

Laboratoire d'Hydrobiologie de Mali, a effectué pour le compte de la F.A.O., une mission d'étude de développement de la pêche fluviale au Niger. L'extension de l'enquête de la Nigéria au Mali et à la Guinée sera envisagée.

Monsieur Marc Piault, qui a été l'un des responsables de l'enquête Migrations de la CCTA/CSA, se rendra en 1962 au Ghana pour compléter son enquête urbaine de la ville de Kumasi. En liaison avec Monsieur Rouch, il participera à la mise à jour qualitative de l'enquête 'Migrations'. Il entreprendra aussi l'étude des groupes haoussa occidentaux et en particulier l'étude des groupes de la région de Birni N'Konni. Cette étude, qui complète les travaux de Monsieur Nicolas, sera élargie dans les années suivantes aux autres groupes haoussa occidentaux. Ainsi les Haoussa du Niger, négligés jusqu'alors par les anthropologues, seront étudiés dans leur ensemble.

Monsieur E. Bernus, géographe de l'ORSTOM, se rendra au Niger en septembre 1962 pour y entreprendre une étude à long terme des groupements nomades, Touareg-Bella, et éventuellement Peul nomades, non encore étudiés par Mademoiselle Dupire. Le thème de cette étude portera principalement sur le problème de la 'sédentarisation des nomades'.

Madame C. Odier entreprendra en 1962 la mise à jour des documents de G. de Gironcourt (1908-1909 et 1911-1912), qui rapporta de ces missions dans la boucle du Niger un corpus d'estampages d'inscriptions lithiques, où figuraient les stèles de la Nécropole de Bentia, supposé être l'ancienne capitale des Sonraï, Koukya. Il rapporta également 223 manuscrits arabes (originaux et copies) actuellement déposés à la bibliothèque de l'Institut (Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres). Les premières photocopies de manuscrits ont été envoyées au Niger et des lettrés arabes (en particulier Alfa Mossi du service de l'IFAN) en ont entrepris la traduction. Il s'agit d'un ouvrage de 354 pages sur l'histoire des Sonraï, écrite par un lettré de Zinder (cercle de Tillabéry). Ce manuscrit est vraisemblablement l'un des plus anciens ouvrages connus au Niger à ce jour.

International Commission of Jurists

A SEMINAR on the Rule of Law in Africa, to which African students are being invited, is being held by the International Commission of Jurists (Geneva, Switzerland) in co-operation with 'Justice', the British Section of the Commission, from 9 to 11 October, at St. Catharine's, Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park, Berkshire. The Seminar will include talks and discussions on such subjects as fundamental rights and the Rule of Law, new constitutions in Africa and fundamental rights, and the Rule of Law in Africa today. Speakers will include distinguished lawyers and jurists, and participants in the Seminar will contribute to the discussions.

The Fourth Pan-African Congress on Prehistory

THE papers presented and discussed at the Fourth Pan-African Congress on Prehistory, held at Leopoldville from 22 to 29 August 1959, have recently been published by the Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, under the editorship of Georges Mortelmans and Jacques Nenquin.¹ The papers in French, English, and Spanish illustrated with diagrams, photographs, and maps include the following contributions:

The Neolithic Cultures of East Africa
Neolithic Cultures of Ghana

M. Posnansky
O. Davies

¹ *Actes du 4^e Congrès panafricain de préhistoire et de l'étude du quaternaire*. Section 3, Pré- et protohistoire. Tervuren: Mus. roy. Afr. centr. (Annales, Sér. in-8°, Sci. humaines, 40), 1962. Pp. 505.

Recent Developments in Iron Age Studies in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland	R. Inskeep
Ancient Ife: an Ethnographical Summary	W. Fagg and F. Willett
Some Archaeological Aspects of the Ethnohistory in Uganda	M. Posnansky
Le Début de l'Age des Métaux dans la région des Grands Lacs africains	J. Hiernaux
L'Archéologie de la région du Tchad	J.-P. Lebeuf
The Nok Terra-cottas in West African Art History	B. E. B. Fagg

Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa

THE Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa has recently been set up under the Chairmanship of Mr. J. D. Pearson, Librarian of the School of Oriental and African Studies. It was felt that documentary materials for the study of modern Africa in all its aspects were inadequately provided by libraries in the United Kingdom, and the aims of the organization are to facilitate the acquisition and preservation, and to assist in the recording and use, of such materials. Full membership is open to institutions in the United Kingdom actively acquiring library materials on Africa and co-operating in the schemes promoted by the Conference. Supporting membership is open to other bodies interested in the aims of the organization. Representatives of the Colonial Office, the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, London, the Royal Commonwealth Society, Rhodes House, Oxford, the B.B.C., and the London School of Economics, are also on the Committee. The International African Institute was represented on the preliminary working committee. A programme has now been approved and work has already been initiated on some of the projects. The annual subscription is a minimum of £3. 3s. All inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, Miss Dorothy Hamerton, Librarian, The Royal Institute of International Affairs, London, S.W. 1.

'Afrique Contemporaine'

A NEW bi-monthly journal, *Afrique Contemporaine*, has recently appeared from the Centre d'Études et de Documentation sur l'Afrique et l'Outre-Mer, under the direction of M. Robert Cornevin. The journal contains the text of the most important official documents, a diary of events, analyses of articles in the principal African newspapers, reports of congresses and international organizations, and an annotated bibliography of recent books. It should prove a useful work of reference for politicians, journalists, research workers, and others interested in the development of Africa south of the Sahara. The annual subscription of 16 NF should be sent to L'Administration Abonnements, 16 rue Lord-Byron, Paris 8^e.

Margaret Wrong Memorial Fund: Award for 1961

THE Margaret Wrong Prize and Medal for 1961 has been awarded to Mr. S. A. Mpashi, for his very considerable and beneficial influence on the growth of a real interest in reading and writing in Northern Rhodesia, particularly in the Northern, Luapula, and Western Provinces, where Bemba, his own language, is current. Mr. Mpashi joined the Publications Bureau of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland in 1951 and is now Senior Bemba Reader/Translator and the senior of all the reader/translators. He is the author of many books, ranging from novels and short stories to handbooks of advice on manners and morals.