a new play by Henry Livings called "GRUP". He also co-directed another new play — "STRINGER'S LAST STAND" by Stan Barstow and Alfred Bradley, who wrote "A KIND OF LOVING". After "KISMET" opens he will go back to York to direct a pantomime. He will then start work on a film based on the life of Johann Strauss, which will be shot on location in Vienna.

The Nairobi City Players find it both rewarding and satisfying to work with somebody so thoroughly professional as Mr. Oaks. It is not surprising therefore that they have invited him back to Nairobi again in June of next year to direct another of their musicals. This could be "MAN OF LA MANCHA".

Director and Choreographer for "Kismet" is LARRY OAKS. This is Mr. Oaks' second visit to Nairobi: he was responsible for the overall direction of the Nairobi City Players' last musical in this theatre — the record-breaking "FIDDLER ON THE ROOF".

Larry Oaks is a 36-year-old Jerseyman, whose career has taken him to many countries. He started in professional show business as a Dancer in a revue at the Theatre Royal, Windsor. He then toured in 'LOVE FROM JUDY', after which he went into the West End at the Prince of Wales Theatre in the Follies Bergere Revues for eighteen months and also played in cabaret at Churchill's Club, Bond Street and the Don Juan, in Grosvenor Square. He did T.V. for a number of years and was in the Rodgers and Hammerstein 'CINDERELLA' at the London Coliseum. In 1960, he went into 'OLIVER!' at the New Theatre as dancer and Ballet Master for six years, during which time he staged the Broadway production at the Imperial Theatre, New York. He has staged 'OLIVER!' in Los Angeles, in Holland (in Dutch) and at the Habimah National

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FOR
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SNACKS**

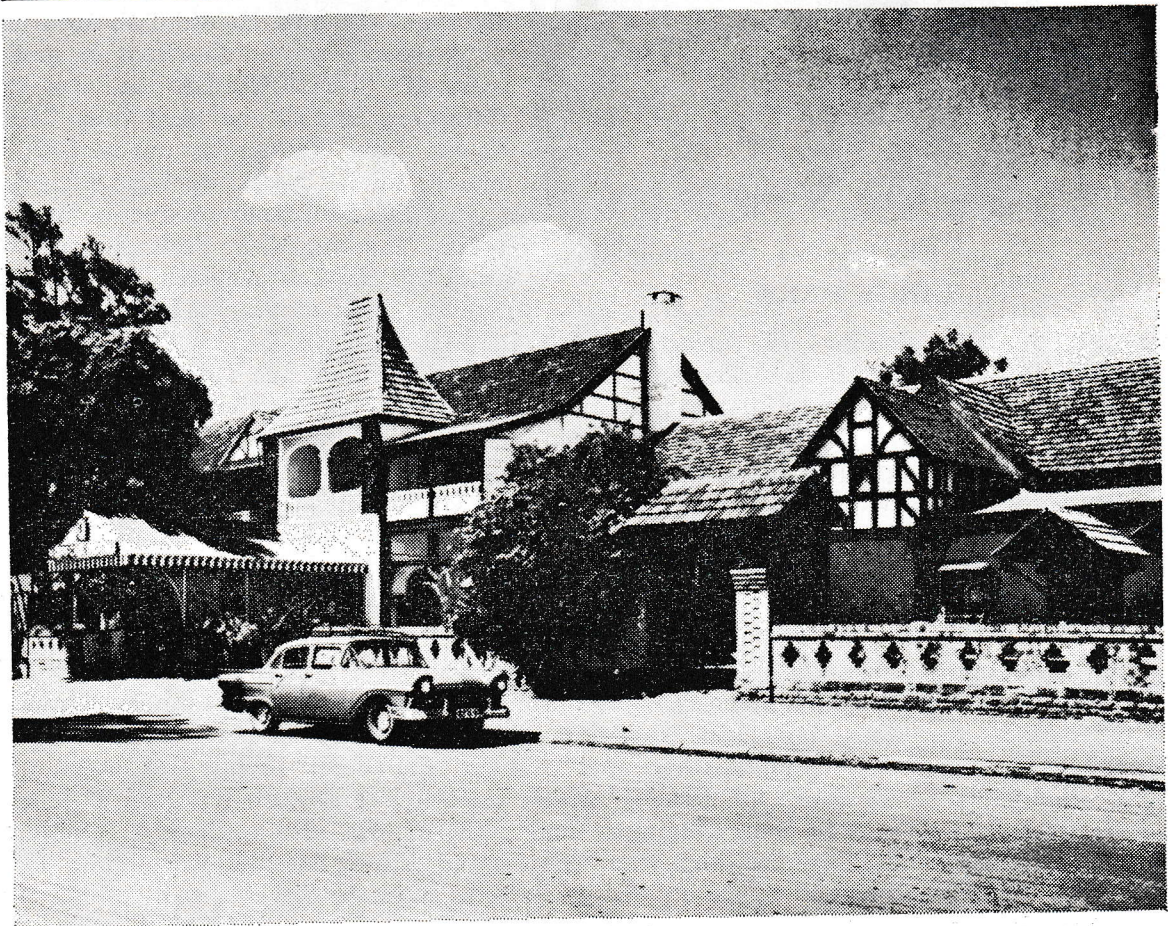
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ABOUT THE SHOW

"Kismet" is aptly described by its authors as "a Musical Arabian Night". In brief, it tells the story of one day in the life of Hajj, the poet beggar, who gains wealth, avenges wrongs done to his daughter, discovers new love and, eventually, triumphs over an evil Wazir to become an Emir of Baghdad. Paralleling his story is that of his daughter, Marsinah, who falls in love with a young gardener who is later revealed as the mighty Caliph in disguise. A fairy story? Yes, but one which has enthralled audiences for decades as book, play, film and then full scale musical.

Although it is set in ancient Baghdad there is nothing dated about "Kismet" — in fact it fits superbly into the modern musical mould wherein singers and dancers must be equally adept as actors. For "Kismet" has everything that a modern musical needs to make it a success: exciting music and dancing, interesting characters, a first class story told by a witty script, and a stage full of colour and movement. Throughout the story runs a constant thread of splendour and magnificence in the imaginative settings and costumes and the pictorial excitement of exotic dances, imperial processions, market place crowds and the swirling panoply of the Arabian Nights brought to life.

In an inspired moment, the authors chose the music of Alexander Borodin to illustrate the story and it is a happy combination. The music was especially adapted by Robert Wright and George Forrest, who similarly adapted the music of Grieg for "Song of Norway". They have drawn freely and imaginatively from Borodin's compositions and it is interesting to note the derivation of some of the major songs from the show. "Fate" comes from the Symphony No. 2 in B Minor, and "Rhymes Have I" from the last act of the opera "Prince Igor". "Not Since Nineveh" "Stranger in Paradise", and "He's in Love" are all from the Polovtsian Dances, and Borodin's First Symphony is the source of "Gesticulate". A piano composition called "Serenade" provides "Night of My Nights", while the D Major Quartet becomes "Was I Wazir?" and from its third movement comes the lovely "And This is My Beloved". "The Olive Tree" has been adapted from the Love Duet of "Prince Igor", and "Sands of Time" from "In the Steppes of Central Asia".

"Kismet" opened at the Ziegfield Theatre, New York in December, 1953 with a cast headed by Alfred Drake, Dorothea Morrow and Joan Diener, and was a fabulous success. In the Spring of 1955 the same stars opened the London run at the Stoll Theatre which was equally successful running for two years.

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SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ONE DAY IN OLD BAGHDAD

ACT ONE

(From Dawn to Dusk)

- Scene 1: *On the steps of the Mosque.*
- Scene 2: *A tent just outside the city.*
- Scene 3: *The Bazaar of the Caravans*
- Scene 4: *A side street.*
- Scene 5: *A garden.*
- Scene 6: *A street near the Bazaar.*
- Scene 7: *The throne room of His Exalted Excellency,
The Wazir of Police.*

INTERVAL

(of 15 minutes)

ACT TWO

(From Dusk to Dawn)

- Scene 1: *Along the route of the Caliph's procession.*
- Scene 2: *The garden.*
- Scene 3: *Anteroom to the Wazir's harem.*
- Scene 4: *A rooftop pavilion in the Wazir's Palace.*
- Scene 5: *Anteroom to the Wazir's harem.*
- Scene 6: *The ceremonial hall of the Caliph's Palace*

RISA

CHARACTERS IN ORDER

Imam of the Mosque	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	BARRY BUTTIFANT
Muezzins	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	NOEL MARTIN
						HUGH SWEET
Doorman	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	GERRY STONEHAM
First Beggar	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	JOHN MORRISSEY
Second Beggar	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	TED SCHLIE
Third Beggar	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	JOE MURIITHI
Omar	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	RURIK RONSKY
A Public Poet, later called Hajj	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	TONY THACKER
Marsinah, his daughter	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	KATE RICHARDSON
A Merchant	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	JOHN ANDERSON
Hassan-Ben	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	AZIZ ALBAKRY
Brigands	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	WALTER GARDNER
						JOEY MARTINS
Jawan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	WALTER HINDS
The Bangle Man	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	ARTHUR DOCHERTY
Chief Policeman	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	BARRY BUTTIFANT
First Policeman	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	JOHN GODFREY
Second Policeman	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	WALTER GARDNER
Third Policeman	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	JEFF CLIMER
Fourth Policeman	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	JOEY MARTINS
Herald	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	DEREK DAMES
The Wazir of Police	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	EDWARD SCOTT
Lalume	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	MARLENE DOCHERTY
Lalume's Attendants	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	MARY STEELE
						ANNE-MARIE WEBLEY
The Princesses of Ababu	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	ANNE MOODY
						GAYE MOORE
						CHRISTINE JOHANNSEN
Three Dancers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	JOE MURIITHI
						ALI SAMANTAR
						PRAMOD SHAH
Orange Merchant	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	DENIS HOWARTH

Assistant Musical Director
and Chorus Master:
PETER CANNING

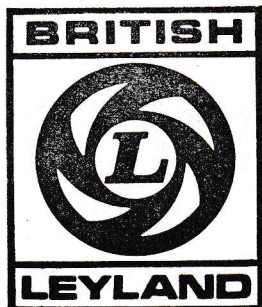
Assistant Chorus Mistress:
ELVA MACPHERSON

Director & Chorus Master:

LARRY CANNING

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Assistant Director: JAMES



BENE

THROUGHOUT

SMEET

ACTORS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Slave Trader	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	SALIM BASHEIKH
Pearl Merchant	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	JOHN ANDERSON
The Caliph	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	TORE TUNOLD
Informers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	RICHARD SCORDOULIS
Slave Girls	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	MARGARET LAWSON
A Servant	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	PENNY FITZJOHN
A Peddler	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	ARTHUR DOCHERTY
Townswoman	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	RICHARD SCORDOULIS
Second Townswoman	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	CARMEN MACLEAN
Princess Zubbediya of Damascus	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	ELLY VAN DER MOOLEN
Zubbediya's Ayah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	LESLEY BUTLER
Princess Samaris of Peru	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	ELVA MACPHERSON
Samaris' Ayah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	JULIE VALETTE
Prosecutor	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	DOROTHY OWEN
The Widow Yussef	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	DENIS HOWARTH
Lalume's Ayah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	MAUREEN GOOD
								MOLLY FREEMAN

JENNIFER McGINLEY
DEBRA FARIA

Singers: TUELO BROCK, MARGARET COE, CAROLINE DE SOUZA, MAUREEN GOOD, DEBRA FARIA, PENNY FITZJOHN, MOLLY FREEMAN, MARGARET LAWSON, JACKIE LESLIE, ELLY VAN DER MOOLEN, JENNIFER McGINLEY, CARMEN MACLEAN, ELVA MACPHERSON, SUE MULDOWNY, DOROTHY OWEN, JACKIE SHAW, MAUREEN TURNER, AZIZ ALBAKRY, JOHN ANDERSON, SALIM BASHEIKH, JEFF CLIME, DEREK DAMES, ARTHUR DOCHERTY, WALTER GARDNER, JOHN GOODFREY, DENIS HOWARTH, FRANK JORDAN, CHRIS MARSHALL, JOHN MORRISSEY, JOE MURIITHI, JOEY MARTINS, TED SCHLIE, RICHARD SCORDOULIS.

Dancers: LESLEY BUTLER, JUDY COCKSEGE, VANESSA DESAI, STEPHAN KORNEGAY, JULIETTE LATHAM, JENNIFER McGINLEY, CHRISTINE PINTO, MARY STEELE, JULIE VALETTE, MARGUERITE WARREN, INGA KEBLER, WHITE, JENETTA WORROD, MARY ANNE WESTENBERG, ANNE-MARIE WEBLEY.

Attendants: JOE MURIITHI, ALI SAMANTAR, PRAMOD SHAH, PHILIP MWANIKI, QUEROBINO LOPES, PETER OTIENO, GEORGE GATTY, FRANCIS WANGOCHI.

Director & Choreographer
MARRY OAKS
DIRECTOR: TONY DAVIES
Director: JAMES FALKLAND

Settings by:
CHRIS COOK & JAMES FALKLAND

Costumes by:
MARY EPSOM

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ABOUT THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR



TONY DAVIES

The Musical Director for "Kismet" is TONY DAVIES, who is well known in Nairobi music circles as a very talented pianist.

Born in 1940 in Caterham, Surrey, Tony cannot remember when he first started playing the piano although a photograph of him aged two looking baffled at the keyboard would indicate that it was fairly early. During his school days he learned to play the piano well and the 'cello' less well. He then went on to four hectic years at Keble College, Oxford pursuing a wide range of other interests and eventually acquiring a degree, a diploma and a fiancée from Kenya. The latter, now his wife, Alison, was the reason for his arrival in Kenya to teach for two years at the then Prince of Wales School (now Nairobi School). There, himself taught and encouraged by Jack Lockhart (whom many theatre goers will remember as musical director of Nairobi shows in years gone

by) music again became an absorbing interest and he then studied for, and obtained his Licentiate of the Royal Schools of Music. Tony again put his nose to the grindstone, changed careers and, after three years, qualified in accountancy, a profession he now pursues between concerts and shows! It should be added here that he has ample encouragement to follow his bent as he has married into a very musical family. His mother-in-law is Jean Gill, whose fine contralto voice has been heard in many Nairobi musicals, and particularly Gilbert and Sullivan. Both his wife and sister-in-law, Hilary, are singers.

Playing the piano, organ or harpsichord, singing or conducting, Tony has been involved in many musical events. Hidden from view with the other troglodytes in the orchestra pit, he has played in several shows including "The Merry Widow", "The Gypsy Baron" for Nairobi Musical Society, "The Pirates of Penzance" and "The Beggars Opera", for Nairobi Musical Society and the Theatre Group combined. Last year he emerged above waist level to conduct "The Gondoliers" also staged by the same combination.

He has been principally active recently in chamber music and this year has given two major concerts, the most recent being this month at the National Theatre when he played the Schumann Piano Concerto with the Nairobi Orchestra, under the baton of Nat Kofsky. Tony considered this his most demanding musical challenge to date — until he saw the score of "Kismet"!



**Before you say "tonic"
mention my name.**

ORCHESTRA

Violins

TONY ALVARES (Leader)
EVELYN CHADWICK
KATHRYN EHRHORN
JAMES FENTON
KEITH MARCH
ODD STEINE

Viola

EVE SALINAS

Cellos

MARGARET SHARMAN
LILLIAN WAIN
STEPHANIE BOUGH

Bass

GIULIO PIRES

Flute

JOAN DOWNING

Oboe

ELIZABETH WALKER

Clarinets

CATHERINE WORRALL
MARVIN WEINSTEIN

Trumpets

KENNY GLEN
CRAIG PRUESS
WALTER TIANEN

Trombones

BILL GUY
OIVIND JOHANSEN

Horns

NEVILLE THROWER
SOREN TORNKVIST

Piano

LEON NEW

Percussion

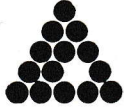
CHRIS HARRISON
LEO PARDO (By kind permission of the
Governing Council of the Kenya Cultural Centre).

The NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS wish to thank ANDREA WORTS, LEON NEW,
JOAN WOODHEAD, PETER CANNING, ELVA MACPHERSON and TONY DAVIES
for invaluable help as rehearsal pianists.

Musical Director: TONY DAVIES

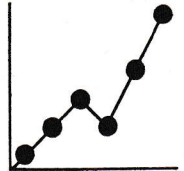
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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

1. *Overture*
2. "Sands of Time" THE IMAM
3. "Rhymes Have I" THE POET AND MARSINAH
4. "Fate" THE POET
5. "Fate" — *Reprise* THE POET
6. *Bazaar of the Caravans* TOWNSPEOPLE AND DANCERS
7. *Ababu Dance I* THE ABABU PRINCESSES
8. "Not Since Nineveh" LALUME, WAZIR, TOWNSPEOPLE, AND THE ABABUS
9. "Baubles, Bangles and Beads" MARSINAH, CALIPH AND TOWNSPEOPLE
10. "Stranger in Paradise" MARSINAH AND CALIPH
11. "He's in Love" CHIEF POLICEMAN, POLICEMEN, TOWNSPEOPLE, THE ABABUS AND DANCERS
12. "Gesticulate" THE POET, WAZIR, LALUME AND WAZIR'S COUNCIL
13. "Fate" and *Finale Act I.* THE POET, LALUME AND HAREM GIRLS.

ACT TWO

1. *Entracte*
2. "Night of my Nights" CALIPH, DANCERS AND TOWNSPEOPLE
3. "Stranger in Paradise" — *Reprise* MARSINAH
4. "Baubles, Bangles and Beads"
 Reprise CALIPH
5. "He's in Love" — *Reprise* CALIPH AND TOWNSPEOPLE
6. "Was I Wazir?" WAZIR AND GUARDS
7. "Rahadlakum" LALUME, POET, AYAH AND HAREM GIRLS
8. *And This is My Beloved* POET, MARSINAH, CALIPH AND WAZIR
9. "The Olive Tree" POET
10. *Zubbediya's Dance* ZUBBEDIYA AND AYAH
11. *Samaris' Dance* SAMARIS
12. *Ababu Dance II* ABABU PRINCESSES
13. *Finale* POET, CALIPH, MARSINAH AND ENTIRE COMPANY.

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<i>Stage Manager</i>	GORDON PURCELL
<i>Assistant Stage Managers</i>	CHRIS COOK, TERRY MCGOWAN
<i>Set Designs</i>	CHRIS COOK, JAMES FALKLAND
<i>Construction Manager</i>	BRIAN VALLETTE
<i>Assistant Construction Manager</i>	MAX ALFONSO
<i>Sets Constructed and Painted by</i>	Dick Rosenberg, John Tyson, Geoff Palfreyman, Bill Tolhurst, Tony Bishop, Martyn Beardmore, Vic Francis, Ann Francis, Fritz Redgrave, Andy Redgrave, Bill Petrie, Anne Petrie, Chris Cook, Judy Cocksedge, Peter Fernandez, Lawrence D'Mello, Sid Clark, Harry Stiles, Nigel Bramich, Rob Bain, Maggie Bain, Gerry Stoneham, Terry O'Meara, Gordon Purcell, Brenda Purcell, Jill Purcell, Arlene Sutherland, Angela Fisher, Gina Doggett, Heather Steadman, Laura Schlessenger, Jean Vallette, Alison Vallette, Irene Jeffrey, Shirley Thacker, Annette Burroughs, Rosemary Brown, Molly Seljeflot, Deanna Skittrall, Rosanne Alexander, Anne Poulton, Joan Hall, Ann Cossins, John Godfrey.
<i>Properties</i>	PAM NORRIS
<i>Assisted by</i>	Jill Purcell, Maggie Bain
<i>Stage Crew</i>	Brian Vallette, Geoff Palfreyman, Max Alfonso, Bill Tolhurst, Dick Rosenberg, Martyn Beardmore, Vic Francis, Peter Fernandez, Lawrence D'Mello, Sid Clark, Harry Stiles, Rob Bain, Terry O'Meara, Judy Cocksedge.
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	JAMES FALKLAND
<i>Lighting</i>	Ron Britton, John Tyson, Arlene Sutherland, Heather Steadman, Joyce Usher, Mac Spence, Brian Vallette, Shirley Thacker, John Alkin, Rosemary Brown.
<i>Sound</i>	CHARLES, & ALARIC WORROD

**(All of the above arrangements are under the organisation of
Stage Operators and Technical Specialists)**

<i>Prompt</i>	SHIRLEY THACKER, PHYLLIS DAVIES
<i>Costumes by</i>	MARY EPSOM Janet Towill, Valerie Barnett, Brenda Purcell, Margaret Lawson and ladies in the cast.
<i>Costume drawings</i>	JENNIFER MCGINLAY
<i>Business Manager</i> }	BRYAN EPSOM
<i>Public Relations</i> }	
<i>Publicity</i> }	
<i>Assisted by</i>	IAN MULHOLLAND, Winifred Ferguson and Daphne Fenton.
<i>Programme</i>	SHIRLEY BISHOP, IAN MULHOLLAND
<i>Photographs</i>	GEOFF GRIMSHAW
<i>Assistant Chorus Mistress</i>	ELVA MACPHERSON
<i>Assistant Choreographers</i>	WYNNE WORROD, GAYE MOORE

FOR THE NATIONAL THEATRE

<i>Manager</i>	LEO PARDO
<i>Box Office</i>	GERRY STONEHAM
<i>Theatre Electricians</i>	Julius M. Kaara, Jason Mwai

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Richard Rosenberg
Queen's Cleaners
Madame Zerkovitz for giving permission for
certain of her dancers to appear.
P. D. Bhadresa for tailoring
Carmen Curlers for loan of wigs

and many others who have helped.

NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS

In September 1956 an "acting group" was formed to be known as the Nairobi City Players, and in its Constitution set down the following aims and objects:—

- (a) Regularly to present theatrical productions of a good dramatic and artistic standard by utilising and co-ordinating the best available acting talent, producers, set designers and technical stage assistants.
- (b) Towards the fulfilment of (a) above, to be unstinting in the cost of production, subject to the limit set by the Standing Committee.
- (c) To take all necessary steps to encourage the drama and to improve the facilities available for theatrical productions.

The City Players have adhered rigidly to these aims from their formation and since that time have presented at the National Theatre, Nairobi, a total of 58 productions including 14 full scale musicals (both figures include the current production of "Kismet").

The City Players are controlled by a STANDING COMMITTEE as follows:—

Rurik Ronsky (<i>Chairman</i>)	Tony Thacker
Bryan Epsom (<i>Business Manager</i>)	Keith Fitton
Gordon Purcell (<i>Treasurer</i>)	David Field
Ken Latham (<i>Executive Member</i>)	Arthur Docherty
Peter Pearce	Elva MacPherson
Walter Hinds	

In addition to the Committee there is an Associate Membership limited to 50 Members.

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PAST PRODUCTIONS

BY NAIROBI CITY PLAYERS

- 1956 "The Love of Four Colonels" by Peter Ustinov.
- 1957 "The Man Who Came to Dinner" by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman.
"Ring Round The Moon" by Jean Anouilh.
"Payment Deferred" by Jeffrey Dell.
- 1958 "Romanoff and Juliet" by Peter Ustinov.
"Two Gentlemen of Soho" by A. P. Herbert.
(Winning Entry Kenya Drama Festival, 1958)
"Carrington V. C." by Dorothy and Campbell Christie.
"Will Any Gentleman" by Vernon Sylvaine.
- 1959 "Rope" by Patrick Hamilton.
"You Can't Take It With You" by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman.
"The Paragon" by Roland and Michael Pertwee.
- 1960 "The Diary of Anne Frank" by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett.
"Six Characters In Search of An Author" by Pirandello.
"A Farrago" comprising
 "The Proposal" by Chekhov.
 "Uneasy Lies The Head . . ." from Shakespeare.
 "Red Peppers" by Noel Coward.
- 1961 "The King and I" by Rodgers and Hammerstein.
"The Caine Mutiny Court Martial" by Herman Wouk.
"The House by the Lake" by Hugh Mills.
"The Bespoke Overcoat" by Wolf Mankowitz.
(Winning Entry Kenya Drama Festival, 1961)
"The Hole" by N. F. Simpson. (Drama Festival Entry, 1961)
- 1962 "Caesar and Cleopatra" by George Bernard Shaw.
"The Long and The Short and The Tall" by Willis Hall.
"Men Without Shadows" by Jean Paul Sartre.
(Placed Third Winning Entry Kenya Drama Festival, 1962)
"No Fixed Abode" by Clive Exton. (Drama Festival Entry, 1962)
- 1963 "See How They Run" by Philip King.
"Annie Get Your Gun" by Irving Berlin, Herbert and Dorothy Fields.
"Irma La Douce" by Marguerite Monnot and Alexandre Breffort.
Excerpts from "St. Joan" by George Bernard Shaw.
(Placed Second Winning Entry Kenya Drama Festival 1963)
"The Resounding Tinkle" by N. F. Simpson. (Drama Festival Entry, 1963)

Continued overleaf

Past Productions continued

- 1964 "South Pacific" by Rodgers and Hammerstein.
"Ross" by Terence Rattigan.
"The Valiant" by Holworthy Hall and Robert Middlemass.
(Winning Entry Kenya Drama Festival, 1964)
"The Scar" by Rebecca Njau.
(Placed Third Winning Entry Kenya Drama Festival, 1964
and also Best Original Play)
"Oklahoma!" by Rodgers and Hammerstein.
- 1965 "The Country Wife" by William Wycherley.
"The Duchess of Malfi" by John Webster.
(Placed Joint Third Winning Entry Kenya Drama Festival, 1965)
"The Wizard of Oz" by Frank Baum, Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg.
- 1966 "A View From the Bridge" by Arthur Miller.
"The Man Who Came to Dinner" (revival) by Moss Hart and
George S. Kaufman.
- 1967 "Twelve Angry Men" by Reginald Rose.
A Double Bill of —
"Lunch Hour" by John Mortimer.
"One Way Pendulum" by N. F. Simpson.
"The Sound of Music" by Rodgers and Hammerstein.
- 1968 "A Streetcar Named Desire" by Tennessee Williams.
"Guys and Dolls" by Frank Loesser, Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows.
"My Fair Lady" by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe.
- 1969 "The Affair" by Ronald Millar.
"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" by Frank Loesser
and Abe Burrows.
"After the Fall" by Arthur Miller.
"Kiss Me Kate" by Cole Porter and Bella & Sam Spewack
- 1970 "The Magistrate" by Sir Arthur Wing Pinero.
A Double Bill of —
"The Dock Brief" by John Mortimer.
"The Real Inspector Hound" by Tom Stoppard.
"The Lion and the Jewel" by Wole Soyinka.
(In association with the National Theatre Company of Kenya)
"The Pajama Game" by Richard Adler, Jerry Ross, George Abbot and
Richard Bissell.
- 1971 "Hadrian VII" by Peter Luke.
"Fiddler on the Roof" by Joseph Stein, Jerry Boch and Sheldon Harnick.

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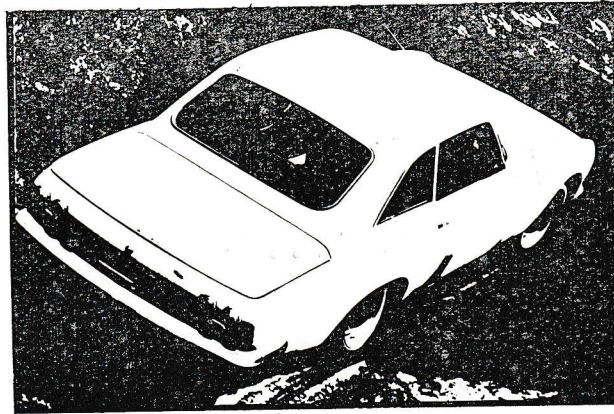
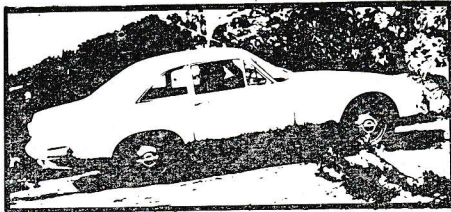
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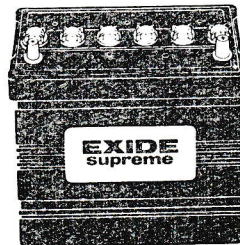
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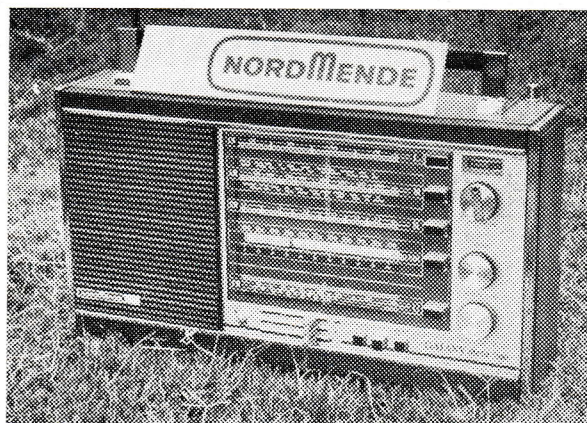
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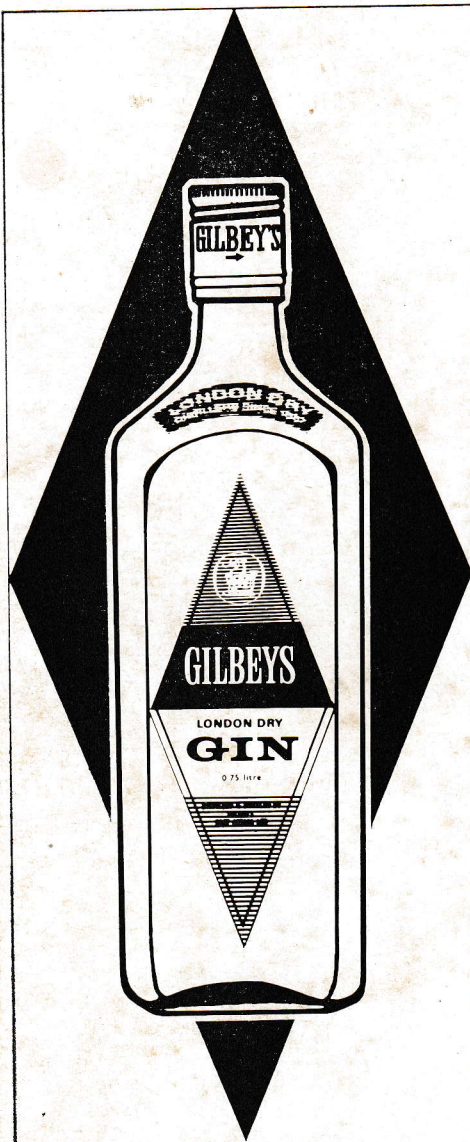
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