

groups has been supplemented by an analysis of the available demographic data relating to the various groups in the territory.

As regards East Africa, efforts to obtain material from Government sources have so far been disappointing. Dr. Meinhard has almost completed the detailed analysis of the published literature relating to the Nyamwezi group of tribes in Tanganyika, which will be circulated to the Government and other persons in the hope of eliciting further data. Dr. Mayer has prepared preliminary schedules for some smaller groups of tribes in East Africa.

In South Africa and the High Commission Territories the schemes for the collation of material have not yet reached the productive stage; arrangements for the organization of material in South East Africa, the Rhodesias, and Nyasaland were suspended pending Dr. Gluckman's visit to England this summer, and information concerning the details of the plans of field research organized by the Rhodes-Livingstone Institute.

### *Research in and for French Africa*

IN 1943-4 the French Government established an Office of Scientific Colonial Research for the purpose of creating the scientific equipment necessary to the industrial and economic development of France Overseas. It aims at the training of specialized researchers and the organization of centres of research. Until its own institutes can be built and manned the Office is using eight existing centres in France, and another for the training of geographers and ethnographers will, it is expected, be opened in November this year. The course of study covers two years, the first of which will be spent by students in France and the second in Africa. It is planned to have in each group or federation of the colonies an autonomous research institute financed by the central Office and the local government. One will be set up in Madagascar, one at Brazzaville for Equatorial Africa, and the existing Institute at Dakar (IFAN) will be reorganized to fit into the scheme. Within the Office a committee will be formed to bring together the heads of these institutes in order to elaborate a general plan applicable to the whole continent. At Abijan on the Ivory Coast an Intercolonial Institute is to be erected where the second-year students will complete their training and where special studies on acclimatization and other subjects will be carried on.

The Report of the Office for 1945 records the expenditure of about two million francs for the support of thirty-nine research assistants in various French institutions; and also the establishment of friendly relations with many foreign scientific organizations, including the International African Institute. A long list of the subjects taught in the Centres is given: entomology, pedology, vegetal pathology, oceanography, geology, &c. Ethnology was to be added in 1946. Various research projects were set afoot this year; one, under M. Aubert, to study soils in Senegal; another to study native medicinal plants. Other investigations include one of the transmission of heat through walls with a view to determining the most comfortable form of house in the tropics, using local materials to the maximum extent. M. Leroy went out to study the effect of humidity on the human organism; M. Mangelot to study 'swollen root' in the cacao-tree. Great attention has been paid to the preparation of maps showing density of population. In 1945 a committee of Human Studies was appointed under the presidency of Professor Rivet. M. Darot was put in charge of linguistic research and is studying Nilotic languages and their relation to those of Senegal. A ten years' plan has been formulated to cost a milliard and a half francs, including grants of 150 millions for IFAN, of 108 millions for the Centrafrican Institute, of 85 millions for the Institute at Abijan, and of 126 millions for the metropolitan training centres.

### *Research in the Cameroons*

DR. PHYLLIS KABERRY, who has been engaged on a field-study of the economic position of women in the Bamenda division of the Cameroons, has completed her first tour and will

be returning to this country for leave, and for a period of work on her report, before returning to the field for her second tour in January next.

### *The Nederland Afrika Instituut*

INTERNATIONAL problems have always ranked high among the subjects studied at Dutch Universities, and although Holland has no administrative interest in Africa, a knowledge of African problems is considered to be of value for the solution of future problems in Indonesia. The Nederland Afrika Instituut was founded in 1945 at Rotterdam by the Chamber of Commerce in co-operation with the School of Economics. The Institute is to be organized in two sections, that at Rotterdam being mainly concerned with economic and commercial information, while scientific research in ethnology, sociology, and colonial administration will be developed at Leiden, in co-operation with the University. A comprehensive library is being built up, and a periodical publication, containing factual information, mainly of a commercial nature, is issued. Dr. Idenburg, Secretary of the Institute at Leiden, and Dr. Kraemer, who is a member of the Council, called at the London office of the International African Institute during their visit to England, discussed their plans, and expressed their cordial desire for co-operation with this Institute.

### *Two New Journals*

'FIVE centuries ago our first Portuguese navigators landed, with eyes full open to all the novelty that the Dark Continent had to reveal; it is time that the country should have a more exact and conscious knowledge of its oldest colonial possession: time that the Portuguese should make a new discovery of Portuguese Guinea!' So writes Senhor Marcello Caetano, Minister of the Colonies, in his introduction to the first number of the *Boletim cultural da Guiné Portuguesa*, which, with its wide programme, promises to fill a big gap in our knowledge. It opens most appropriately with a long article on the discovery of Guinea following Nuno Tristao's voyage in 1446. One section of the Bulletin is to be devoted to ethnography.

The other new journal is *Fort Hare Papers*, edited by professors of the South African Native College and printed by the Lovedale press. No. 2 is fully occupied by a notable article by that promising Bantu scholar G. L. Letele on 'The Noun Class-prefix in the Sotho Group of Bantu languages'. Those of our readers who know any of these languages will find here many new suggestions. It is a curious feature of classification that when a Jew is thought of merely as a Jew he is designated *le-Juta*, but a Jew referred to in the Bible is *mo-Juta*, that is to say, he is promoted to Class 1. The analysis of nouns assigned to Class 7 (SE-) is particularly interesting; they are chiefly the names of persons and things with outstanding qualities, normal or abnormal—of spirits, as creatures abnormal in appearance and nature, *sedimo*, 'ghost', *setho*, 'ghost'; of sub-normal creatures, *selehe*, 'useless person', and so on. This section of his paper raises many questions and repays careful study. No. 1 contains two other articles by Africans: Professor Z. K. Matthews writes 'A Short History of the Tshidi Barolong' and Mr. G. I. M. Mzamane on the use of certain plants by Bantu-speaking peoples. Professor A. J. D. Meiring, honorary Curator of the F. S. Malan Museum, deals with engravings on Masarwa egg-shells. He thinks it probable that the apparent relationship between the Capsian and 'Bushman' cultures is due to parallel evolution. We hope that Principal Kerr is too pessimistic in saying 'it will not be possible to supply material for issue at regular intervals'.