

In connexion with Lolemi, Professor W. J. Samarin (now in Leiden, Holland) has undertaken a study of ideophones in Bantu, as part of a more general study of ideophones in African languages. Persons interested in acquiring a copy of a ten-sentence questionnaire for a comparative study of ideophones should write to Professor Samarin at the Afrika-Studiecentrum, Stationsplein 10, Leiden.

Committee on African Studies, University of Washington, Seattle

AN interdepartmental undergraduate and graduate program in African studies is now being developed at the University of Washington. Its major orientation is initially in anthropology and sociology but the program expects to develop training in political science and linguistics as well as in other areas. No degree is offered in African studies; regular work is taken through the departments, but the student has the opportunity to develop an African speciality. The program covers Africa South of the Sahara as a whole. The teachers include: Professor Simon Ottenberg (Anthropology, West Africa, social change, political anthropology); Professor Edgar Winans (Anthropology, East Africa, ecology, social change, political anthropology and law); Professor Peter Wilson (Madagascar, cultural anthropology, ethnohistory); Professor Pierre van den Berghe (Sociology, Southern Africa, social stratification, race relations, social change); Professor James Crutchfield (Economics, fishing resources); Professor Jon Bridgman (History, German African History); Professor John Williams (History, South Africa), Mr. William Nash (Library). For further information on the program write to Professor Simon Ottenberg, Department of Anthropology, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98105, U.S.A.

*African Studies in Poland*¹

OVER the last ten years political changes in Africa have made it a focus of scientific interest in Poland. In 1956 the Polish Ethnological Society organized its first post-war seminar on African problems (Wrocław, 9–11 May). The quarterly *Kultura i Społeczeństwo*, started in 1957 by the Research Centre for Sociology and History of Culture of the Polish Academy of Sciences, has brought Africa into the wider sphere of research on contemporary culture. This periodical, connected with sociologists at the University of Łódź, was the first to present African problems from the contemporary as well as the ethnographic viewpoint. Until the mid-nineteen-fifties the interests of Polish scholars did not extend beyond Arabic Africa and Ethiopia. In Polish periodicals a peak of interest in African problems was reached in 1961.

In 1960 a Department for African and Asian countries was established in the Polish Institute of International Affairs and in 1964 the Department of African Countries was formed, under the Directorship of Dr. Jerzy Procopczuk, to deal with African political, economic, and social problems. At the University of Warsaw research on African problems is co-ordinated in the Centre for African Studies founded in May 1962 and headed by Professor Stefan Strelcyn. The centre runs post-graduate courses and co-operates with specialists at other centres for 'inter-disciplinary' seminars. Results of research are published in the bulletin *Africana* in English and French.

The Chair of Semitic Philology in the Institute for Oriental Studies is concerned with the languages and culture of Ethiopia, but research in Arabic is also conducted. Research on the Egyptian and Coptic languages is through the Chair of the Philology of the Ancient East. Practical study of Hausa, Swahili, Amharic, and Bambara is also available. Professor Kazimierz Michałowski, holder of the Warsaw University Chair in Mediterranean

¹ See also *Africa*, xxxii. 2, 1962, p. 173; xxxv. 1, 1965, p. 101; xxxvi. 1, 1966, pp. 86–87.