

J. W. Williams); a Social Survey of Cape Coast Fishing (E. R. Rado, Economics, U.C.G.C.); Local Industries in the Northern Territories (L. M. Kubinski, Economics, U.C.G.C.); Problems of Expansion in the Gold Coast Fishing Industries (D. T. Gould, Fisheries Department, Gold Coast); The Muslim Association of the Gold Coast (J. H. Price, Economics, U.C.G.C.); a retrospect of the Nigerian Cocoa Survey (K. D. S. Baldwin, W.A.I.S.E.R.); the Textile trade in Accra (Miss G. Addae, Economics, U.C.G.C.).

*Communicated by* PHILIP DARK, *Administrative Secretary*

### *Institut Français d'Afrique Noire*

Le Rapport Annuel de 1953 contient des aperçus des sections et des activités spécialisées d'IFAN, aussi que des rapports brefs des Centres Locaux, des missions du personnel de l'IFAN, listes des publications, des conférences et congrès organisés et des renseignements concernant des recherches achevées ou projetées.

La section de Sociologie a élaboré un programme de recherches dont les thèmes essentiels concernent: l'étude des problèmes posés par l'urbanisation et l'industrialisation au Sénégal (études dans les domaines économique, démographique et sociologique); l'étude plus générale de l'adaptation de la main-d'œuvre à la mécanisation (études de psychologie du travail). Dans ce programme sont compris des travaux collectifs aussi que des travaux exécutés séparément par des chercheurs individuels dans leurs domaines spécialisés.

Le plan de travail collectif prévoyait des recherches sur l'agglomération dakaroise (voir *Africa*, xxiii. 4, octobre 1953, pp. 355-6) dont plusieurs travaux ont été exécutés pendant l'année 1953; une enquête générale par questionnaires portant sur les aspects essentiels de la vie individuelle, familiale, professionnelle (MM. Mercier, Hauser et Masse avec l'aide d'environ 80 enquêteurs bénévoles); enquête socio-démographique sur un secteur du quartier de Santyba, portant sur 200 familles environ; enquête sur les associations de type nouveau, en particulier les syndicats et les associations culturelles (M. Mercier); enquête dans les industries de transformation de la région Dakar-Rufisque (M. Hauser); études économiques — stage préparatoire (M. Mersadier). En outre MM. Mercier et Masse ont participé à une enquête collective sur Thiès — centre urbain du Sénégal. Le recensement de la ville de Thiès, exécuté sous les auspices de la Statistique Générale, aussi qu'un plan sommaire de la ville établi avec l'aide des photographies aériennes ont fourni des bases de travail qui permettaient d'envisager à Thiès un travail plus systématique que celui de Dakar. Un stage de formation et de sélection des enquêteurs africains qui devaient participer à l'enquête a été organisé à l'IFAN.

Aux centres locaux d'IFAN, M. B. Holas (Côte d'Ivoire) poursuit, parallèlement à d'autres travaux de longue haleine, ses études de sociologie religieuse chez les Sénoufo du nord de la Côte d'Ivoire, et en particulier sur les changements récents intervenus dans la structure du système initiatique tribal.

Le Dr. Köbben (Côte d'Ivoire) poursuit une étude sur l'évolution des coutumes et de la vie sociale de différents villages indigènes en présence et en fonction de l'évolution économique et politique de la Côte d'Ivoire.

M. Le Moal (Haute-Volta) a poursuivi ses recherches sur la société Bobo-Fing, et, par ailleurs, a commencé des recherches de sociologie pratique sur le problème des migrations de main-d'œuvre sous l'angle des conséquences sociales et des changements culturels, en particulier chez les Mossi.

### *Growth of East Africa's First Museum: Memorial to a Kenya Governor*

JUST over 40 years ago, 72 enthusiasts, members of the recently formed Natural History Society of Kenya, attended a meeting to discuss the possibility of creating Nairobi's first

museum. In consequence of this meeting a small building was erected in 1911 near the centre of the town, on a site presented by Mr. Jivanjee, a wealthy Indian philanthropist to whom the society paid a nominal monthly rental. This was the first museum set up in East Africa; it housed and displayed to the public specimens collected by members of the Society.

The popularity of this first museum was evident from the start, and early in 1914 the Society felt itself strong enough to appoint a paid curator; in 1915 it obtained the services of Mr. Arthur Loveridge from the National Museum of Wales. Mr. Loveridge, who today is Professor of Herpetology at Harvard University, is one of the world's leading experts on reptiles. The need for a larger museum was evident by 1921, and a new building was constructed and opened in 1923, with Dr. V. L. G. van Someren as honorary curator. The death in 1928 of Sir Robert Coryndon, then Governor of Kenya and President of the Natural History Society, led to an appeal for funds to build an even larger museum. It seemed a fitting memorial to a great naturalist. The success of this appeal enabled the Natural History Society to sell the existing museum as a drill hall to the Government, and the sum obtained was added to the memorial fund to supply the new museum with workshops.

The 15-acre site chosen for the Coryndon Museum, and presented by the Government, lay well outside the centre of the town so as to be free from dust and noise. The foundation stone of the Coryndon Museum was laid in 1927, and in 1929 the new building was opened by the Governor of Kenya, Sir Edward Greig. The East Africa and Uganda Natural History Society transferred its collections from its own museum, and Dr. van Someren was appointed curator with an honorarium. Soon after the new museum was opened the late Miss Evelyn Napier was appointed botanist, and through her efforts the foundation of the museum's superb botanical collection was laid. In 1932 the Carnegie Trust of America granted the sum of £1,000 towards the upkeep of the buildings, and from 1930 to 1933 Dr. L. S. B. Leakey's archaeological collection was incorporated, opening up an entirely new section in the gallery of the main hall.

To overcome financial difficulties the Natural History Society appealed to the Government in 1938 to set up a committee to inquire into the whole question of the future of the museum. The Natural History Society relinquished its control of the museum during the following year, and full responsibility was taken over by a new board of trustees.

After the outbreak of the Second World War, Dr. van Someren resigned and Dr. Leakey was elected his successor, and when the war ended his appointment was confirmed and his staff increased. As the museum expanded so public interest also grew. There were 101,954 recorded visitors to the museum in 1947, compared with 50,000 the previous year, 137,946 in 1949, and 142,055 in 1952, and nearly half the total in each case were school children.

By 1948, however, it had become increasingly difficult to meet the public demand for fresh exhibits because of lack of space. The original museum, designed to hold small mammal, bird, and insect exhibitions, could no longer contain the ever-increasing collection of divers subjects, and the workshops proved completely inadequate for expansion.

An appeal was therefore launched in January 1949 for £60,000 to build extensions and re-equip the museum. By the end of the year a considerable sum had been received which enabled a start to be made on the building. The Kenya Government also made an outright grant of £5,000 and agreed to provide £1,000 for every £3,000 subscribed until the total amount was achieved. On 15 October 1952 the first part of the extensions was finally handed over to the museum authorities, and the formal opening took place on 23 February 1953.

The five exhibition halls have been divided into three sections, which have been allocated respectively to: botany, entomology, marine and fresh-water biology and reptilia, contained in the Churchill Hall; geology, minerals, and palaeontology in the Gandhi Hall; and a Hall of Man, divided into ethnology and prehistory, in the Aga Khan Hall. The basements and

extra back premises have been designed specially to include additional scientific research rooms with electrically equipped workshops, a dark-room, and extensive storage accommodation.

All the three galleries have been designed to include complete accuracy with artistic merit, and special attention has been paid to simplicity, so that each exhibit can be easily understood by children. Possibly the Churchill gallery is the most striking, for here is a display far ahead of its counterpart in the British Museum, London.

In an adjacent gallery is the botany section, presented in 14 specially designed flower painting displays set in their various botanical groups and painted by Joy Adamson, the wife of a Kenya game warden. Special features of this gallery are panelled walls of indigenous Kenya timbers presented by the Forest Department, and a round table inlaid with 50 different species of Kenya woods.

In the Gandhi Hall, approximately three-quarters of the exhibits have been devoted to geology. This exhibition has a practical commercial and industrial significance and has proved invaluable to prospectors and to economic research. There is also a section concerning the straight geology of East Africa.

The most important exhibits in the palaeontological section are of the Miocene and Pleistocene eras—25 million and one million years ago respectively—in the history of East Africa. Of outstanding importance in the Miocene exhibit is that illustrating the famous fossil apes of many genera and species from Rusinga Island in Lake Victoria and adjacent sites, and including the cast of the unique Pro-Consul skull.

In the Aga Khan Hall the ethnological section has been devoted almost entirely to a collection of African weapons and arts and crafts, the nucleus of this exhibit being supplied from a collection presented by Sir Frederick Jackson, once Governor of Uganda and a celebrated field naturalist. Lack of space allows only eight tribes out of Kenya's 57 to be shown at one time, and this exhibit is continually being changed. Because of the rapid disappearance of African tribal customs, this collection, together with Joy Adamson's paintings of Kenya tribesmen in their ceremonial and war dress, will in years to come have considerable ethnological value.

The prehistoric section fills the second half of the Aga Khan Hall. The central block of cabinets carries the story of the Stone Age cultures in East Africa from a million years ago to A.D. 500. On the walls there is a series of exhibits illustrating examples of prehistoric art in East Africa, some dating as far back as 25,000 years ago. One end of the hall is completely taken up with a large reproduction of part of the wall of the famous painted site at Cheke in Tanganyika, and on it are reproduced about 300 of the original paintings showing all the various super-impositions of the different art styles.

The Coryndon Museum, now considered one of the most important museums south of the Sahara, is still incomplete. Its story of continuous development and expansion, since its humble beginning as Nairobi's museum 40 years ago, seems likely to continue. It is undoubtedly achieving its purpose and is a great attraction to visitors from all over the world. Its doors are open to all races, and many travel vast distances to learn about the land in which they live.

### *Rhodesia University College*

THE University College will be built on the Mount Pleasant site in Salisbury. The City of Salisbury has granted to the Inaugural Board additional land adjacent to the original Mount Pleasant site, bringing the total area of the College site to 458 acres. The College will be granted facilities for teaching and research in the projected Botanical Gardens near to the University site and at a veterinary research station, and land can be given to the College for a teaching and experimental farm of about 1,000 acres on a suitable area to be made available