

NOTES AND NEWS

THE Fourth Meeting of the Executive Council of the Institute was held on November 24 and 25, 1927, at Brussels, in the Palais des Académies, kindly placed at its disposal by the Prime Minister and Minister for the Colonies. The Rt. Hon. Sir F. D. Lugard was in the chair and members present included Rev. Father Dubois, Professor Lévy-Bruhl, Mr. J. H. Oldham, Sir Denison Ross, Professor Schachtzabel, Rev. Father Schebesta, Professor Seligman, Rev. E. W. Smith, Professor Van der Kerken, Professor Westermann (Director), Monsieur H. Labouret (Director), Mr. H. Vischer (Secretary General), and Miss D. G. Brackett (Secretary). The delegates were welcomed by the Prime Minister and received in audience by H. M. the King of the Belgians. Prince Léopold, who has recently visited the Belgian Congo, was present at a large reception at the house of the Prime Minister and manifested great interest in the work of the Institute.

A summary of the Minutes will appear in the next issue.

By decision of the Executive Council the Journal will as a general rule contain ninety-six pages. For the first issue, however, so much important matter has come to hand that the Institute is glad to present an enlarged number.

An announcement showing the aims of the Journal and some of the promised contributions has been prepared and copies can be had on application to the Offices of the Institute.

In order to widen the value and interest of the Journal, important articles in French, English or German will, so far as space allows, be summarized in a second language. A summary in French of Professor E. von Hornbostel's article on African Music will appear in the next issue. Summaries in French of some of the articles in this number will be found on pages 134-41.

It is proposed to publish regularly in the Journal information regarding centres of instruction in African languages at Universities, language schools, and other centres. A considerable amount of material has already been collected and will be published in the next number. In subsequent issues additional information dealing with the teaching of African languages will be given.

Information regarding ethnological lectures referring to Africa is also being collected and will be published at a future date.

Readers are invited to send any information which will enable the Institute to supply complete and up-to-date information on these subjects.

Dans le but d'explorer méthodiquement le Sahara occidental au Sud du Tropique, la Société de Géographie de Paris vient d'organiser une expédition scientifique dirigée par le Capitaine Augiéras. Cet officier, qui a une grande expérience de cette région, a déjà effectué en 1924 la liaison entre l'Afrique du Nord et la Mauritanie. Il aura comme second un Américain, M. Draper, chargé de recueillir les documents anthropologiques et ethnographiques; il sera en outre assisté de MM. Monod et Besnard, du Muséum de Paris, spécialistes désignés pour s'occuper des collections d'Histoire Naturelle, et les Lieutenants Gierzynski et d'Ornant.

La mission compte d'abord se rendre au Hoggar, explorer le cours de l'Ouéd Tamanrasset, puis se diriger vers le Sud-Ouest par le puits d'El Kseib, ou par Araouane, pour gagner la vallée du Sénégal entre Kayes et Podor. Elle traversera donc une région extrêmement riche en vestiges de la période préhistorique et sera en contact avec des populations relativement mal connues, les Maures, les Touaregs et surtout les Nemadis, parmi lesquelles elle est susceptible de recueillir des informations très précieuses. L'Institut suit avec autant de sympathie que d'intérêt cette tentative.

An anthropological expedition under the auspices of the Peabody Museum of Harvard University is now on its way to the Sudan. It is financed by the Bureau of International Research of Harvard University and Radcliffe College.

The members of the party are Frederick R. Wulsin, Patrick T. L. Putnam, and Milton Katz. They plan to go up the Nile as far as Rejaf and then to visit the Pygmies in the north-eastern portion of the Belgian Congo. They expect to reach Bangui, in French Equatorial Africa, about February 10, and will then proceed to Lake Chad. From this point they will probably reach the west coast of Africa through Nigeria. The journey may be prolonged overland to Dakar.

The purpose of the expedition is to gather anthropometric and archaeological material and to collect ethnographical specimens.

Professor D. Westermann has been invited by the Government of the Sudan to be present as expert adviser at a language conference at Rejaf, Mongalla Province, in April 1928. The objects of the Conference are to draw up a classified list of languages and dialects spoken in the Southern Sudan, and to make recommendations as to whether a system of group languages should be adopted for educational purposes, and if so what languages should be selected as the group languages for the various areas. Professor Westermann will travel out via Kenya and Uganda.

Mr. J. H. Oldham, one of the Secretaries of the International Missionary Council, and a member of the Executive Council of the Institute, has been

appointed a member of the East African Commission which has been set up by the British Government. He left for Africa with the other members of the Commission in December.

Professor D. Carl Meinhof, Mitglied des Exekutivrates, ist von den Universitäten in Südafrika eingeladen worden, eine Reihe von Vorträgen zu halten, und hat seine Reise dorthin im Dezember angetreten. Ein weiterer Zweck seiner Reise ist, unter den wenigen noch lebenden Koranna-Hottentotten sprachliche Aufnahmen zu machen, eine Aufgabe, die umso wichtiger ist, da von diesem Dialekt der Hottentotten nur ungenügendes Material vorhanden ist, und es voraussichtlich bald keine Menschen mehr geben wird, die den Dialekt sprechen. Professor Meinhof wird nach einem längeren Aufenthalt in Südafrika auch verschiedene Punkte der Ostküste besuchen, um dort ebenfalls sprachliche Studien zu machen.