

*Ethnological Conference in Bremen*

FROM 14 to 17 June 1954 an ethnological conference was held in Bremen. Among other papers concerned with Spain, Sumatra, Bolivia, and North America, the following studies in African ethnology were presented: Dr. Haberland of Frankfurt, 'Field research among the Borana-Galla'; Dr. Herzog of Göttingen, a report of a recent expedition to Kordofan and Nubia; Dr. Prins of Groningen, 'Shungwaya, the original home of the North-eastern Bantu'; Fr. Dr. Schlosser of Kiel, 'The cultural situation of natives in South Africa today'; Fr. Dr. Sulzmann of Mainz, 'Iyaya and Bobongo—The dances of the Ekonda'. At the conclusion of the conference it was agreed that the next conference of the German Ethnological Association should be held in Berlin.

*South African Institute of Race Relations*

THE Southern Transvaal Regional Committee has established a central study group which meets twice a month, starting from February 1955, to discuss a wide range of topics on the general theme of 'Peoples and Policies in South Africa'. The subjects planned include: the historical background; general population distribution; urban and rural distribution; urbanization and industrialization; concept of western civilization.

*An African Drama (Côte d'Ivoire)*

A THEATRICAL performance was presented in June 1954 by two drama groups of the *Cercle Culturel et Folklorique* of the Côte d'Ivoire. The main feature of the entertainment was a play by F. Amon d'Aby, *Kwao Adjoba*; the play portrayed the efforts of a man and his wife to create a cocoa-plantation, and their success after long struggles against many difficulties. But this success, and the man's affluence and liberality to his own children, arouse the anger and jealousy of his maternal kin who, in a matrilineal society, are his heirs and resent his dissipation of the fortune which should be theirs. In the end, the heirs encompass his death and dispossess his wife and children. The play, though open to criticism on several scores, made a profoundly moving impression on a large audience and was described as 'le drame de la succession matriarcale, court, brutal'.

*The Somaliland Society*

THE Somaliland Society was formed in September 1954 at a meeting of interested persons in Hargeisa. Its objects are to promote an interest in, and knowledge of, the history, languages, legends, customs, economics, arts, and natural sciences of Somaliland. A council and editors have been elected; membership is open to all on payment of a minimum subscription of 5s. per annum. It is proposed to publish a half-yearly Journal which will be written mainly in English, though some Arabic material may be included. From time to time lectures, discussions, and other activities will be arranged. The Hon. Secretary is Mr. J. M. Watson and the Hon. Treasurer Mr. Mohamoud Abdi Arraleh.

*Survey of Current Research on the Middle East*

THE Middle East Institute, a private organization in Washington, D.C., is preparing for publication an annual Survey of Current Research on the Middle East. The purpose of this Survey is to provide scholars and educational institutions with information on what research has recently been completed or is now being undertaken in the field.

*Definition of research:* (1) accumulation of original data; (2) classification of original data;

(3) interpretation of data previously accumulated; (4) re-interpretation of data previously studied; (5) translation, bibliography, vocabulary, &c., with annotation.

*Geographical limits:* the Arab countries, Israel, Afghanistan, Iran, Turkey, North Africa, the Sudan, Ethiopia, and Eritrea.

*Disciplinary limits:* emphasis on the social sciences, but including all related aspects of the humanities and natural sciences.

*Chronological limits:* none (ancient, medieval, and modern).

All those who are currently engaged in research on the Middle East, or have completed such research since 1 October 1954, are urged to submit the following information: name, address, topic of investigation, sponsoring organization (if any), date of completion, or estimated date if still in progress, and pertinent comments on the nature of the research, sources being used, and method of approach.

Please address correspondence to:

Survey of Research, The Middle East Institute, 1761 N. Street, N.W. Washington 6, D.C.

### *The Population Council, Inc., New York: Fellowship Program*

THE Population Council, Inc., of New York announces an expanded programme of fellowships for advanced training in the study of population at the pre-doctoral and post-doctoral levels. Fellowships will be available for study in universities in the United States and elsewhere. Preference will be given to qualified applicants from countries other than the United States and Europe. Fellows will normally receive support for full-time work for a period of one year. The basic stipend of \$2,500 per year may be supplemented to provide for travel expenses, maintenance of dependants, and for other exceptional expenses. Somewhat larger stipends may be granted to post-doctoral than to pre-doctoral Fellows.

Requests for further information and for application forms should be addressed to:

The Population Council, Inc., 230 Park Avenue, New York 17, N.Y.

### *Institut d'Études Centrafricaines (Brazzaville)*

LE Conseil Consultatif de Recherches de l'Institut d'Études Centrafricaines s'est réuni le 25 septembre 1954 à Brazzaville. M. le Professeur Trochain, le Directeur, a donné un résumé des travaux réalisés pendant l'année 1953-1954 et des programmes de recherches projetées. Dans la section Sciences Humaines, M. Soret avait achevé une enquête sur les besoins en main-d'œuvre dans la Vallée du Niari, et une enquête sur les caractéristiques de la main-d'œuvre sans emploi à Brazzaville. En outre M. Soret s'occupait toujours de la préparation d'une carte ethnique d'A.É.F. dont la première feuille (Brazzaville) était en voie d'achèvement. La section d'Ethnologie musicale s'occupait de la préparation d'un ouvrage de synthèse 'mettant en évidence les résonances que l'on entrevoit entre ces éléments que sont la musique, le rythme, la danse, la parole . . .'. Cet ouvrage réunira toute la documentation acquise par M. Pepper dans le Moyen-Congo et le Gabon.

### *Linguistic Studies in Nigeria*

DR. R. C. ABRAHAM has been compiling a *Grammar of Yoruba* and an illustrated *Yoruba-English Dictionary*; he spent some time in Nigeria working on these projects with the aid of grants from the Government of Nigeria, which is sponsoring publication, and from the West African Institute of Social and Economic Research. These two works will be published during the present year, concurrently with his *Structure of Hausa* and *Hausa Extracts*. On the completion of these studies he proposes to make a further stay in Nigeria with a view to preparing studies of the Ibo language.