

## Notes and News

### *The Development and Scope of African Studies*

THE International African Institute has been aware for some time of the growing importance of reviewing the development of programmes of training and research in tropical African studies. The number of centres throughout the world has increased greatly over the last few years and many of those responsible for directing the various current training and research programmes have become acutely conscious of the need for exchanging and co-ordinating information. Some research schemes have considerably overlapped in scope without the awareness of the bodies concerned, and opportunities for co-operation and exchange of information have been lost.

The Institute is therefore endeavouring to assemble information for consideration at a conference in April 1964, in co-operation with the University of Ibadan, at which it is hoped that the directors of African studies programmes in the universities and other centres of tropical Africa will meet with participants from other countries to take stock of developments so far, and to consider arrangements for securing a more comprehensive and effective communication of ideas concerning future activities and co-operation between institutions. It is hoped in this way to foster closer links among research workers and teachers in the various social and related studies in tropical Africa and to assist them in establishing closer relations with organizations and scholars elsewhere.

The Institute is seeking the assistance of all interested institutions in obtaining full information on the present position with regard to training and research programmes in tropical African studies. The conference will consider various aspects of the future development of teaching and research, and especially the need for and means of organizing the exchange of information and joint planning for the co-ordination of programmes between institutions, including liaison in teaching and research between centres in tropical Africa and appropriate centres overseas.

### *Institut National Tchadien pour les Sciences Humaines*

LE Centre tchadien pour les Sciences humaines (Fort-Lamy), fondé le 26 Janvier 1961, vient d'être renommé l'Institut National Tchadien pour les Sciences Humaines (I.N.T.S.H.) sous la direction du Professeur J.-P. Lebeuf, membre du Conseil exécutif de l'Institut International Africain; son administrateur est M. Jean Chapelle, historien, auteur notamment des *Nomades noirs du Sahara*, qui procède actuellement au recensement des archives historiques tchadiennes.

Le nouvel Institut continue en les étendant les travaux entrepris par le Centre tchadien pour les Sciences humaines: atlas général du Tchad, carte archéologique du Tchad et du Cameroun, classification des groupes ethniques tchadiens, codification des noms de lieux, ethnologie des Kotoko, des Massa et des Sara, exploitation de sites protohistoriques Sao, etc.

### *Centre d'Étude des Religions de l'Université de Bruxelles*

UN groupe d'historiens et d'ethnologues de l'Université Libre de Bruxelles ont créé en 1957 un Centre d'Étude des Religions. Les travaux des séminaires s'élaborent chaque année autour d'un thème de recherches précis.

Le Centre d'Étude des Religions entend promouvoir la connaissance laïque du sacré; ses membres se consacrent, en toute indépendance d'esprit, à l'analyse des mythes et des systèmes religieux du passé comme du présent. Ils confrontent les points de vues historique, structurel, psychologique et phénoménologique.