

- (iv) to publish and assist the publication of the results of scholarly research in this field;
- (v) to offer grants for research in this field, whenever practicable and desirable;
- (vi) to establish association or affiliation with any other recognized scholarly association or international body as may seem desirable, and in particular with the International Council for Philosophy and the Humanistic Sciences, thereby entering into official relationship with UNESCO.

The Society expects to take over and develop most of the activities begun by the West African Languages Survey, including the organization of the annual Congress of West African Languages.

Professor Joseph H. Greenberg, the Chairman of the West African Languages Survey, is to be Chairman of the Council of the Society. Dr. Ayo Bamgboṣe, of the University of Ibadan, is the Society's Secretary-Treasurer. The other members of the Council are: Professor Robert G. Armstrong, Institute of African Studies, Ibadan; Professor Maurice Houis, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, and formerly of IFAN, Dakar; Dr. M. Bot ba Njock, Université Fédérale du Cameroun, Yaoundé; Mr. Gilbert Ansre, Institute of African Studies, Ghana, and at present at SOAS, London; Professor Eldred Jones, University College of Sierra Leone; Dr. Bakary Coulibaly, École Normale de Ouagadougou, Haute-Volta; Professor Serge Sauvageot, Université de Dakar.

(Communicated by Mr. John Spencer)

### *International Congress of Bantu Linguists*

M. ANDRÉ JACQUOT, who is in charge of language research at ORSTOM, would welcome exploratory discussions with those likely to be interested in an International Congress of Bantu Linguists, to be held at Brazzaville in July 1967, organized by the Centre d'Enseignement Supérieur. By 1967 the latter institution will have been set up as an autonomous university. The question of language classification, which may lead to a re-evaluation of the nature of relationships between Bantu and other language families, is likely to be raised at the congress, and topics of interest to other specialists, such as comparative philology, socio-linguistics, Bantu literature, etc., could also be included. The programme for the meetings will depend largely on indications furnished by intending participants, who should communicate at their earliest convenience with M. Jacquot at ORSTOM, B.P. 181, Brazzaville, Congo.

### *Symposium on African Art: Columbia University, New York*

ON 15 May 1965 a symposium on 'The Aristocratic Traditions in African Art' was convened under the sponsorship of the Department of Art History and the Institute of African Studies, Columbia University, New York. Some fifty art historians, anthropologists, and museum curators met to hear and discuss six papers on aspects of the courtly or aristocratic styles in Africa, under the chairmanship of Professor Paul S. Wingert. Speakers included Daniel Biebuyck of the University of California, Los Angeles, formerly of Lovanium University, on the functions of art among the highest (or Kindi) grade members of the Bwami society of the Lega (Warega) of eastern Congo, and Roy Sieber of Indiana University on the meaning and history of funerary terracottas among the Kwahu of Ghana. Robert F. Thompson of Yale contrasted certain aristocratic elements in Yoruba art with others believed to be deliberately anti-aesthetic. Two groups of aristocratic art forms found in Iboland, the one indigenous, the other borrowed from Benin, were interpreted by Herbert M. Cole of Columbia University. Suzanne Rudy of Douglass College, Rutgers

identified several Cameroons figure-sculptures as 'royal portraits' on the basis of their imagery. Douglas Fraser of Columbia called attention to iconographic features of fish-legged figures from Benin that suggest a Late Antique-Eastern Empire ancestry for this form. An expanded version of the proceedings including additional essays on Kuba, Baoule, and Chokwe art is now being prepared for publication. The Department of Art History, Columbia University, plans to sponsor future symposia on other aspects of non-Western art.

### *Michigan State University: African Dance Course*

'AFRICAN DANCE', the first American University course devoted to the indigenous dances of tropical Africa, was offered during the Spring 1965 Term at Michigan State University by Judith Lynne Hanna and jointly sponsored by the African Studies Center and the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation.

The course had a twofold approach: (1) the functions and (2) the structures and styles of African dance. The former included such issues as the relationship of dance to the society of which it is a part, and its impact on the performers and spectators. The structural and stylistic approach considered how the elements of dance (space, dynamics, and rhythm) are used. A bibliography of ninety-three items, which is available on request, was specially prepared for the course. Students had an opportunity to see demonstrated and to participate in dances from the following ethnic groups: Acholi, Danakil, Ganda, Giriama, Gurage, Ibo, Iteso, Kamba, Luo Menjar, Nandi, Nyoro, Samburu, Somali, Tusi, Wolamo, and Yoruba.

### *Research Fellowships for African Studies*

THE American Social Science Research Council has awarded the following Research Training Fellowships for African Studies:

*Enid Schildkrout* (Cambridge, England): immigrant communities in Ghana.

*Philip Silverman* (Cornell): political change in Barotseland.

### *Research Grants from the Scandinavian Institute of African Studies*

THE Board of the Institute of African Studies at the University of Uppsala has awarded grants for African Studies in 1965 for the following projects:

*Gunilla Beckman* (Stockholm): significance of industrialization for the distribution of population, especially urbanization in Ghana.

*Gunmar Carlsson* (Lund): problems concerning *Simulium damnosum* as the carrier of onchocerciasis in Upper Volta.

*Lars Rudebeck* (Uppsala): The one party system in Tunisia.

*Professor Bengt Sundkler* (Uppsala): Separatist African religious groups in Swaziland, Zululand, and Johannesburg.

### *Activités récentes de l'Institut National Tchadien pour les Sciences Humaines*

FONDÉ en 1961, l'Institut National Tchadien pour les Sciences Humaines (1, Place de l'Indépendance, B.P. 503, Fort-Lamy, République du Tchad) poursuit, en liaison avec le C. N. R. S., principalement, son programme de recherche sous la direction du Professeur J.-P. Lebeuf, Directeur de Recherche au C. N. R. S. A l'Institut ont été rattachés le Musée