

## Notes and News

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### *Meeting of the Executive Council of the Institute: Brussels, 29-30 June 1971*

THE annual meeting of the Executive Council of the International African Institute was held this year at the Club de la Fondation Universitaire in Brussels.

The Institute was greatly indebted to Professor Guy Malengreau for undertaking the local arrangements, and to the Belgian Government for its generous financial support and hospitality, and its thanks are due to the Secretary-General of the Club, M. M. Grossjean, for the excellent facilities provided.

Members were welcomed at an opening reception kindly given by SEDEC to which a number of Belgian Africanists and officials of relevant government departments and other institutions were invited.

The Chairman expressed the Institute's deep regret at the death of Gouverneur Moeller de Laddersous, his predecessor as Chairman of the Council, whose support for the work of the Institute over many years had been so greatly appreciated. He also welcomed Professor Jacob Ajayi of the University of Ibadan, who was attending a Council meeting for the first time.

The Council received with great regret the resignation of Mr. E. R. Baines from the Honorary Treasurership of the Institute and expressed its deep appreciation of the services he had rendered to the Institute. It approved the appointment as his successor of Mr. Roy Mortimer of the Standard Bank, who has extensive experience and wide contacts in Africa. It also recorded its great appreciation of the support and valuable services (in connection with the Institute's activities in the linguistic field) rendered to the Institute over many years by Professor A. N. Tucker who had indicated that he wished to retire from the Council.

The Council considered and approved the Director's Annual Report, which was published in the July issue of *Africa*, and the accounts for 1970, which were presented by Sir George Beresford-Stooke in the absence of Mr. Baines. Copies of the accounts were also distributed with the July issue of *Africa*.

The Institute's Publication Programme, including that of the Research Information Liaison Unit, was reviewed. Forthcoming books will include a major monograph on the Tio kingdom of the Middle Congo by Professor J. Vansina, a work on African thought by Professor Robin Horton, a study of the changing economy of the Lower Volta 1954-67 by Dr. Rowena Lawson, and an analysis of the political evolution of the Zulu kingdom by Professor Max Gluckman. Means of securing further contributions to the Ethnographic Survey of Africa with special reference to Northern Nigeria and Francophone West Africa were also considered.

The plans for two further International African Seminars were reviewed. The first of these on 'Modern Migration in Western Africa' will be held at Dakar in March/April 1972 in association with IDEP under the chairmanship of Professor S. Amin. The second, scheduled to be held in Niamey in January 1973 in association with the Centre Nigérien de Recherches en Sciences Humaines, under the chairmanship of Professor Th. Monod, will be concerned with the social ecology of pastoralism in Tropical Africa with reference to both traditional institutions and modern changes.

The Council considered the nominations received for membership of the Executive

Council for the next three-year period, from January 1972 to December 1974, and a list is being submitted for the approval of the Governing Body.

Considerable thought was devoted to the consideration of the scope of the Institute's future activities in the light of the great expansion in African studies and the financial problems with which it was being faced. Detailed plans will be prepared for consideration at its next meeting.

The Council welcomed to its closing session a number of Belgian scholars who reported on the aims and achievements of their institutions and informed it of the development of African studies both in Belgium and in Congo (Kinshasa).

### *Research Information Liaison Unit: International Information Bulletins*

THIS series of bulletins will list comprehensively, over a two- to three-year period, all available information on research under way in the organizations listed in the *Register of Organisations undertaking Africanist Research* (published March 1971). They will include research in archaeology, the arts, history, language studies, law studies, political science, human geography, sociology, social anthropology/ethnography, psychology, and relevant aspects of economics, education, and social administration.

The bulletins will also contain news on the formation of new specialist institutions and centres, on the initiation and progress of large-scale or comparative projects, on the availability of research papers from conferences and seminars, and will, from time to time, include reports on research developments and needs in particular regions or topics.

Every issue of the bulletin will include listing of information received on research in *all* regions of Africa. The first issue (to appear in November 1971) will, however, contain more detail on Western Africa and the Congo (price £4).

Standing orders for these bulletins should be addressed to: The Secretary, International African Institute, 10/11 Fetter Lane, London, EC4 1BJ.

### *Third Annual Conference on African Linguistics*

THE Third Annual Conference on African Linguistics will be held at Indiana University on 7 and 8 April 1972, under the joint sponsorship of the African Studies Program, the Department of Linguistics, and the Research Center for the Language Sciences. Anyone interested in attending or presenting a paper should write to: Third Annual Conference on African Linguistics, Department of Linguistics, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, 47401.

### *The History and Problems of the Interaction of Christian and Traditional Marriage*

IN March 1971 a meeting took place in Kampala, Uganda, of a group of scholars concerned with this project which is being co-ordinated by Dr. Aylward Shorter of the Gaba Pastoral Institute, P.O. Box 4165, Kampala. He writes: 'I am co-ordinating a piece of large-scale research in Eastern, Central and possibly Southern Africa, carried out by the different Christian churches into the history and problems of the interaction of Christian and Traditional Marriage. This research will be part theological, part anthropological. We are being assisted by Notre Dame University.'

### *African Studies at Howard University*

AT the request of the District of Columbia Board of Education, in 1969-70, Howard University sponsored an experimental programme in the D.C. senior high schools, introducing Swahili and African history (taught in Swahili), carried out by advanced graduate students from the African Studies Center. The programme is to be repeated this year.