

Notes and News

The 93rd Birthday of Lord Hailey

THE Institute was happy to be able to send its congratulations and good wishes to Lord Hailey on the occasion of his 93rd birthday on 15 February last. Members of the Institute will be glad to know that Lord Hailey is enjoying excellent health and hopes, as a former Chairman and Life Member of the Council, to be able to attend its next meeting in June.

UNESCO General Conference Resolutions Concerning African Studies

At the thirteenth session of the UNESCO General Conference, held in Paris from 20 October to 30 November 1964, resolutions were adopted inviting Member States to encourage research for the preparation of a *General History of Africa*, and the Director-General was authorized to take the necessary measures for its preparation and publication over a ten-year period from 1965 to 1975.

Member States were also invited to advance the knowledge of African cultures by encouraging the founding or development of specialist learned associations and institutes of African studies, and to facilitate their participation in the activities of the International Congress of Africanists. The Director-General was authorized to conduct and facilitate consultations, studies, and research and to assist the activities of Member States, with a view to promoting greater appreciation of African cultures, and to this end:

- ‘(a) To develop the action of institutes specializing in African studies and to promote co-operation between them at the regional and international levels, and to that end, to participate in the activities of Member States at their request;
- ‘(b) To promote collaboration between specialists in African cultures and educators, with a view to the preparation of school text-books better adapted to African life;
- ‘(c) To develop the general public’s knowledge and appreciation of the various forms of artistic and literary expression characteristic of Africa;
- ‘(d) To promote the study of the relations between African cultures and those of other regions, especially Latin America; and
- ‘(e) To participate in the activities of African Member States, at their request, with a view to studying, preserving and presenting their cultural heritage.’

UNESCO’s Programme in the Social Sciences, Human Sciences, and Cultural Activities

THE outstanding feature of the new programme is the regrouping of activities in the social and human sciences and cultural activities into a common programme headed by an assistant director-general. A division of philosophy has been created as a link between the two former departments. This division will undertake the study of the socio-cultural factors of development, limited first to the field of education, by the analysis of changes wrought in man and in contemporary society. This study will be carried out in 1965–6 and will include work in Africa. The main problems to be studied will include the struggle against race prejudice, in order to strengthen universal respect for human rights, and the economic, social, and cultural problems of countries which have recently achieved independence. A ten-year programme, beginning in 1965–6, will include studies of traditional legal systems, as well as studies on equality and mutual respect in connexion with external aid. Studies in the

department of cultural activities will concentrate on the human implications of development. The main focus in 1965-6 will be on artistic creation. Studies and research on the creative process and the re-examination of traditional values and forms of expression are new chapters in a programme that includes such initiatives as a survey on the special situation of African intellectuals; support for a Festival of African Art in 1966 at Dakar; industrial aesthetics, handicrafts, and folk art; and the introduction of cinema education at the university level.

The Ashanti Research Project

THE proceedings of a preparatory conference on the Ashanti Research Project, held in May 1963 at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, and organized and sponsored by the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon, have recently been published. The project involves research in various fields, relating to the development of society and culture over the area which, historically, fell within the Ashanti sphere of influence. The fields to be covered include history; government; social and economic institutions; music, literature, and art; archaeology and traditional architecture. It is estimated that the project will cover a period of three years. A generous grant from UNESCO for the year 1964 has enabled the Institute of African Studies of the University of Ghana to finance the following: the purchase of microfilms of materials from European archives relating to Ashanti, and their transcription; the translation from Dutch, Danish, German, Arabic, and Hausa of texts relating to Ashanti; the collection of Ashanti stool histories; the transcription of important Ashanti constitutional cases (from the archives of the Kumasi divisional court); the collection of Arabic manuscripts relating to the history of Ashanti; and the collection of texts of Akan Drum language. These collections are being deposited in the Institute and will be made available to bona fide scholars. The Institute will be glad to hear from scholars wishing to associate themselves with the Ashanti Research Project, and hopes to produce periodically a news bulletin which will include notes on work in progress.

University of Ibadan: Workshop on the Teaching of African History

THE Institute of Education, University of Ibadan, in association with the History Department, recently held a Workshop on the teaching of African history from 14 to 29 March. This was made possible by a generous grant from the Carnegie Corporation. The purpose of the Workshop was to orientate and inform teams of inspectors, training-college tutors, and secondary-school teachers concerned with the introduction of the two new syllabuses of the West African Examinations Council on African History—West Africa from A.D. 1000 to the present, and Africa in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The teams, each of about six people, came from all four English-speaking countries of West Africa and undertook assignments in the field of African history teaching. Demonstration lessons given in the International School of the Institute of Education were a special feature of the Workshop.

Research Chair of Archaeology at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria

UNTIL 1963 practically all archaeological research in Nigeria had been undertaken either by individuals coming in from outside, like Frobenius, or, more recently, by the Federal Department of Antiquities, whose former Director, Mr. Bernard Fagg, is well known.

Efforts to establish archaeology in the University of Ibadan had failed for lack of money until the Institute of African Studies was set up there by a generous grant from the Rockefeller Foundation in 1962, and, within it, by means of another generous grant from the