

RESEARCH NOTES

Research on a wide variety of aspects of the physical and human geography of East Africa is currently in progress in several centres; the aim of this note is to provide an indication of the range of this work and to note some recent and forthcoming publications likely to be of interest to readers of the *Review*.

In the Department of Geography at Makerere University College, several major research projects have recently reached completion. *Dr. S.H. Ominde* was awarded the degree of Ph.D. (Lond.) in 1963 for his thesis on 'Land and Population in the Western Districts of Nyanza Province, Kenya'; this work is now being prepared for publication. *Dr. Ominde* was recently appointed to a chair of geography at University College, Nairobi, and is working on various items for publication relating to population problems in Kenya. A former research student at Makerere, *Dr. A.M. O'Connor*, completed his thesis for the degree of Ph.D. (Cantab.) on 'The Role of Rail Transport in the Economic Development of Uganda'; *Dr. O'Connor* has returned to the Department of Geography as lecturer, and his thesis is to be published in 1964. Another recent Ph.D. thesis, completed at Liverpool, is that of *Dr. R.S. Odingo*, on 'Some Aspects of the Agricultural Geography of the Kenya Highlands'. *Professor S.J.K. Baker* has recently been working on various articles for *Encyclopaedia Britannica* and *Chambers's Encyclopaedia*, and contributed a survey of 'the East African environment' to the first volume of the new *Oxford History of East Africa*. *Mr. B.W. Langlands* intends shortly to publish a geographical bibliography of the distribution of disease in East Africa, and continues his work within the fields of human ecology and historical geography in Uganda. The economic geography of the seaports of East Africa is the subject of a Ph.D. thesis in preparation by *Mr. B.S. Hoyle*, who has also recently published a paper on Jinja in the *Geographical Review*, and is collecting material for a paper on the Tanganyika geographer *Clement Gillman*. *Mr. P.H. Temple's* research on the shoreline of Lake Victoria is now well advanced, and a paper on aspects of the urban geography of Kampala is in course of preparation. *Mr. J.C. Doornkamp* continues his work on the geomorphology of Ankole, and is co-author of a paper recently published in *Geography* on morphological mapping and the study of soil patterns. Several projects undertaken by research students of the department have now reached an advanced stage: these include a study of the composition, patterns and survival of savanna woodland in Bunyoro (*Miss B.J. Turner*, at Bedford College, London); the relationship between geomorphology and vegetation in Ankole (*Mr. A. Brosh*, at Makerere); resettlement schemes in Busoga (*Miss S. Illingworth*, at Nottingham University); industrial development in East Africa (*Mr. M. Safier*, at the London School of Economics and Political Science). Graduates of the department also engaged in research include *J. Ouma* (geomorphology, at University of Sydney, New South Wales); and *A. Mascarenhas* (at the University of California at Los Angeles).

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The staff of the Department of Geography at University College, Nairobi, are currently working on a number of interesting themes. *Professor W.T.W. Morgan* is preparing a general text on the geography of East Africa and is editing a collection of essays on the Nairobi region. Two maps have so far appeared in a programme of mapping directed by Professor Morgan and based on the 1962 Kenya census, and another recent publication of interest is a study of the 'White Highlands' of Kenya in the *Geographical Journal*. *Mr. R.A. Bullock* has been working on problems of land tenure and population pressure in Kiambu, and *Mr. R.B. Ogendo* is preparing a Ph.D. thesis on agricultural processing industries in Kenya. *Mr. F.F. Ojany*, who recently gained an M.A. degree at Birmingham, has embarked upon a geomorphological study of the Kiambu country; and patterns of agriculture in Kenya form the subject of research work by *Dr. N. Manfred Shaffer*, who is also interested in the geographical distribution of political consciousness in Kenya.

Research work of interest to geographers is also being carried out elsewhere within the University of East Africa. At Makerere, *Dr. R.C. Bridges* of the History Department has recently completed a Ph.D. thesis on the role of the Royal Geographical Society in the exploration of East Africa, and in the Faculty of Agriculture *Mr. D.G.R. Belshaw* is co-editor of two forthcoming studies of agricultural development policies and of peasant agriculture in East Africa; *Mr. Belshaw* has also prepared papers on agricultural problems in the East African common market and on resettlement schemes in Uganda. In the Faculty of Social Sciences *Professor A.W. Southall* continues his work on African towns; *P. Clark* is working on the location of manufacturing industries in East Africa; and *E.W. Soja* is studying the spatial structure of the network of social communications in Kenya.

Outside the University, research which has clear distributional aspects is being pursued in many government departments and organizations but cannot be surveyed in detail here. Of particular interest however is the work of *Dr. W.G. Kuepper* of Wisconsin University, who is studying the precipitation climatology of Tanganyika with particular relation to synoptic weather types; the East African Meteorological Department, with whom *Dr. Kuepper* is working, hope to carry out rain stimulation experiments in 1964 on a sufficiently wide basis to permit a statistical investigation of the subject. Mention should be made also, amongst other institutions, of the British Institute of History and Archaeology in East Africa, where *H.N. Chittick*, *M. Posnansky* and others are actively pursuing investigations closely related to the historical geography of East Africa, especially of the coastlands. In Tanganyika, *G.L. Cunningham* (Kivukoni College, Dar es Salaam) is working on agricultural settlement schemes, and *A.D. Beck* (Mzumbe School, Morogoro) contributes to this issue of the *Review* a paper based on his work on the Kilombero Valley. *I.D. Thomas* (Govt. Secondary School, Malangali) is working on the population distribution of South-western Tanganyika. In Kenya, *R.D. Greenfield* is working on an historical and political study of Ethiopia to be published in 1964, and is collecting material for film strip studies of various aspects of the geography of East and Central Africa.

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