
Abe Bailey Institute of Inter-Racial Studies at the University of Cape Town

The Abe Bailey Institute of Inter-Racial Studies was established in 1968 and is financed by the Abe Bailey Trust. It works in close co-operation with the University of Cape Town although not a formal part of it. The primary purpose of the Institute is to promote and conduct research into inter-group relations in South Africa, especially into relations between race and language groups. It will also be concerned with educational work and will co-operate with existing organizations within and outside the University in the arrangement of lectures and discussions in order to promote a better understanding of inter-group relations. The Director is Professor Hendrik W. van der Merwe and the programme is under the supervision of an academic advisory committee.

The research programme of the Institute includes a study of white South African élites, financed by the Human Sciences Research Council, and originally started under the auspices of the Institute for Social and Economic Research at Rhodes University in 1966. The report on this project is being prepared by the Director, Mrs. N. C. J. Charton and Mr. M. J. Ashley. Dr. R. E. van der Ross has received financial assistance from the Institute towards his study of the political-cultural development of the coloured people during the twentieth century as related to problems of group identity. A series of research seminars has been held and it is hoped to arrange research workshops of 4-6 people to promote discussion between Afrikaans- and English-speaking academics on inter-group relations in South Africa. The future role of the Institute is seen as not only to conduct its own research projects but also to encourage and co-ordinate research between the University of Cape Town and other universities.

Université Mohammed V: Centre Universitaire de la Recherche Scientifique, Rabat (Maroc)

The Centre has issued a Bulletin Signalétique listing some 350 papers and other written studies, including twenty-five doctoral theses, presented during the period 1957-69. The text is in French and in Arabic. The first number of the Bulletin de la Société d'Histoire du Maroc (in French and Arabic) has also recently appeared. Published under the auspices of the Centre Universitaire de la Recherche Scientifique, it may be ordered from the Société des Sciences de l'Homme, Avenue Moulay Cherif, B.P. 1054, Rabat; price 8 dirhams (Maroc), 9 dirhams (étranger).

‘The Conch’

The Conch, a bilingual (English and French) sociological journal of African cultures and literatures, was founded in 1967 in memory of the poet Christopher Okigbo. Its field of interest includes all forms of oral and written communication (traditional folklore, myths, legends, and music), factors of social change including modern mass media, poetry, and the novel in Africa. It is edited from the English Department of the University of Texas, Austin, by Dr. S. O. Anonzie. Vol. ii, no. 2 (September 1970) is devoted to ‘Structuralism
and African Folklore' and the September 1971 issue will be a special one on 'Igbo Traditional Life, Culture and Literature'. Conch appears twice a year in March and September but it is hoped to produce it quarterly when resources permit. The annual subscription is £3.50, $7.50, 12 NF and should be sent to the Editor: c/o Department of English, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712, or to Mr. Pierre R. Foltz, Subscription Department, Dillon's University Bookshop, 1 Malet Street, London, W.C. 1, or to The Conch Magazine, c/o Editions Aubier-Montaigne, 13 Quai de Conti, Paris VIe, or c/o Department of English, University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

‘Dar-es-Salaam: City, Port and Region’

This special number (no. 71, 1970) of Tanzania Notes and News is edited by J. E. G. Sutton and published by the Tanzania Society, price 30s. ($4). It consists of some twenty studies on various aspects of the city, including its history, geomorphology, population, architecture, administration, education, dhows, and social and political aspects.

Historical Museum in Cape Coast Castle

The Ghana Museums and Monuments Board, in conjunction with the University College of Cape Coast, is to open a national historical museum in Cape Coast Castle. The museum will house relics of the slave trade and will also contain a special reference library on the subject.


This survey by Mrs. M. K. Cason (submitted as part of the requirements for the M.A. in Librarianship at University College London, 1970), supplements R. Keen’s Survey of the Archives of Selected Missionary Societies (1968) and the manuscript of M. D. Wainwright and N. Matthews’s ‘Guide to MSS. and Documents in the British Isles related to Africa’. Thirty-three societies are covered in detail and another sixty or so are listed with brief notes. The survey attempts to list all Protestant missionary societies now functioning with offices in England who work or have worked in Africa south of the Sahara, give an indication of their areas of work and dates and a brief statement of their type of organization; list manuscript and printed material to be found in their English offices in general terms; give a brief bibliography of their history; list societies no longer in existence which have functioned from England in Africa with, where possible, an indication of where their material is to be found. There is a geographical index and a bibliography. Copies of the survey are deposited in the University of London and the University College London libraries.

The Haile Sellassie Award for 1970

The 1970 Haile Sellassie Award for research in Africa has been awarded to Professor Thomas Adeoye Lambo, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan, and to Mr. Basil Davidson. Professor Lambo is well known for the researches and the clinical work in psychiatric medicine that he undertook and directed over many years at the Aro Hospital for Nervous Diseases at Abeokuta, Nigeria. Mr. Davidson, who has travelled in many parts of Africa for more than twenty years and written extensively on the Congo and the Portuguese territories, is the author of widely read studies of Africa’s past, notably Old Africa Rediscovered and Black Mother.