

## Notes and News

### *International Library of African Music: Ford Foundation Grant*

THE International Library of African Music at Roodeport, South Africa, which has the world's largest collection of recorded African music, has received a grant of \$145,000 from the Ford Foundation. Dr. Hugh Tracey, Director of the Library, will use the grant to expand the geographical coverage of his recordings, particularly in West Africa, and to produce textbooks and other indigenous teaching materials for use in African schools.

### *The African Studies Association (U.S.A.): Oral Data Center, Grants-in-Aid for Scholars Preparing Collections of Oral Data*

IN June 1968 the Ford Foundation announced a grant of \$129,500 to the African Studies Association for the work of the Oral Data Committee in the next five years. The grant is designed especially to encourage the public deposit and dissemination of oral data collected in Africa, looking forward to a time when much of the valuable oral literature and oral traditions still alive in African societies will have disappeared in the march towards modernization. Tapes, transcriptions, and field notes that have been collected in Africa and are still in private hands will then become an invaluable source for the study of traditional African culture and history.

The Ford grant makes possible, first of all, the establishment of a central depository for African oral data in the United States. This Center for African Oral Data will be located at the Archives of Traditional Music, 013 Maxwell Hall, Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind. 47401, under the sponsorship of the African Studies Association. The Archives has already begun receiving and cataloguing tape collections of African oral traditions. Scholars who have collections of this kind are urged to communicate directly with the Archives of Traditional Music, which has facilities for air-conditioned storage of tapes, copying, and dissemination of taped material to scholarly users, universities, or other oral data centres in Africa or Europe. When a tape collection is put on deposit, the depositor receives a copy in return while the original is set aside and used only to make further copies. The Archives will publish announcements of its holdings from time to time and will seek to provide finding-aids in the field of African oral data generally.

Although the Oral Data Committee urges scholars to open their collections for public use at the earliest possible date, some depositors may wish to restrict use of their collections until their own conclusions have been published. Meanwhile, the Archives is prepared to hold copies under restrictions imposed by the collector. Deposit, in these circumstances, provides security against the loss of material that may exist in only one copy and assures its ultimate availability to other scholars.

The goal, however, is a series of well-presented collections of oral data, whatever the discipline of the original collector. In order to have maximum usefulness to other scholars, both present and future, collections of this sort need the fullest possible information from the collector, including tables of contents, annotation, in many cases at least, taped translations into a Western language, and perhaps transcription and written translation as well. To prepare a collection of oral data in this form is as much a 'publication' as the publication in print of a series of annotated written texts.

In order to encourage the scholarly preparation of oral data collections for deposit, the grant from the Ford Foundation provides for a limited number of grants-in-aid to assist with the necessary costs in time, informants, and materials. Grants will be made at the

beginning of each year by the Oral Data Committee of the African Studies Association for the purpose of transcription, translation, annotation, copying, or indexing collections of oral data from Africa. (Grants are not offered for field collection.)

Application forms are available from the African Studies Association, 622 West 113th Street, New York, N.Y. 10025. They are due at the offices of the Association by 1 January 1969, and the announcement of the first year's awards will be made before 1 February 1969. Awards are not limited to American citizens or to members of the African Studies Association, though ultimate public deposit will be a condition of all grants-in-aid. In addition to the annual competition, small grants on an emergency basis may occasionally be made when special and temporary opportunities for transcription or translation occur during field research in Africa. Requests should be addressed to the Chairman, Oral Data Committee, in care of the Association's office in New York.

Since the programme of the Oral Data Committee is still in an experimental stage, the committee would appreciate hearing about the problems, experiences, and needs of field-workers and other users of oral data in any field of African Studies. Correspondence should be addressed to the chairman of the committee. Correspondence concerning the deposit of collections or the copying of collections already on deposit should be addressed directly to the Archives of the Traditional Music in Bloomington, Indiana.

### *Research on Economics of East and West African Agricultural Development*

A SEMINAR on this subject, jointly sponsored by the American Universities Research Program of the Agricultural Development Council, Inc. (NYC) and the Department of Agricultural Economics, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, was held at East Lansing on 9-14 June 1968. The Conference Chairman was Dr. Carl K. Eicher, Michigan State University, and the Rapporteur Mr. Dan Etherington, Food Research Institute, Stanford University.

The subjects discussed at the sessions were as follows: Agricultural Policy and Planning in East Africa; Current Research on West African Agricultural Development; Comparative Studies of East and West African Agricultural Development; Current Research on Agricultural Development in East Africa; Preliminary Observations on Population and Economic Development in East and West Africa; Evaluation of the Comparative Examination of East and West Agricultural Economics Research.

### *Research at the University of South Africa, Pretoria*

THE following research is being pursued in the Department of Native Administration: *Professor B. S. van As*: policy with regard to urban native housing in Malawi, Zambia, Rhodesia, and South Africa; *Mr. D. A. Kotze*: the role of traditional institutions in African government, with special reference to local government in the Transkei and Lesotho; *Mr. J. C. N. Mentz*: factors influencing the functioning of urban local Bantu government; a typological study of the Urban Bantu Council of Welkom, South Africa; *Mr. P. J. Hugo*: political representation in multi-racial societies, with special reference to the Coloured population of South Africa; *Mr. W. Bosman*: administration of Bantu land tenure in the Bantu areas of South Africa, with special reference to the Bantu Affairs Commissioner's Area of Hammanskraal.

### *Université d'Abidjan: Nouvelles de la Recherche*

Institut d'Ethno-sociologie:

*M. Memel Fote*: le système politique traditionnel des Adiukru comparé aux systèmes politiques traditionnels des peuples lagunaires; *M. Niangoran Bouah*: l'organisation politique des