

## *Notes and News*

In consequence of the decision of the Council of the I.A.I. to discontinue publication of the *Bulletin*, the "Notes and News" section of *Africa* is again to appear regularly. As before, this is intended to provide a forum, not only for informing members of the situation and activities of the Institute, but for announcements regarding conferences, exhibitions, new periodicals, research projects, academic awards and programmes, and any other projects or developments, from any country or institution, likely to be of interest to scholars and students of African cultures and societies. The Editor invites the submission of appropriate material, in either English or French, from organizers of conferences, editors of new publications, directors or research projects or institutes, and others.

### *Directorship of the Institute*

Following the resignation of Professor B. W. Hodder as Honorary Director of the Institute last January, Executive Council at its 54th meeting in London from 7 to 9 July, 1981, appointed MICHAEL CROWDER, Consultant Editor, *History Today*, and formerly Research Professor in History at the University of Lagos, now Visiting Fellow, Centre for International Studies, London School of Economics, and IOAN M. LEWIS, Professor of Anthropology, at the London School of Economics, University of London, as Joint Honorary Directors. Before their appointment the directorship of the Institute was assured by an Executive Coordinating Committee composed of Officers and Life Members of the Institute namely Pierre Alexandre, Michael Crowder, Germaine Dieterlen, John Middleton and J. D. Y. Peel.

### *Report on the Institute's Activities for the Year 1980–1981*

At the 53rd meeting of Council held in July, 1980 in London, it became clear that the Institute was facing a grave financial crisis that appeared to threaten its very future. Only by a drastic cutback in the range of Institute activities and the number of its staff, coupled with a determined fund-raising campaign, could its future be assured. Over the year the Honorary Director and, subsequently the Executive Coordinating Committee, managed by dint of pursuing these policies to bring the Institute's revenue and expenditure back into balance. In this respect a great debt is owed to the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, which made a generous grant to the Institute of £16,000 for 1980 and has given similar support for 1981. Many more such grants are needed if the Institute is to resume activities on the scale of the past decade.

Because of the severe financial restrictions on expenditure the Institute was unable to initiate any new publications, but three that were already in press were published during the year, namely Robin Law: *The Horse in West African History* with Oxford University Press; Wauthier de Mahieu: *Structures et Symboles* (with the University of