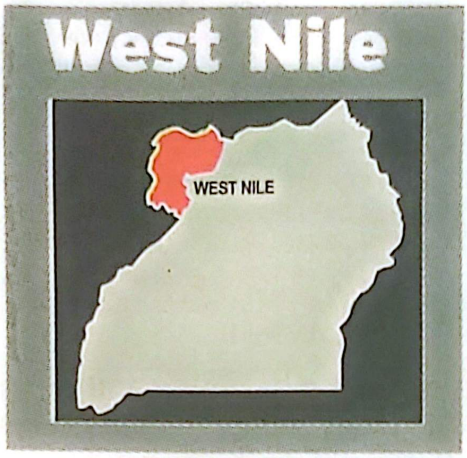
TEACHERS GRILLED OVER ALCOHOLISM



BY ROBERT ARIAKA

The education department in Arua district on Wednesday grilled teachers accused of absenteeism and alcohol consumption, practices, which affect learning in school.

Charles Drani, the senior education officer of Arua, told *Sunday Vision* that 23 teachers were summoned to appear before the rewards and sanctions committee, which handles disciplinary cases in the district, but only 17 showed up.

Out of the 17, eight were grilled and the rest are expected to appear on Wednesday, to answer queries before any action is taken against them.

According to Drani, the committee gives a fair hearing to teachers whose names have been forwarded to the sector for misconduct, among which include drinking alcohol and absenteeism.

He said most of the cases were against teachers in rural schools, who could not report for their duty due to alcoholism, yet they continued to get salaries.

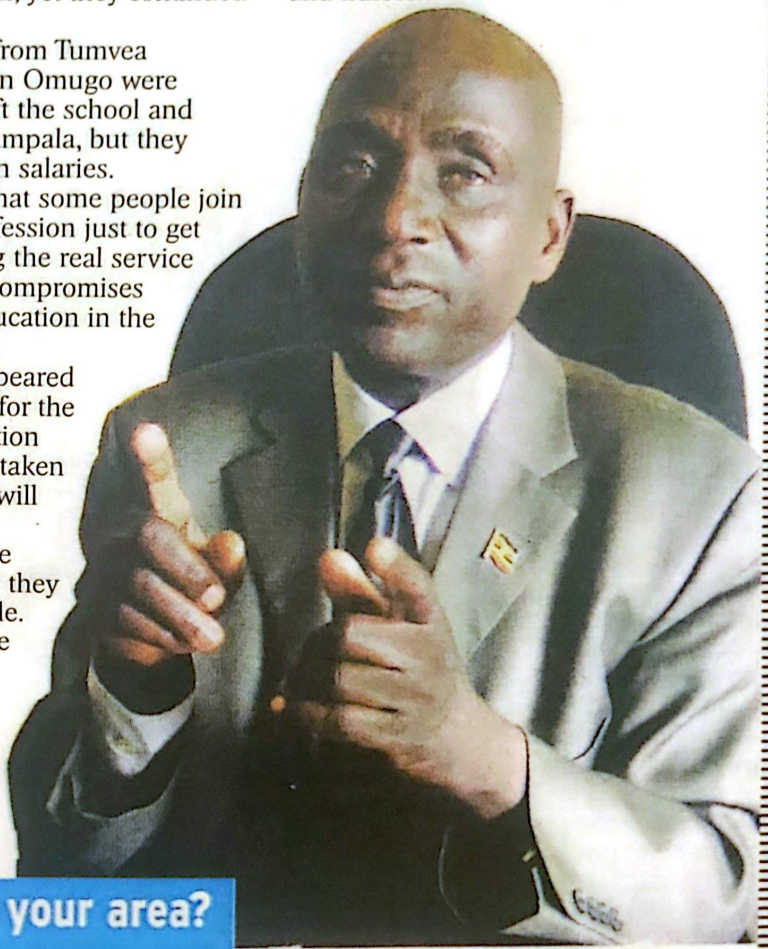
Two teachers from Tumvea Primary School in Omugo were found to have left the school and were living in Kampala, but they continued to earn salaries.

Drani added that some people join the teaching profession just to get money, forgetting the real service delivery, which compromises the quality of education in the district.

Those who appeared will have to wait for the final communication on the measures taken and their names will be forwarded to the district service commission once they are found culpable.

Drani said once the names are forwarded to district service commission, the law will apply. And those who should be discontinued, their names will be deleted from the payroll.

The committee sits according to cases that arise and helps the district weed out crafty and dodgy civil servants. Drani says most of the people who appear before the disciplinary committee are teachers and nurses.



Drani says of the 23 teachers that were summoned to appear before the committee, only 17 turned up

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