

Notes and News

The International Committee on Urgent Anthropological and Ethnological Research

THIS Committee seeks to promote research into racial groups, tribes, cultures, and languages, where there is a particularly urgent need to save data which might otherwise be irretrievably lost. The first number of *Bulletin of the International Committee on Urgent Anthropological and Ethnological Research*, published in 1958, lists tribes of primitive hunters and food-gatherers in Africa, Arabia, India, and the Far East, among which it is important that research should be carried out. The section on Africa includes the Hadzapi and other small groups in Tanganyika, and the Nemadi Berbers of Mauritania. Specialists are invited to provide further information about other tribes of hunters from the whole of Africa, their numbers, present conditions, extent of knowledge about them, &c. This should, of course, include the lesser-known groups of Pygmies and Bushmen. The Committee will also be grateful to receive the addresses of scholars, missionaries, and government officials, who might be expected to collaborate, and to whom the *Bulletin* should be sent. While the Committee has at present no funds of its own for field research, its Secretariat will do everything in its power to help obtain financial support for urgent research projects.

The editors invite relevant contributions for future numbers of the *Bulletin*, which may be in English, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, or Portuguese. Requests for the *Bulletin*, which is distributed free, and all other correspondence should be addressed to the Committee's Secretary: Robert Heine-Geldern, Reitschulgasse 2, Vienna 1, Austria.

Political Change in a Bamenda Chieftom (Nsaw) in the British Cameroons

DR. PHYLLIS KABERRY, Reader in Social Anthropology at University College, London, is preparing for publication the results of a field study of political change in the Nsaw chieftom in Bamenda, British Cameroons, which she carried out last year. Dr. Kaberry had earlier, in 1945-8, studied the economic position of women in Bamenda as a research Fellow of the International African Institute. Her recent research has been concerned both with the working of the traditional political system and with the development of new political organizations. In connexion with the latter she will collaborate with Mrs. E. M. Chilver, Director of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at Oxford, who is engaged on a documentary study of the history and working of native administration in the South-eastern Federation of the Cameroons.

The Oxford University Tanganyika Expedition

AN Oxford University expedition, led by Mr. Peter Simkin and assisted by the Tanganyika Government, made a preliminary scientific survey of the Kungwe-Mahili mountains on the eastern shore of Lake Tanganyika, from July to October last year. The main object of the expedition was to make a complete botanical survey of the area, and the party consisted of three botanists, one geologist, two zoologists, and two anthropologists. Technical help was provided by African assistants from the Game Department, the Forest Department, and the Geological Survey, Tanganyika.

The anthropological work of the expedition was carried out by Peter Simkin and Albrecht Roggenkämper of the University of Bonn. An enumeration was made of many villages in the southern, central, and western areas of the peninsula. This included the overall population, the marriage status and ages, where possible, of individuals, and other details of family life and history. Studies were also made of social customs and ceremonies, and witchcraft