

Folia Scientifica Africae Centralis

A NEW quarterly bulletin, published at Bukavu, Belgian Congo, by IRSAC, is designed to provide information on the current activities of the Institut pour la Recherche scientifique en Afrique Centrale. Published in French and Flemish, with summaries in English, it gives brief accounts of recent publications and work done under the headings: Sciences biologiques, Sciences humaines, and Sciences physiques. The first number, which appeared in March 1955, includes a summary of the work done by IRSAC in the field of nutrition since 1947 with notices of publications already issued or forthcoming; a discussion of the methodology of statistical research, with an analysis of the use of sampling techniques in Ruanda-Urundi; a report of the work carried out at three seismological stations (Lwiro, Uvira, and Astrida).

Comité Interafricain pour les Sciences Humaines

THE member Governments of C.C.T.A. have established an Inter-African Committee for the Social Sciences, which is to be a permanent organization, working under the auspices of C.C.T.A. and designed to further co-operation and mutual consultation in the field of the social sciences in Africa. The headquarters of the committee are at Bukavu, Belgian Congo, its secretary is Doctor Jacques J. Maquet, Director of the local centre of IRSAC at Astrida. The Committee consists of six members, representing the six member governments of C.C.T.A. (Belgium, Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, France, Portugal, United Kingdom, Union of South Africa).

Journées Internationales Africaines de Gand, 1954

A DETAILED report of the conference held on the occasion of the Foire Internationale de Gand has been published by the Department of Agriculture, Belgian Ministry of Colonies, under the title *La Collaboration des Indigènes au Développement économique de l'Afrique*. Representatives from South Africa, Italy, Portugal, Belgium, France, United Kingdom, and Netherlands took part in the Conference. M. Buisseret, Belgian Minister of Colonies, opened the proceedings with an account of the general economy of the Congo and its development; other papers dealt with economic collaboration between European and other races in the Union of South Africa, the role of Whites and Africans in the economic development of the Congo, African attitudes and economic change in Uganda, the Gezira scheme in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, economic development in Italian Somaliland. The report includes, besides the text of papers read, a very full account of the discussions.

West African Institute of Social and Economic Research

THE Fourth Annual Conference of the West African Institute of Social and Economic Research took place at the University College of the Gold Coast, Achimota, between 28 March and 2 April 1955.

The Conference was opened by the Honourable K. A. Gbedema, Minister of Finance of the Gold Coast. Fifty-two delegates attended and 27 papers were read. Delegates to the conference came from the United Kingdom: Miss Phyllis Deane and Mr. A. Hazlewood; from France: Professor G. Leduc; from the U.S.A.: Professor W. O. Brown (Boston) and Professor R. Turner (Yale); from IFAN, Dakar: M. J. Mersadier; from IFAN, Abidjan: M. B. Holas; from IFAN, Dahomey: MM. J. Lombard, Kaeta, and C. Tardits; from Cotonou: M. A. de Cargouet (Franco-Britannic Liaison Officer); and from the Belgian Congo:

Dr. J. J. Maquet (IRSAC). The remaining delegates came from Nigeria and the Gold Coast. The Conference was also attended by a number of people resident in Achimota and Accra.

In linguistics the following papers were read: 'Plans for Research on the Languages of West Africa' by H. J. Uldall (U.C.I.); 'Pronunciation of English in West Africa' by P. D. Strevens (U.C.G.C.); 'National and Official Languages of the Gold Coast' by A. Spicer (U.C.G.C.); and 'Speech defects in the Accra district' by Mrs. C. McCallien (U.C.G.C.). An open session in linguistics was held for the discussion of linguistic surveys in West Africa. In anthropology the papers read were: 'Mouvements prosélytiques en Côte d'Ivoire' by B. Holas (IFAN, Abidjan); 'A Discussion of the Theory of *Élites* in a West African Context' by P. Morton-Williams (WAISER); 'Évolution de la Vie familiale dans une ville africaine: Cotonou' by J. Lombard (IFAN, Porto Novo); 'The Gramophone and Contemporary African Music in the Gold Coast' by J. H. Nketia (U.C.G.C.); and 'Structural Changes in the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast' by D. Tait (U.C.G.C.). In economics the papers read were: 'The Process of Changes in Land Tenure in the Gold Coast' by R. J. H. Pogucki (Lands Department, Gold Coast); 'Problems of Economic Growth' by Miss P. Deane (Cambridge University); 'Approaches to Housing Policy' by Mrs. M. Niculescu and E. R. Rado (U.C.G.C.); 'Niger Agricultural Project at Mokwa in the Niger Province, Northern Region' by K. D. S. Baldwin (WAISER); 'Le Problème des Investissements privés en Afrique Occidentale' by Professor G. Leduc (University of Paris); 'Industries and Development in Low-Income Territories' by B. M. Niculescu (U.C.G.C.); 'The Gold Coast Economy in the Eighteen-Eighties' by H. J. Bevin (U.C.G.C.); 'The Mortgaging of Gold Coast Cocoa-Farms, 1900-1954' by Miss P. Hill (WAISER); and 'Premiers Résultats d'une enquête sur le niveau de vie d'une population urbaine' by J. Mersadier (IFAN, Dakar). In geography two papers were read: 'The Demographic Consequences of Social Change' by A. A. Igun (Education Officer—Statistics—Western Region, Nigeria), and 'Population Patterns and Migration in north-west Sokoto Province' by R. M. Prothero (WAISER). In sociology the papers read were: 'The Housing Situation in Kumasi' by A. Sutherland (Town Planning Officer, Kumasi); 'Begging and Destitution in the Towns of the Gold Coast' by Miss M. Clarkson (Senior Welfare Officer, Kumasi); 'Sociological Analysis of West African Political Parties' by P. C. Lloyd (WAISER); 'The 1954 General Election: A Public Opinion Survey in Accra' by W. B. Birmingham and G. Jahoda (U.C.G.C.); and 'The Muslim Vote in the Accra Constituencies' by J. H. Price (U.C.G.C.). Professor B. J. Garnier (U.C.I.) read a paper sent by Mrs. E. M. Chilver (C.S.S.R.C.) on 'The East African Institute of Social Research'; Professor W. O. Brown (Boston University) gave an informal talk on the 'The Development and Present Status of African studies in the U.S.A.'; and Dr J. J. Maquet (IRSAC) gave a brief communication on IRSAC and the forthcoming CCTA Conference at Bukavu.

It is expected that the Proceedings of this Conference will be published by the early autumn of this year after the publication of the proceedings of the Third Annual Conference, which took place in 1954.

[Communicated by Philip Dark, Secretary, Executive Committee.]

Social Science Conference, University of Natal

A CONFERENCE on problems of Social Research in South Africa was held in Durban from 12-16 July 1954, at the invitation of the University of Natal. It was attended by representatives of universities, government departments, and institutions in the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia interested in social sciences. The Principal of Natal Uni-