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LAGOS

"X" MARKS THE FIRST VOTE

Lagos, where Britain took over 99 years ago to abolish the slave trade takes another big step forward, as all the over-21s hurry to the council elections. For the first time in an African colonial city a new town council is to be elected by free public vote. Voting is secret, as ever here, and special arrangements were made for the many who can neither read nor write to record their votes in secret, too.

Lagos is the capital of Nigeria, a colony rich in its produce of tin, cocoa, palm oil and those nuts Mr. Strachey found so hard to grow, and plans are in hand to bring the people greater benefits from the wealth of their land. Outside Glover Hall, they await the count of the poll. Twenty-four seats are open and candidates watch as the different ward votes are counted.

Now the returning officer reads the list of men and women elected to rule Lagos during the coming year. By their deeds this great experiment will be judged.