

*Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies*

FOLLOWING the first Conference on Commonwealth Literature, representatives of English Departments from universities in the Commonwealth met at Sadler Hall, University of Leeds, in September 1965, to establish an Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies. Professor A. Norman Jeffares was appointed Chairman of the provisional Committee which is preparing for a further Conference on Commonwealth Literature and for the first General Meeting of the Association. The first number of *The Journal of Commonwealth Literature* was published in September 1965, by Heinemann Educational Books Ltd. and the University of Leeds. It will appear again in September 1966 and thereafter twice yearly in March and September. Its aim is to provide information about creative writing in English from all Commonwealth countries, excluding Great Britain.

*University of Cambridge: Centre of African Studies*

A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL centre for African studies in Cambridge has been in existence for four years as part of a Centre for Afro-Asian Studies<sup>1</sup> set up in May 1961 in the building of the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, under the direction of Mr. Kenneth Berrill. The Librarian, Miss Julia Allen, has prepared a catalogue of over 39,000 cards of books, theses, government documents, mimeographed material, and articles from approximately 600 periodicals, and supplies an index of current publications on Africa. Seminars and lectures have also been held at the Centre.

On 13 May 1964 the University established a Centre of South Asian Studies and it was decided in July 1965 that the existing Afro-Asian Centre should become a Centre of African Studies. Dr. A. I. Richards will act as Director of the Centre, with the advice of a Committee of Management consisting of representatives of the Faculties of Economics and Political Science, History, Law, Geography and Geology, Agriculture, and Archaeology and Anthropology.

The bibliographical activities of the Centre will be continued although papers dealing with Asia have been handed to the new South Asian Centre. Post-graduate seminars have been planned on 'African peasant economics', 'Decision-making by traditional African councils', and 'Education and social structure in developing countries'. General lectures on the problems of African development will be continued. It is hoped to organize an interdisciplinary research project on African agricultural enterprise in East Africa and the emergence of commercial farming from traditional subsistence cultivation. This project will be organized by the Centre in co-operation with the School of Agriculture of the University. The work will be conducted in at least two comparative areas, of which the first will be Uganda.

*Une Documentation Cartographique sur l'Afrique au Sud du Sahara*

DANS le cadre des activités du Centre d'Études Africaines de l'École Pratique des Hautes Études, un groupe de chercheurs s'attache, depuis dix-huit mois environ, sous la direction de G. Sautter, à constituer une collection de documents cartographiques sur l'Afrique au sud du Sahara.

Les documents recherchés sont de deux types: les cartes annexées à un ouvrage ou un article, et les cartes publiées en tant que telles (accompagnées le plus souvent d'une notice). La collection se veut la plus complète possible, et ne rejette aucun thème scientifique.

<sup>1</sup> See *Africa*, xxxii, January 1962, p. 71.

L'ensemble du projet individualise cinq étapes essentielles qui se chevauchent dans le temps : le repérage et l'inventaire des documents cartographiques, leur signalement et leur analyse, leur classement, leur reproduction et enfin la diffusion des résultats obtenus.

Plusieurs analystes documentaires ont pour première tâche de consulter, dans les différentes bibliothèques parisiennes, tous les ouvrages relatifs à l'Afrique noire (Madagascar exclue) et les périodiques qui s'y intéressent de façon permanente ou intermittente. Un système de fiches bibliographiques permet de connaître, à tout moment, l'effectif bibliographique dépouillé. Certaines catégories de documents sont délibérément exclues : les cartes d'échelle locale, et les cartes exclusivement topographiques, de repérage ou de nomenclature, les cartes dépourvues d'intérêt scientifique, les cartes publiées avant 1930. Cette première étape est déjà fort avancée (environ 5.000 documents cartographiques ont été repérés et retenus).

Une fiche signalétique, qui rassemble plusieurs ordres de renseignements, est établie dès qu'un document cartographique est retenu. Deux systèmes de pénétration à l'intérieur des 5.000 cartes recensées, deux codes de classement, l'un géographique, l'autre thématique, ont été mis au point, suivant une démarche très empirique. Toutes les cartes seront photographiées (porteuses de leur numéro d'identification) sur microfilms, en noir et blanc ou en couleur, selon le cas.

La diffusion est prévue à deux niveaux. D'une part, l'ensemble des éléments du dossier constitué sont ou seront rassemblés au siège du Centre de Documentation pour l'Afrique Noire (Section Cartographique, 293, Avenue Daumesnil, Paris XII<sup>e</sup>); d'autre part, une partie des éléments du dossier constitué sera publiée, pour certains probablement à la fin de 1965 (ainsi la liste des documents cartographiques, classés selon le code géographique et le code thématique).

(Abridged from the note by Jean-Paul Gilg and Gérard Remy, in *Cahiers d'Études africaines*, v. 4, 1965, pp. 635-7.)

### *Graduate-Student Exchange Proposal*

PROFESSOR HENRI LE CLERQ, Director of I.R.E.S. of the University of Lovanium (Leopoldville, Congo) would like to hear from any institution which might want to inaugurate a graduate-student exchange programme.

### *University College, Dar es Salaam: The Library*

*Hans Cory collection.* The Library possesses the papers of the late Hans Cory, formerly Ethnographer to the Government of Tanganyika. They are mainly concerned with African law and custom. Dr. Norman Miller, from Indiana University, has been sorting the papers, and it is hoped to be able to issue an inventory in the near future.

Mr. Cory also made a collection of clay figurines, which is now in the National Museum, Dar es Salaam. The figurines are very brittle and difficult to handle and it is hoped to photograph them on 35 mm. film.

The Swahili papers of the late *Shaban Robert*, the Tanzanian author, have been acquired by this Library. A selection is being edited for publication by Mr. John W. T. Allen, at present attached to the Institute of Swahili Research, Box 9184, Dar es Salaam.

The *Institute of Swahili Research* collection of Swahili manuscripts has been deposited in this Library. At present there are about 250. It is hoped to issue an inventory early in 1966. The Director of the Institute of Swahili Research is Professor Wilfred H. Whiteley.

(Communicated by H. Holdsworth: Librarian)