

NOTES AND NEWS

THE Sixth Meeting of the Executive Council of the Institute took place in Berlin on December 19th and 20th, 1928. The opening session was held in the Kultusministerium when the delegates were welcomed by the Prussian Minister for Education and Fine Arts and afterwards entertained at an official luncheon. The other sessions were held in the Council chamber of the Reichsverband der Deutschen Industrie kindly placed at the disposal of the Executive Council by the President, Geheimrat Kastl.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Lugard was in the chair and members present included Professor de Jonghe, the Rev. Father Dubois, Geheimrat Kastl, Professor Lévy-Bruhl, Mr. J. H. Oldham, the Rev. Father Schmidt, the Rev. E. W. Smith, Professor Thurnwald, Professor Van der Kerken, Mr. I. Schapera (attending under Art. V, rule 6 (f) of the Statutes), Professor Labouret (Director), Professor Westermann (Director), Mr. H. Vischer (Secretary General), Miss D. G. Brackett (Secretary).

A report of the proceedings will appear in the next issue.

Professor D. Westermann has been invited by the Government of Nigeria to visit that country in order to advise the Government on linguistic problems. He will leave for Nigeria in February.

Professor Westermann will also visit Sierra Leone at the request of the Government on a similar mission in March.

The educational authorities of Liberia have asked for Professor Westermann's assistance in regard to the production of vernacular literature, and he proposes to spend some time in Monrovia before returning to Europe.

Mr. Hanns Vischer will visit Khartoum in February as a member of the Gordon College Commission of Inspection. On his return from Khartoum he intends to make a short stay in Cairo.

Auf Einladung von Ras Tafari wird der Herzog der Abruzzen eine Expedition in das Innere von Abessinien unternehmen, um den Uebi Schebli wissenschaftlich zu erforschen. Adis Abeba ist Ausgangspunkt der Expedition, und die abessinische Regierung wird selbst die Expedition ausrüsten.

Monsieur Marcel Griaule, Élève diplômé de l'École des Hautes Études (Sorbonne) et de l'École Nationale des Langues Orientales Vivantes, licencié-ès-lettres, est parti faire une exploration ethnographique des régions mal connues de l'Abyssinie septentrionale.

Il a été chargé de cette mission par l'Institut d'Ethnologie de l'Université de Paris, dont il est l'élève, par le Ministère de l'Instruction Publique, par le Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, etc.

Monsieur Griaule est accompagné de Monsieur Larget, et tous deux sont parfaitement équipés pour une enquête en particulier photographique et cinématographique des choses abyssines.

Monsieur Conrad Kilian a exploré le Sahara Oriental entre la Colonie du Niger et l'Afrique Septentrionale Française dans le premier semestre de l'année. Il a spécialement étudié la Géologie de la contrée parcourue et fait des observations intéressantes sur l'origine des eaux à la base des Grès inférieurs dans l'Oasis de Djanet. D'autre part, il a recueilli des informations historiques sur l'origine de Rhat et de ses mosquées les plus anciennes. Par ailleurs, cette expédition a permis de faire des observations ethnologiques entièrement nouvelles.

La Mission Augiéras-Draper, dont nous avons annoncé le départ, est actuellement de retour. Les documents géologiques, archéologiques, zoologiques et ethnologiques recueillis au cours de cette exploration sont actuellement à l'étude, mais le Capitaine Augéras a publié un rapport préliminaire permettant de croire à des découvertes très précieuses.

Frau Gulla Pfeffer who recently returned from her trip to the Cameroons and Nigeria is preparing a second expedition. She intends to live near the Gongola river, with some smaller tribe in Northern Nigeria, which until now has not been influenced by civilization, and to study the psychology, the daily life, customs, and culture of these tribes.

A Swiss Expedition, of which Dr. Walter Geilinger, Mr. Emanuel Schulthess, and Mr. Henry Maurer are members, left recently for East Africa. The principal purpose of the journey is the collection of photographic material of value to science. The members of the expedition propose to visit Tanganyika Territory, Kenya, Uganda, Ruanda, and the Sudan.

Dr. C. M. Doke, of the Department of Bantu Studies, University of the Witwatersrand, has gone to Rhodesia, where he proposes to undertake a year's research work in Mashonaland.

Mr. A. N. Tucker, M.A., of Capetown University, has been appointed as linguistic adviser in African languages to the Education Department of the Government of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. Mr. Tucker expects to take up his duties in July. It is interesting to note that the appointment of such an official was recommended by the Conference held at Rejaf last April, which Professor Westermann attended as expert adviser.