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'Journal of West African Languages'

A NEW *Journal of West African Languages* is to be published in October 1963 by the Cambridge University Press in association with the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan. The *Journal* is to appear twice yearly and is designed to present basic, technical data on languages, such as word tests, grammatical sketches, dialect comparisons, and illustrative texts. It is hoped to encourage linguistically trained Africans and missionaries to publish materials on the languages which they are studying, and in this way to broaden the base of scholarship. The large number of special sorts for phonetic characters is being acquired with a special grant from the African Studies Association (U.S.). It is hoped that after three or four years the University of Ibadan Press will take over publication from Cambridge University Press, and at that time the stock of special type will be transferred to it. The editors of the first issue are Frank Brosnahan (now at the University of Wellington, N.Z.), Robert Armstrong (University of Ibadan), and John Spencer (University of Leeds). The editors of subsequent issues will be Robert Armstrong, John Spencer, and Carl Hoffmann (University of Ibadan).

(Contributed by Professor R. G. Armstrong)

The Study of African Literature: CELRIA and GELNA

At the end of 1961 Lovanium University authorized the establishment of the Centre d'Études des Littératures Romanes d'Inspiration Africaine (CELRIA), which has already stimulated a keen interest in African literature, organized poetry recitals and lectures, and published articles in reviews of general interest. A course on Negro-African literature in French is given at the University by Professor V-P. Bol, who read a paper on this subject at the Congrès pour la Liberté de la Culture held at Dakar in March 1963. At this meeting representatives from various African and French universities formed a commission for research and critical studies at university level, the Groupe d'Études sur la Littérature Neofricaine (GELNA) which will make use of the resources and facilities offered by CELRIA. CELRIA will act as a centre for documentation and will publish a bulletin for liaison and information. One of the forthcoming projects of GELNA is the publication of a bibliography of African literature, divided into seven regional groups (of which four are in Africa) and already containing over 3,500 titles.

Northwestern University Press and African Literature

In the interests of extending the range of African literary resources available to American readers, Northwestern University Press has undertaken to distribute in the United States and its territories the publications of Mbari, of Ibadan, Nigeria.

Mbari is the only indigenous publishing house in Africa devoted to 'trade' books. It has one centre at Ibadan and another at Oshogbo, with accommodation for lectures and discussions and space for practical work and gallery exhibitions. While the main concern of Mbari is with African writing, the work of non-Africans also receives attention. It was responsible, with the Department of Extra-Mural Studies, for the organization of the first Conference of African Writers of English Expression, held at Makerere College, Kampala, in June 1962. *Black Orpheus*, the magazine published by Mbari, appears three times a year and will also be distributed by the Northwestern University Press.