

## Notes and News

### *Research in the Social Sciences in Africa South of the Sahara*

At a meeting of specialists organized by the Scientific Council for Africa South of the Sahara (C.S.A.) and held at Makerere College in February 1953 it was decided to prepare summary statements describing organizations currently concerned with research in the social sciences and operating in Africa, including notes on the work being undertaken and the names of the workers concerned. These statements have now been prepared by the various specialists who attended the meeting, and have been published, under the auspices of C.C.T.A.<sup>1</sup> The pamphlet contains accounts of the organizations engaged on research in the social sciences, both those operating from headquarters in metropolitan countries, and institutions established in African territories. The section on Belgium, Belgian Congo, and Ruanda-Urundi is prepared under the direction of Professor van den Berghe of IRSAC; France and French African territories are dealt with by Professor H. Deschamps, Portugal by Dr. J. Santa-Rita, the Union of South Africa by Professor Monica Wilson, Rhodesia and Nyasaland by Dr. Clyde Mitchell of the Rhodes-Livingstone Institute; the United Kingdom, British West Africa, and the High Commission Territories, by Mrs. E. M. Chilver, Secretary of the Colonial Social Science Research Council; British East Africa by Dr. A. I. Richards, Director of the East African Institute. Each section describes the method of organization of the institutions concerned and gives information on researches in progress and, in some cases, on collaboration with other institutions. The whole pamphlet thus provides a fair conspectus of researches and national research organizations concerned with social sciences in Africa.

A brief section at the end of the book is devoted to international organizations, i.e. the International African Institute and the specialized agencies of the United Nations. Unfortunately the section on the International African Institute, for which no author's name is given, contains numerous inaccuracies and gives no indication that this Institute's contribution in the field of sociological and linguistic research in Africa long preceded that of most, if not all, of the other organizations described.

### *Community Schools in Zaria Province*

CONSTITUTIONAL changes, as well as social and economic progress, in Zaria Province, Northern Nigeria, have recently created a much more urgent and widespread demand for education, and the Native Authority's 'Development Plan' has proved quite inadequate to meet it. A scheme has been devised by the Provincial Education Officer whereby villages are building and maintaining their own schools. Certain initial difficulties in erecting suitable buildings had to be overcome, but in 1952-3 five community schools were started. The buildings were erected by communal labour, largely using local materials. The maintenance of the school buildings is undertaken by the community; the Native Authority is named as the 'Proprietor' of the school and the 'Manager' is the N.A. Council member for education. Teachers and equipment are provided by the Native Authority. Religious instruction is provided for by sending the children to classes organized by the various missions operating in the area. (In strictly 'pagan' villages there is some difficulty in complying with the Government regulation on this subject!) By Sept. 1954 ten community schools had been

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