

will provide assistance to any teacher-training school requesting it, and will work in close co-operation with representatives of Catholic and Protestant educational authorities in the Congo and with the University of Lovanium.

Afro-Asian Studies in the University of Cambridge

THE University of Cambridge has established a group for Afro-Asian Social Studies with a documentation centre and a seminar room. The centre contains recent reports on economic, political, and social questions and a bibliography arranged under regions and subjects. Research programmes and inter-disciplinary seminars are being organized. In October 1961 a post-graduate seminar was started on 'Elite Formation in Emergent States' held by Dr. E. Shils and Dr. A. I. Richards. From January 1962 there will be seminars on 'The Productivity of Peasant Agriculture', held by Professor Sir Joseph Hutchinson and Mr. Leonard Joy, and 'Economic Enclaves in Under-Developed Countries', held by Professor E. A. G. Robinson and Miss Phyllis Deane. The Inter-Disciplinary Seminar on African Problems, which has been held in Cambridge for the past two years, will also be attached to the centre. Inquiries on the documentation centre should be addressed to the Librarian, Miss Julia Allen, Afro-Asian Group, Faculty of Economics, Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge. Inquiries on the programme of the group should be made to Mr. Kenneth Berrill at the same address.

Sorbonne — École Pratique des Hautes Études (VI^e Section): Initiation à la recherche africaniste

UN enseignement d'initiation à la recherche africaniste fonctionnera au cours de l'année universitaire 1961-2 à l'École Pratique des Hautes Études, section des sciences économiques et sociales. Il est principalement destiné aux étudiants inscrits en première année du 3^e Cycle de l'Enseignement Supérieur et dont les travaux exigeront une connaissance d'ensemble des problèmes spécifiques de la recherche en Afrique Noire.

Cet enseignement est ouvert aux étudiants de toutes disciplines, quelle que soit la Faculté ou l'Institution d'Enseignement Supérieur dans laquelle ils auront pris leur inscription. Il est obligatoire pour les étudiants qui prendront cette inscription à l'École Pratique des Hautes Études, section des sciences économiques et sociales (Centre d'Études Africaines).

Le programme d'étude s'étendra du 1^{er} décembre 1961 au 1^{er} juin 1962. Il comprendra des cours de préparation à la recherche, des travaux pratiques, des séminaires consacrés à des études de cas, organisés dans chacune des disciplines africanistes suivantes: géographie humaine, histoire, linguistique africaine, ethnologie générale, ethnologie politique, ethnologie économique.

Ce cycle entre dans sa deuxième année. En 1960-1 il a groupé une trentaine d'étudiants dont deux-tiers environ de Français.

A Russian Ethnographic Map of Africa

AN ethnographic map, *Karta Narodov Afriki* (Map of the Peoples of Africa), has recently been published by the Institut Etnografii in Moscow. The map is in two sheets, divided along the equator, and on a scale of 1 : 8,000,000. Ethnic groups are distinguished by colours, and eight population densities by shading. Areas of mixed population are indicated in four differing ratios. Numerals locate particular peoples given in the key, as only major ethnic groups are named on the map. Rivers and towns are shown but not contours. Political and administrative boundaries are as at the end of 1960.

A booklet by B. V. Andrianov, *Naseleniye Afriki* (The Population of Africa), accompanies the map as an appendix. It contains geographical and population data for each region of the continent and for Madagascar; a note on African languages; bibliography of source material; and 20 pages of tables on the ethnographic composition of African populations. The latter are divided into fifteen groups, as follows: Semito-Hamitic (subdivided into Semitic, with Ethiopian sub-group, Cushite, Berber); Hausa; Bantu (7 sub-groups); Eastern Bantoid; Central Bantoid; Western Bantoid; Mandingo (North and South); Guinea Gulf; Central and Eastern Sudanese; Nilotes (3 sub-groups); Kanuri; Khoisan; Malaya-Polynesian; Indo-European. This classification is based in the main on D. A. Ol'derogge's classification of African languages.

(Communicated by M. H.)

Fieldwork Co-operation in the Study of Nsenga Music and Ritual

DR. RAYMOND APTHORPE, research sociologist of the Rhodes-Livingstone Institute, and Mr. John Blacking, lecturer in social anthropology and African administration at the University of the Witwatersrand, spent ten days recording Nsenga music between 24 July and 7 August last summer. The original plan was to record the music of an elaborate four-day puberty ritual, so that a study of Nsenga initiation might be illustrated with musical examples and include an analysis of the music. It was later felt that the music of the initiation would be better understood in relation to the pattern of Nsenga music as a whole. Some days before the initiation ceremony were therefore spent in recording a representative sample of Nsenga music.

Seventy-one different items were collected, comprising about two and a half hours of music, in the Petauke district—2 children's songs, 2 stories with songs, 4 young people's *cimtali* dance songs, 5 *nyau* dance songs borrowed from the Cewa, 3 pounding songs, 10 beer and 3 hunting songs, 3 songs of sorrow, 4 songs accompanied by a 7-note board zither, 5 accompanied by 1-note and 8-note xylophones, and 25 accompanied by the 12-, 13-, or 14-note *kalimba* hand-pianos. This sample by no means exhausts the variety of Nsenga music, but it is sufficient to reveal the chief characteristics of Nsenga musical style.

Where relevant, recordings were accompanied by adequate notes on instrumental techniques, and in addition the texts of all songs were noted, and have been translated, with the help of Nsenga assistants. Thus detailed analyses can be made of almost every item recorded. The microphone was attached to a two-foot rod held in the hand and was constantly moved in order to highlight the parts played by different drums; this technique, developed by Mr. Hugh Tracey, was especially necessary for recording many of the puberty songs: there was often much uncontrollable noise, both from the crowd and from the singers, so that it was necessary to have the volume of the microphone low and then hold it very close to the mouths of the soloists and the more active members of the chorus.

Apthorpe's knowledge of the Nsenga and Blacking's previous experience of musical and anthropological fieldwork made possible the collection of a very considerable amount of relevant data in a short time and at small cost. Such teamwork could profitably be repeated in other parts of Africa where anthropologists are in the field. The accumulation of detailed studies of the music of different African peoples is in itself valuable; it is also a useful aid to the elucidation of the history and relationships of social groups, since musical styles are distinctive and change less frequently than other features of culture. For instance, at first hearing the music of the Nsenga is very different from that of the Cewa (though detailed analysis may admittedly contradict first impressions), and the nature of these differences is likely to refute one theory about 'the Nsenga', i.e. that they are an offshoot of the