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LORD HAILEY, P.C., O.M., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E.

1872-1969

MEMBERS of the Institute will have learned with deep regret of the death on 1 June 1969 at the age of 97 of Lord Hailey, a former Chairman and a Life Member of the Executive Council of the International African Institute.

Born on 15 February 1872, William Malcolm Hailey entered the Indian Civil Service in 1895 following a distinguished undergraduate achievement in classical studies at Oxford. After nearly forty years of outstanding service in India which culminated in governorships of the Punjab and of the United Provinces, Sir Malcolm Hailey embarked on a second career in which he was actively engaged for over twenty more years on the study of problems of government and development in Africa. It is significant in relation to the range of his later interests in African studies that one of his earliest assignments in India was the detailed planning and direction of development in a formerly desert region of the Punjab that was being opened to agricultural development with the building of the Jhelum canal, a task in which every aspect of the lives and conditions of the immigrant colonists had to be considered and provided for by new administrative arrangements.

Even in his work in the African field Lord Hailey can be said to have made two careers. In 1935 he undertook a comprehensive survey of conditions in Africa at the invitation of the Royal Institute of International Affairs with the support of the Carnegie and the Rhodes Trustees to realize an earlier proposal of Field Marshal Smuts which stressed the urgent need for an appraisal of the demands and opportunities for further advance in the fields of government, education, and scientific research in Africa. After three years of preparatory studies, to which specialists from many disciplines concerned with Africa contributed, and a year of travel and local investigation in British, French, and Belgian territories, Lord Hailey completed the writing of his monumental *African Survey* for publication at the end of 1938.

Within a few years, and following the outbreak of the Second World War, he was called upon to take a more direct part in the framing of future policy for development in Africa. With the initiation of plans under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1941 for constitutional, economic, and educational development in British colonial territories during and after the war, Lord Hailey's services were enlisted in

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planning for the future. As Chairman of the British Colonial Research Committee from 1943 to 1948 he was occupied in the consideration of ways and means for harnessing the resources both of Britain and of the colonial territories for programmes of research that would secure advances in economic welfare, social development, and progressive administration. The needs of Africa loomed large in the preoccupations and activities of this committee and his own view of some of the needs in these fields and the extent to which they were being achieved are to be found in the revised *African Survey* of 1956. Meanwhile he had published in 1943 two studies on this theme: *The Future of Colonial Peoples* and *Great Britain, India and the Colonial Dependencies in the Post-war World*.

Lord Hailey undertook the writing of the *African Survey* as an avowed newcomer. It was perhaps because he had not previously been closely concerned with problems of government and of economic and educational development in Africa itself, and more particularly with any one of the patterns of colonial government, that he was able to achieve so balanced an appraisal of the varying conditions and needs and opportunities as these were seen by administrators, missionaries, and scholars in the thirties. From his long experience in government and administration in India and his close interest in many aspects of Indian civilization, he was viewing sub-Saharan Africa with fresh eyes. It was one of the remarkable achievements of the *African Survey* that it presented so objectively, yet with wide understanding, the varied social and cultural conditions of a continent the character, history, and more recent developments of which were so different from those of India.

The scope and organization of the Survey understandably reflected his long professional experience and central interest in the administrative aspects of government whether at the centre or the district level. His tests for policies and actual achievements in administration were always pragmatic within the framework of a shrewd appraisal of the wide range of relevant conditions and factors. His interest in particular patterns of human relations, of cultural values, and of human aspirations, while often strong and direct, was tempered with some deliberation to the consideration of the best means of securing a just and durable ordering of public affairs. Within this framework he showed appreciation and gave valuable support to the work of anthropologists, linguists, and other Africanist scholars. He recognized the importance of their findings in contributing to the knowledge of the social and cultural conditions on which realistic and ultimately effective modes of government and plans for economic and social development in Africa would depend.

Lord Hailey's connection with the International African Institute began in the thirties. In the course of his work for the *African Survey* he had many consultations with members of the Council of the Institute and its research Fellows and invited reports on particular subjects from a number of them which he incorporated in the Survey. A closer connection developed following its publication. Several of its major recommendations were of close interest to the International African Institute and meetings were held between Lord Lugard and others from the Institute with Lord Hailey and his Survey committee to explore the possibilities of implementing some of the recommendations. Particular interest was taken in the need which the Survey emphasized to set up an 'Information Bureau' on Africa, which would centralize and make generally available to all concerned with research and public

affairs in Africa the growing body of information relating to social, administrative, educational, and other developments that was accumulating. Provisional plans for the establishment of such an international bureau under the auspices of the Institute were approved by the Council in June 1939 when Lord Hailey was invited to become a member. Further consideration of these and other projects was however frustrated by the outbreak of the Second World War.

During 1944 and 1945 Lord Hailey took an active part in discussions which were resumed on proposals for reactivating and further developing the work of the Institute. From these, plans to undertake the Ethnographic Survey of Africa, the Handbook of African Languages, and to establish an African bibliographical centre at the Institute emerged. In the spring of 1945, when Lord Lugard felt obliged to retire from the Chairmanship of the Institute, Lord Hailey accepted a pressing invitation to succeed him as Chairman. Other commitments, including plans for another extended tour in Africa, compelled him to retire from the Chairmanship in 1947; but he had in the meantime been able to guide and promote the further development of the work of the Institute during the critical years immediately after the war. He was invited to serve as a Life Member of the Council and continued to take a close interest in all aspects of its work. His advice and support were of great value to the Council for many years.

Meanwhile Lord Hailey returned to his own field of special interest in Africa, to undertake a study of the role of native authority systems in local and regional government in the British territories of Africa. During 1947 and 1948 he made another prolonged tour in Africa for this purpose and the results of his examination of the varying situations and future needs were published in his *Native Administration in the British African Territories*, 1951, and in *Native Administration in the High Commission Territories, South Africa*, 1953. There had meanwhile been many demands for the preparation of a revised edition of the *African Survey* which would take account of the manifold changes in Africa since its original publication in 1938. Despite the difficulties arising from the tempo of events affecting many African territories, which were moving through constitutional changes and innovations in representative government towards independence, and the reservations which he himself felt that these entailed, Lord Hailey accepted, when he was already over eighty years of age, the task of revising the entire work for a new second edition which was published in 1956. His last publication, *The Republic of South Africa and the High Commission Territories*, appeared in 1963.

Those who at various times worked with Lord Hailey in the African field will recall with appreciation his prompt but unhurried consideration of any question, his capacity for rapid assimilation and the imposition of order on a mass of often disparate material, and the economy with which he presented his findings and his views. Many of his contributions to African development and to the advance of African studies from the thirties to the fifties materialized in the work of others, of those who carried out the new policies and undertook the researches which he planned and supported. In his writings he was both a chronicler of an era, the last phase of the colonial period, and a pragmatic counsellor for meeting the demands of the future. Lord Hailey was no promoter of panaceas nor did he countenance utopian views. But his cool head concealed a warm heart and his work for Africa was marked by

a disinterestedness, a practicality, and an unremitting thoroughness for which all concerned with material and social advances in Africa and the development of African studies are deeply indebted.

D. F.

## GERHARD LINDBLOM

1888–1969

WE deeply regret to record the death in his eighty-second year on 18 June 1969 of Professor Gerhard Lindblom, Professor Emeritus of Ethnography in the University of Stockholm, former Director of the Swedish Naturhistoriska Riksmuseum, and later the State Ethnographic Museum. Professor Lindblom was a founder member of the Institute. He was elected as a representative of the Riksmuseum, Stockholm, on the Governing Body in 1928, and was a member of the Executive Council until 1957 when he was invited to become an honorary life member.

Born in 1888, Professor Lindblom joined the Riksmuseum as an Assistant in 1912 on his return from field studies in East Africa. He succeeded to the Directorship in 1923 and was also Director of the State Ethnographic Museum from 1928 until his retirement in 1954. Awarded professorial status in 1928, he held the first teaching post in General and Comparative Ethnography at the University of Stockholm from 1933. His ethnological studies included work on African and Indian influences on the negro bush cultures of Surinam which led him to further researches on West African cultural influences in central and north-eastern South America. He also inquired into evidence for Asiatic contacts with East Africa. From the twenties onwards he published many distributional studies on various aspects of material culture in Africa, a Tharaka grammar, and several studies of Kamba folklore.

But undoubtedly Lindblom's major achievement was his study of the Akamba. The outcome of one and a half years of fieldwork in East Africa from 1910 to 1912, his main work *The Akamba: an Ethnological Monograph*, Uppsala, 1920, set new standards in both thorough description and careful analysis in East African ethnography. Originally published as a Doctoral Dissertation in 1916, it was later expanded in a revised edition. Lindblom anticipated many of the procedures later advocated in anthropological field research, learning the language and placing great stress on systematic participant observation. His accuracy and thoroughness have been confirmed by later field studies in East Africa and both his detailed records and many of his interpretations, notably with regard to the political institutions and the significance of ritual on which he brought to bear a very wide knowledge of the anthropological literature, provided the foundation for later work on the comparative ethnography of the north-eastern Bantu. His monograph has not only remained a standard work; much of it still reads with freshness and cogency that could well be emulated today.

Professor Lindblom continued to take a keen interest in the affairs of the Institute after his retirement and had been looking forward with great pleasure to the meeting of its Executive Council this year in Sweden which he had himself warmly advocated. Members of the Institute and those of its staff who met him during his visits to London after the war will remember his courtesy and kindness and join in extending our sympathy to his widow, children, and grandchildren.

D. F.