

6. Evaluation of the survey among social anthropological experts. Since the statements sought from the experts will not differ in substance from the published material, the same evaluation system will be applied to this survey as to the social anthropological literature.

7. Preparation of a 3-4-day workshop to be held at the end of July 1971. Participants: family-planning field-workers and social anthropologists who have co-operated in the project.

8. Reformulation of the existing arguments in favour of family planning in East Africa. Compilation of the cross-indexed, annotated source book (see above). Suggestions as to other possible applications of the findings and lessons from the methodological experience. Formulation of a detailed programme of suggested research and action projects aimed at understanding the cultural and social-psychological obstacles.

Child Development Research Unit, University College, Nairobi

THIS Research Unit, one of two units financed by the Carnegie Corporation and established in 1966 under the direction of Professor John W. M. Whiting of Harvard University, is now in its fourth year of operation and has presented a progress report to the University College which will shortly be published. The aim of the Research Unit is twofold: to select and train African behavioural scientists and to carry on a continuing programme of behavioural research. The training programme is being carried out in the field by recruiting and associating East African University students to work with established social scientists on a wide range of projects. Some of them were recruited before entering the university and have worked on the projects during long vacations through the university course. The Kenya unit has collected data on fourteen communities belonging either to different points on the transition from rural to modern conditions. The units of study have been sets of households whose women knew each other, participated in activities, and formed a social network and included a hundred or more pre-adolescent children. The particular problems and topics selected for research have ranged over a wide field, namely: physical growth and health; cognitive development and abilities; motivation; behaviour; institutions. Outlines of the research design and findings of each project are summarized in the report which is to be published in Nairobi by the Child Development Research Unit and distributed by it.

Association of Africanists in Germany: First Annual Conference

THE recently founded Association of Africanists in Germany, Secretary Dr. Hermann Jungraithmayr (see *Africa*, xl, January 1970, p. 79), held its first annual conference in Marburg/Lahn from 18 to 20 July 1969 on the subject of 'Problems and Implications of Interdisciplinary Co-operation within African Studies'.

In his opening address Professor Ernst Dammann (Marburg) welcomed the possibility of closer co-operation between the various disciplines engaged in African studies in Germany. Papers were presented on a variety of topics, including 'Some aspects of the theory of interdisciplinary co-operation' (Wilhelm Seidensticker, Hamburg); 'The distribution of Swahili in Western Kenya' (Bernd Heine and Bernd Wiese, Cologne); 'Proposals for new university curricula for M.A. degrees in African studies and in the history of religions' (M. J. Greshat and Thilo C. Schadeberg, Marburg); 'The problems of interpretation presented by oral tradition' (Brigitte Hennen-Benzing, Mainz); 'A semantic analysis of the membership in different noun classes of kinship terminologies among the Dciriku of South-West Africa' (W. J. Möhlig and J. C. Winter, Cologne/Oxford); 'The phenomena of spirit cults among the Digo of Tanzania' (Thomas Maler and Artur Simon, Marburg/Hamburg).

Each paper was followed by critical discussion. This emphasized the importance of considering the social and political relevance of problems selected for study, while upholding the principle of the freedom of scholarly research.

The second conference of the Association is planned to be held from 17 to 19 July 1970; an account of the proceedings will be given in a later number of *Africa*.

U.S. Research in Progress

AMONG research projects in anthropology, sociology and linguistics listed in the February–March 1970 issue of *African Studies Newsletter* (U.S.A.) are the following:

ANGOLA

Carmen Diane Christensen (Columbia): history of Ovimbundu 1700–1880.

CAMEROON

Richard G. Dillon (Pennsylvania): ecology and social organization in the Cameroon.

Igor Kopytoff (Pennsylvania): ethnography of the Aghem and Wum, West Cameroon.

ETHIOPIA

Michael D. Quam (Indiana): changing local-level politics among the Afar.

Charles A. Ferguson (Stanford): the use of Arabic as a lingua franca by certain segments of the Ethiopian population.

GHANA

Joan M. Rosenbloom (Northwestern): Ewe communities in Kumasi and Tamale.

H. C. Weinand (Wisconsin): internal trade marketing in Ghana.

N. O. Oddon (Northwestern): Islamic education in Yendi.

James W. Brown (Wisconsin): social history of Kumasi 1900–40.

Peter Der (Northwestern): the linguistic relationship between Dagbani and Dagaare.

Paul Kotey (Howard): Ga grammar and Twi grammar.

William Leben (Northwestern): spoken Hausa and the tonal system in Dagbani.

Augustine Seyere (Northwestern): Dagomba traditional religion.

M. G. Asnes (Rochester): women in group participation in Madina.

Robert Pozen (Harvard): the sociology of new towns in Ghana.

Dorothy Lee Vellenga (Columbia): attempts to change family laws in Ghana and the Ivory Coast.

KENYA

Stephen M. Fjellman (Stanford): decision-making among the Kamba.

Robert Manners (Brandeis): the impact of colonialism in Kenya.

Thomas Weisner (Harvard): urbanization and family change in Nairobi.

Malcolm D. Valentine (UCLA): Luo society 1900–63.

LIBERIA

James W. Beckman (University of California, Irvine): economic change and cultural continuity among the Kpelle.

John H. Gay (Richmond College, Earlham, Indiana): chiefdom and clan maps of western Liberia (with Svend Holsoe and Warren D'Azevedo).

W. Penn Handwerker (Oregon): inter-tribal variation and change among the Bassa.

MADAGASCAR

Karl L. Eggert (UCLA): decision-making among the Mahafaly.