

The selection of subjects for study at the several seminars will seek to ensure that they will together cover a reasonably wide range of problems and methods, and that there will not be any undue overlapping of subject-matter and participants. Selection will also have regard to the interest and importance of a subject, both theoretical and practical, and its suitability for stimulating further research and, in particular, for promoting a greater exchange of views and information among scholars working in many different areas.

It is hoped to hold the first of these seminars at the East African Institute of Social Research, Makerere College, Uganda.

The Fifth Anniversary of the Ethnological Society of Addis Ababa

THE fifth anniversary of the Ethnological Society of Addis Ababa was celebrated on 7 July 1957, with a dinner, speeches, the reading of poems, and the distribution of prizes. Many messages of congratulation and encouragement were received from institutions and individuals, including Mr. Wolf Leslau, who emphasized that the society, in breaking through long-established taboos, was the first to deal with the scientific problems of its country and thus to be in direct touch with Western scholarship.

Mr. Assefa Liban, the President, paid tribute to the society's Adviser, Mr. Chojnacki, who is also the librarian of the University College, and who has spent much time and energy working for the preservation of the living traditions of Ethiopia. The society had been faced with three main difficulties: lack of interest in research work, lack of training, and lack of a transliteration system, but although progress had been slow there were now forty members trained in research.

Mr. Chojnacki stressed the point that the idea of research was a new one in Ethiopia; a start had been made with the subject most likely to stimulate the interest of Ethiopians, namely their own ethnology and their own past, and the field had proved to be rich and unexplored. The seventh Bulletin of the society contains ten articles of which two, 'Gada' and 'The commercial and agricultural documents of the Harari people in the nineteenth century', may be published as separate bulletins. Twenty-two members were offered new topics to work on during the vacation and three were working on Goggam.

World Health Organization Nutrition Training Course for English-speaking Countries in Africa South of the Sahara¹

A NUTRITION course for doctors, veterinary surgeons, agronomists, educationists, and administrators was held in October and November 1957 in Kampala, Uganda, by invitation of the Government. The Director of the course was Dr. G. W. Gale, Professor of Preventive Medicine at Makerere College, where the meetings took place.

In his opening address, Dr. F. J. C. Cambournac, Regional Director of WHO in Africa, emphasized the paramount importance of improvement in the diet, and spoke of Africa as 'not so much an undernourished as a malnourished continent'. While the training of specialists was essential, their activities called for the support of all departments concerned in the raising of food-consumption levels, better utilization of existing resources, and education of the public.

The course was divided into two stages: the first stage was a five-week training course, consisting of lectures, demonstrations, field excursions, and discussions covering every aspect of human nutrition in Africa; the second stage was a one-week seminar, more particularly intended for officers holding high administrative positions, such as administrators, economists, and others from the level at which policies and programmes are discussed and decided.

¹ See *Africa*, xxviii, 1, 1958, pp. 59-60.

It was stressed that participants were there in their individual capacities and not on behalf of governments, but that they suggested policies and programmes which were practicable in terms of administration.

The Zanzibar Government Archives and Museum

THE first report, for the year 1956, of the newly combined Zanzibar Archives and Museum Department continues the series of reports on the work of the Peace Memorial Museum. The museum was originally opened in 1925, with an extension in 1930 devoted primarily to the natural history of Zanzibar. This annexe also contains the museum library and a small laboratory.

The successful development of the museum in its early days was due to its first curator Dr. A. H. Spurrier, assisted by Dr. W. M. Aders, and since then many Zanzibar residents have devoted time and energy to increasing its collections. In 1953 a special committee recommended that the possibility of setting up a Zanzibar Archives should be given urgent consideration, and in 1956 Mr. C. H. Thompson, who had previously been responsible for the establishment of the Government Archives in Nyasaland, was appointed Zanzibar Government Archivist and Curator of the Peace Memorial Museum.

The main difficulties to be overcome have been the accumulation of papers and the destruction of many of these by insect pests, against whom constant war must be waged. Much of the correspondence between the British Consulate, the Foreign Office, and the Bombay Government from 1840 onwards is intact and reasonably well preserved. The Consulate archives, however, have long since lost their original archival sequence; it is hoped to rearrange these at least chronologically and to compile a brief indexed inventory. A system is being worked out for the planned retirement of all records worthy of permanent preservation when they have ceased to be of immediate administrative interest. Existing accumulations of obsolete papers are to be worked over in each government department and guidance will be given on what must be preserved and what may be destroyed.

In the Museum itself attention has been concentrated on improving the administration and on sorting the accumulation of papers. It is hoped that time and money will be available to re-present some of the exhibits and to obtain new specimens for the natural history collections. The museum's collection of Zanzibar and Pemba beads has been examined and classified by Dr. van der Sleen of Naarden, Holland, who considers that many are 'trade wind' or 'barter' beads dating from A.D. 600 to 1000, brought to Africa on the monsoon winds by traders from the east. The identification of coins is being carried out by Mr. Freeman-Grenville, and by Dr. J. Walker, Keeper of Coins and Medals in the British Museum. The finding of Roman coins in Pemba may or may not be of archaeological significance, for there are many feasible explanations, but it is interesting to note that Dr. van der Sleen has drawn attention to one of the beads in the museum's collection—a transparent glass 'melon' bead—of a type found throughout the Mediterranean littoral and also in central Europe wherever Roman settlements were established.

Zanzibar's position on trunk shipping routes has made the museum very widely known and it has attracted visitors from all parts of the world.

Centenary of the Niger Mission

THE Niger Mission of the Church Missionary Society celebrated its Centenary on 16 November 1957. In a message to Bishop C. J. Patterson (Bishop on the Niger) and Bishop E. T. Dimicari (Bishop of the Niger Delta), the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Alan Lennox-Boyd, paid tribute to the devoted work of the Anglican Church in Nigeria. He pointed out that the government of the country is already largely in the hands of Nigerians,