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### *Sixth Pan-African Congress of Prehistory and Quaternary Study*

THE Sixth Pan-African Congress of Prehistory and Quaternary Study will be held at Dakar from 2 to 8 December 1967, under the auspices of the Presidency and the University of Dakar. The reunion at Dakar will coincide with the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the Congress at Nairobi, Kenya, in 1947. Information regarding the programme may be obtained from: Secrétariat du VI<sup>e</sup> Congrès Panafricain de Préhistoire et de l'Étude du Quaternaire, I.F.A.N., B.P. 206, Dakar (Sénégal).

### *Human Migrations in Southern Africa*

WITH reference to his article, 'Evidence of Human Migrations from the Rock Art of Southern Rhodesia' (*Africa*, xxxv, 3, 1965, pp. 263-85), Mr. C. K. Cooke has sent the following note from Mrs. Dora Fock of Kimberley:

The following observations may be of interest:

(1) You state: 'The worst area to be crossed is that from Etosha Pan southwards to the Brandberg Mountains.' I did this trip by car during 1963. From Okoukuejo westwards through the Kaokoveld there is plenty of grass for sheep even at the end of the dry season (September). There is, however, a little Mopani near Outjo but this can be avoided without undue deviation from the main route.

(2) In the Okambahe area the language spoken is Nama (Hottentot), the people living there are 'Klippkafiers' (Berg Damas). In the same area, not far from Uis, there were small tin workings. To extract the tin (crystal) from the crushed sand the miners employed elderly women who were called 'Schuttelweiber' (women shakers). By shaking a flat container these women were able to separate the heavy materials from the light and thus recover the tin. On questioning I learnt that in former times the Berg Dama used to obtain food from grass seeds which they collected and then separated—the seeds from the chaff and perhaps also sand—by this method. The seeds were ground into a flour and cooked as porridge. On further questioning I learnt that this art was no longer practised and therefore lost to the younger women because other food was now available. I am quite certain that in the remote past when your Hottentot shepherds migrated on the routes laid out by you in your paper they also increased their meagre food supplies by the use of grass seeds. So if there was grass for sheep there would be grass seeds for the shepherds.

I heard about the Schuttelweiber in 1954/5 but as I only came to South West Africa in 1952 I did not realize that this method of separating materials was not well known.

It is understood that research is to be carried out on the Berg Dama people by an anthropologist from Mainz University. I hope that he will be able to investigate the 'Schuttelweiber' and publish his findings.

### *East African Research Information Centre*

AN East African Research Information Centre is being established in Nairobi under the auspices of the East African Academy. The centre will compile and provide up-to-date information on past and current social research in the three East African countries Uganda,

Kenya, and Tanzania. A three-year grant has been made by the Ford Foundation to establish the centre which will be directed by Dr. Angela Molnos, who also holds a bursary of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation of West Germany. Dr. Molnos had earlier made a study of social researches in East Africa over the period 1954-63 and the results were published in her book *Die sozialwissenschaftliche Erforschung Ostafrikas 1954-1963 (Kenya, Tanganyika/Sansibar, Uganda)* (Springer, for Ifo-Institut, München, 1965) which gives a comprehensive bibliography for this period together with a commentary on the scope of researches listed under tribal groups, topics, and territories. Information and inquiries should be addressed to: Dr. Angela Molnos, c/o The Ford Foundation, P.O. Box 1081, Nairobi, Kenya.

### *Institute of Ethiopian Studies: Social Research Seminar*

THE Institute of Ethiopian Studies of Haile Selassie I University held its first annual Social Research Seminar from 20 to 23 April, under the general chairmanship of Dr. I. M. Lewis of University College London. It received assistance from the British Ministry of Overseas Development, and was planned by Dr. Richard Pankhurst and Professor J. Comhaire. The Seminar was concerned with the North-East African region and received reports on field work in Somalia and the Sudan as well as in Ethiopia, being attended by anthropologists currently engaged in field-work and by members of the Haile Selassie I University's Faculties of Arts, Law, Medicine, Business Administration, and the Institute of Ethiopian Studies, as well as staff of the Ministry of Community Development and Public Health. Papers were given by Dr. D. Hecht on 'Sacred kingship in Africa', Ato Fekadu Gedamu on the 'Social organisation of the Kistane Gurage', J. Stauder on 'The social organisation of the Mahan-gir', Dr. I. M. Lewis on 'Possession cults in Northern Somalia', Mr. A. Orent on 'The Doce cult in Kaffa', Virginia Luling on 'Spirit-possession cults in Mogadiscio', Ato Terefe Walde Tsadik on 'The Muyat cult in Shoa', R. Hallpike on 'Status of craftsmen among the Konso', Mr. M. Cittadini, on 'Kunama marriage', and J. Lisowski on 'Biometrics of N.E. African migrations'. Development papers were given by P. Sand on 'Law as a factor of social change', G. Savard on 'Social factors in development', M. de Young on 'Markets in Ethiopia', S. Messing on 'Medical attitudes and practices in Ethiopia' and R. Bahar on 'Rural housing in Ethiopia'.

### *The Register of Current Research on Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa*

THIS *Register*, published by the Institute of the Ethiopian Studies of Haile Selassie I University, is edited by Richard Pankhurst and S. Chojnacki and lists all scholars and current research workers dealing with the Horn of Africa, with information on their publication plans.

Offprints of 'Notes and News' are available on a subscription basis as from January 1966. They are printed on one side of the paper only so that the individual entries may be mounted on cards to form a card index. The annual subscription is 10s. (\$1.50; F 6.90), post free.