

A rich store of Thornton's letters and diaries is in the possession of the Bodleian, held by the Rhodes House Library at Oxford, and further papers are to be found in the Archives in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia. These sources are supplemented by Thornton's diaries covering both his East African and Zambezi work in the possession of the Rhodes-Livingstone Museum at Livingstone, Northern Rhodesia.

The Kilimanjaro diary was prepared for publication by Thornton's brother George, even to the extent of commissioning Thomas Baines to paint the frontispiece, but the executors of von der Decken invoked the terms of the agreement between the two explorers to prohibit its publication. H. A. Fosbrooke has now undertaken the editing of this diary, which it is hoped to issue next year, sponsored by the Rhodes-Livingstone Museum and published by Chatto & Windus, in the new 'Robins Series' of works on Central and Southern Africa. The Zambezi diaries are being edited by J. H. Chaplin, Inspector of Monuments, Northern Rhodesia, and will be published in the same series.

[Communicated by H. A. Fosbrooke, Director, Rhodes-Livingstone Institute]

The Historical Society of Nigeria, Fifth Annual Congress

THE Fifth Annual Congress of the Historical Society of Nigeria was held at Enugu on 20, 21, and 22 December 1959. The theme of the Congress was 'Nigerian History'. It is hoped to publish a more detailed account of the Congress in a forthcoming issue of *Africa*.

Ford Foundation Grant to the East African Institute of Social Research, Makerere College

THE Ford Foundation has made a grant for assistance to the East African Institute of Social Research, in the establishment of an Applied Research Unit. The Institute's staff and its associated research workers have been engaged for over ten years in numerous studies designed to increase knowledge of social and economic conditions in East Africa, and the central task of the Institute will continue to be basic research of this type which, in addition to increasing the store of fundamental knowledge available, often provides information of immediate practical use. An additional need exists, however, for the solution of specific problems which arise for Central and Local Governments, industrial organizations, and other bodies concerned with developments in East Africa. The new Unit will be particularly concerned with this type of research, which has a definite practical objective.

The grant will make possible the appointment of a Research Secretary and three research workers for a period of at least three years, and it is hoped that the results of the work of the Applied Research Unit will be such that it will be enabled to continue its work, after the end of the Ford Foundation Grant, with assistance from the various governments and private bodies who may use the Unit.

Training in Community Development

THE Ghana Government proposes to renew its offer of four fellowships and two scholarships for training in community development. The training will start early in March 1960: that provided under the fellowships lasting six months, and under the scholarships a year. It will be mainly practical, consisting of attachment to the Department of Social Welfare and Community Development in Ghana. Particulars of the 1959 training programme, which will form the model for the 1960 programme, are given below.

The 1960 awards will be made by the Government of Ghana to persons nominated by the governments of their respective countries. Candidates for the *fellowships* should already possess some experience as government officials, of working with rural people, and some knowledge of, and interest in, the principles of community development. They should

preferably be of middle supervisory grade in an organization or government department working for village improvement. Candidates for *scholarships* should be younger persons, of graduate status, who already have an interest in working for village improvement and propose to embark on this as a career. Candidates for scholarships need not have experience of community development.

Fellows and scholars will work under the Director of Social Welfare and Community Development and officers of the Department nominated by him to supervise them. Short periods of lectures, visits, and other special training will be included in the programme. A report on each scholar and fellow will be made to the nominating government at the end of the period of training.

Nomination forms may be obtained from FAMA, 2-8 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Nominations should reach London by 10 March 1960, and the awards will be made and notified to governments as soon as possible after that date.

The 1959 Training Courses in Community Development Provided by the Government of Ghana

THE 1959 courses, under the auspices of FAMA, started on 4 May. The recipients of the awards came from Angola, Ethiopia, the Ivory Coast, Republic of Togoland (2), and Sierra Leone. The first week of training was taken up with lectures at the headquarters in Accra of the Department of Social Welfare and Community Development, a film show, and visits to centres of interest in Accra such as the Accelerated Artisan Training Scheme and the Bureau of Ghana Languages. The lectures given by the Director and other senior members of the department covered many aspects of community development, including mass education, techniques of literacy work and demonstration, self-help construction work, techniques in village building, visual aids, and extension work in community development. The next three weeks were occupied with visits, of one week each, to the Western, Ashanti, and Northern Regions of Ghana. The scholars and fellows then returned to Accra to participate in a one-day seminar held at the University College of Ghana. After this they divided up and were posted to four regions to work with the departmental staff in the region. Each was required to keep a daily diary and to record his itineraries. The training was completed in October with a brief period of discussion at departmental headquarters in Accra.

Three Unknown Logbooks of Ibn Majid, the Arab pilot of Vasco da Gama¹

THIS is the first printed edition of three logbooks of Ibn Majid from the manuscript in the possession of the Leningrad Institute of Oriental Studies. The books contains a Russian metric translation of the logs (pp. 13-57), a facsimile of the Arabic manuscript (44 pages of text), an historical introduction and comparative study of the two Ibn Majid manuscripts in the Bibliothèque Nationale, a palaeographic description (pp. 63-104), notes, and annexes consisting of a topographical index, map of the Indian Ocean, astronomical index, the Arab rose of winds, moon phases, glossary of Arabic navigational terms, and a metric and rhyme analysis.

Shumovsky dates the manuscript as 1500/1501, thus making it the latest known Ibn Majid record. The manuscript was first listed in the catalogue of the Asiatic Museum of St. Petersburg in 1819, a year after its foundation. This catalogue was compiled by its first director, Academician Fraehn (*Codicum Manuscriptorum arabicorum, persicorum et turcicorum, qui in Academiae Imperialis Scientiarum Museo Asiatico asservantur.*)

[Communicated by M. H.]

¹ In the unique manuscript at the Institute of Oriental Studies of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences. Translated and edited by T. A. Shumovsky with an

introduction by Professor D. A. Olderdogge; published by the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, Moscow-Leningrad, 1957. Pp. 195, maps and diagrams, biblio.