

## TV's Bible Whiz Driven To Read Book At Age 12; Told To Make Self Useful

By DOC QUIGG  
New York—My favorite entertainer—and one of America's favorites—right now is a kinky-top, gleaming-grin little fellow named Theophilus Adepoju Aderonmu, commonly known as Addie.  
His papa is Adeyemi Alowodu the crowned-head Alafin of Oyo, chief of 2,500,000 nature-worshipping Yorubas in Nigeria, Africa. His uncle, the Rev. N. O. Salako, a Methodist preacher, is now superintendent of the church's Ibadan circuit, same country, same continent.  
The uncle drove Addie to read the Bible straight through at age 12 and then told him: "Make yourself useful in the world."  
As almost a direct result, plus the fact that he went through grammar and high schools operated by the American Southern Baptists Missions in Nigeria, Addie now has won \$96,000 on TV answering Bible questions. Next

week he'll go for \$128,000 on "The \$64,000 Question."  
Besides a great deal of studying and memorizing of the Bible, Addie who is 30 years old, has read it straight through four times—the first two in his native Yoruba language, then in a Revised English Version, then in the King James Version.  
He figures he has memorized some part of 60 of the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, and the way he studies now is to take a Bible dictionary, pick out names and read everything in the Bible about those names.  
The Yorubas of Nigeria, says Addie, elevating his left index finger in a typical gesture, are "a big ethnic group of perhaps eight million" who historically have had five important chiefs. Since the people now may vote and have assembly government, the chiefs "are sort of figure-heads."  
His father is chief of a sub-

group, the Oyos. His domain includes Ibadan, third largest city in all Africa. Near Ibadan is Addie's home town, Oyo, some seven degrees above the Equator. It was there, in the second grade, that as an attendance prize he won a paperback Bible, written in Yoruba.  
He wanted to study medicine at the University of Chicago, and he figured he might finance himself on the TV quiz show. He has—and then some—although he says, "I do not call myself a Bible authority."  
When he gets his M.D. degree, which he says he can do in three years, he intends to head back to Nigeria and establish a hospital and, as his uncle said, "make myself useful."

## Residents Warned Of Cutting Trees By BLM Officials

Bureau of land management officials today warned residents that cutting Christmas trees on government land is illegal and those found in violation would be prosecuted.  
They said about 40 trees recently were found along the road in Ramsey canyon by BLM employees. They said a nearby farmer reported the loss of about 200 trees from his land. Officials reported they apparently scared off the thief, but state police are investigating the loss.  
State police said a recent law requires anyone who has more than six trees in his possession must have a bill of sale for the trees. This law will help to lower the theft by commercial dealers for resale, BLM officials said.  
Damages Collected  
BLM officials said if the trees are taken, damages will be collected by the government at double stumpage rates. If it is proved the trees were taken willfully, the government will press charges of trespassing in addition to a damage claim, they added.  
Dealers who have made arrangements for cutting trees from private lands should be sure of the location of property lines before any cutting is started, they said. Mistaken property lines have been the main cause of unauthorized cutting in the past.  
Officials did say that a private family could obtain a tree from public domain lands if they first contacted the BLM office in the Medford city hall for a permit and special tag.

## Jobless Pay Claims Hit Million Dollars

Salem—Oregon has had its first week of paying more than a million dollars in unemployment claims a month earlier than last year, the State Unemployment Compensation Commission reported today.  
More than 50,000 persons are actively seeking work and 38,200 of them are filing claims.  
The commission estimated that compensation paid during December would pass \$5 million, breaking all previous marks and dropping the unemployment trust fund to about \$41 million, the lowest since the end of World War II.  
Unless conditions improve, the fund will fall below its floor of \$30 million by March 31, 1958, automatically raising employers' contributions to 2.7 per cent for the second quarter of next year.

## 1957 Oregon Highway Death Toll Hits 441

Salem—Twenty traffic fatalities in the first 11 days of this month have pushed Oregon's 1957 death toll to an unofficial 441—the third highest yearly death toll on record.  
The Department of Motor Vehicles said that at the present rate of nearly two deaths per day drivers and pedestrians in the state threaten to overtake the all-time high of 482 fatalities recorded in 1946.  
Safety officials said that unless drivers were careful over the holidays, they are almost assured of topping the second highest toll on record—460 deaths in 1952. The Traffic Safety Division does not list deaths on private property as traffic fatalities.

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