

The Council of the West African Languages Survey consists of Professor Joseph Greenberg, Chairman; Professor Robert Armstrong, Field Director; Mr. John Spencer, representing the University College, Ibadan; Professor Peter Shinnie, representing the University College of Ghana; Mr. David Dalby, representing the University College of Sierra Leone; M. M. Houis, representing I.F.A.N., and M. G. Manessy, representing the University of Dakar. The Council held its annual meeting during the course of the Congress. The Survey has awarded three fellowships for field research this year: Mr. David Sapir is studying Dyola and related languages of the Casamance River region of Senegal; M. Luc Bouquiaux—Berom and other languages of the Nigerian Plateau; and Miss Margaret Hoffmann—the Togo 'Remnant' languages. In addition, Dr. Walter Pichl of Vienna is studying Serer in Senegal, on a grant-in-aid from the West African Languages Survey.

(Communicated by Professor Robert Armstrong and Mr. A. H. M. Kirk-Greene)

### *Margaret Wrong Memorial Fund: Award for 1960*

FOLLOWING the meeting held at Edinburgh House on 1 February 1961 the Administrative Committee of the Margaret Wrong Memorial Fund agreed that the Medal and Prize for 1960 should be awarded to Mr. Shaaban Robert of Tanganyika for his outstanding contribution in the field of Swahili fiction and Swahili poetry. For many years he has devoted himself to composing works in Swahili, including poems, essays, stories, and an autobiographical work, and has consistently maintained a very high standard. Since his retirement from Government service Mr. Robert has rendered further assistance to African literature by establishing a small publishing house.

### *Symposium on Migrations in West Africa<sup>1</sup>*

A SYMPOSIUM on Migrations in West Africa was held in Niamey from 13 to 25 February at the premises of the Niger National Assembly. It was an outcome of the recommendation made in 1955 at the first meeting of the Inter-African Conference on the Social Sciences of CCTA that 'a joint study of migration from the interior of West Africa towards the coastal areas should be undertaken as a matter of urgency'.

The Symposium was organized by CCTA and led by M. Jean Rouch, the Scientific Director of Joint Project no. 3. Also present were a number of his co-workers and Ministry of Labour officials from the Ivory Coast, Dahomey, and Niger, the Assistant Labour Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Director for Native Affairs in Angola, and an observer from the World Health Organization.

The purpose of the Joint Project was to make a comparative study of the statistical, sociological, and economic aspects of migratory movements to the Ghana coast and the lower Ivory Coast during a period of one year. Outbound and returning migrants were questioned at check-points as to their ethnic group, sex, age, family status, number of wives and children accompanying them, residing in the lower coastal areas, or remaining in the country of origin and place of birth. The Joint Project also included comparative surveys of urban sociology, with particular reference to the problem of migrants in Bouaké, Kumasi, and Abidjan; and of the trade in Ghana and the Ivory Coast in livestock, dried fish, kola nuts, and food produce.

Publication of the results of the Project was recommended, together with that of a second volume to contain other studies, whether already published or not, dealing with various aspects of these migrations.

(Communicated by Mr. Hans E. Panofsky)

<sup>1</sup> See *Africa*, April 1957, p. 193; April 1958, pp. 156-9; October 1959, pp. 417-19.