

Needed A: New Geography Course

By
Robert Epler

(WRITTEN ESPECIALLY FOR *THE COLLEGIAN*)

During the past decade, Africa has achieved a major portion in the international community. The great period of colonial dissolution—beginning at the end of World War II and continuing today brought independent status to an almost unbelievable number of African nations. Before 1950, only four independent nations existed in Africa: Egypt, Ethiopia, Liberia, and the Union of South Africa. Since then, twenty-nine newly independent nations have emerged.

As these nations attract more attention and importance, the need for a revised geographic vocabulary increases. The easy method of prefacing a place name with "British" or "French" has been largely dissipated. In its place a new set of names has evolved. Since the political geography of Africa never received more than passing attention in our educational system, the transition from colonial to independent status with its name changes has been doubly confusing to many Americans.

In 1951, the United Kingdom of Libya, the first of the new nations, was created from the former Italian holdings in North Africa. Five years later, Tunisia and Morocco gained independence from France and the Republic of Sudan replaced the Anglo-Egyptian condominium. Great Britain's colonial grip loosened in 1957 with the independence of Ghana, formerly the Gold Coast and British Togoland.

With the establishment of the Fifth French Republic in 1958, the French Community was also formed. Complete independence, republic status within the Community, and continued colonial status within the Community, and continued colonial status were the alternatives given the vast French holdings in Africa. Within two years, fifteen new nations came out of this plan. In order of creation they were: Guinea, Cameroon, Togo, Malagasy Republic (Madagascar), Dahomey, Niger, Upper Volta, Ivory Coast, Chad, Central African

Republic of Congo, Gabon, Senegal, Mali, and Mauritania. The Algerian question, which involved problems differing from the rest of French Africa, was finally resolved by independence in 1962.

The Belgian Congo achieved independence in 1960 and soon became a major international problem. Even its name caused trouble! The ex-French Congo took Republic of Congo as its name, so the ex-Belgian Congo decided on Republic of *the* Congo. To distinguish the two more easily, the practice of following the country name with its capital has been widely accepted: Congo (Brazzaville) for the Republic of Congo and Congo (Leopoldville) for the Republic of the Congo. The apparent failure of secessionist movements in the provinces of Kasai and Katanga leaves cartographers of having to locate two more nations in the Congo Basin.

Still other nations have been formed. The Somali Republic combined the Italian trusteeship of Somalia with British Somaliland in 1960. The British colonies of Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Tanganyika, and Uganda gained independence over the past three years. The Belgian trusteeship of Ruanda-Urundi became the Republic of Rwanda and the Kingdom of Burundi last summer. An additional complication is involved with the latter. A single inhabitant of Burundi is a Murundi, while several inhabitants are Barundi! However, this is an improvement over Munyarunda and Banyaruanda, the singular and plural for inhabitants of the old trusteeship.

With large areas still under the colonial administration of Great Britain, France, Portugal, and Spain, the end of new African nations has not yet been reached. These new nations supply us with many challenges, not the least of which is the changing political geography. The Department of State has had to reorganize its Bureau of African Affairs several times to keep up with the changes. How well have you been able to keep up with them?

Belles-Lettres Fills Vacancies

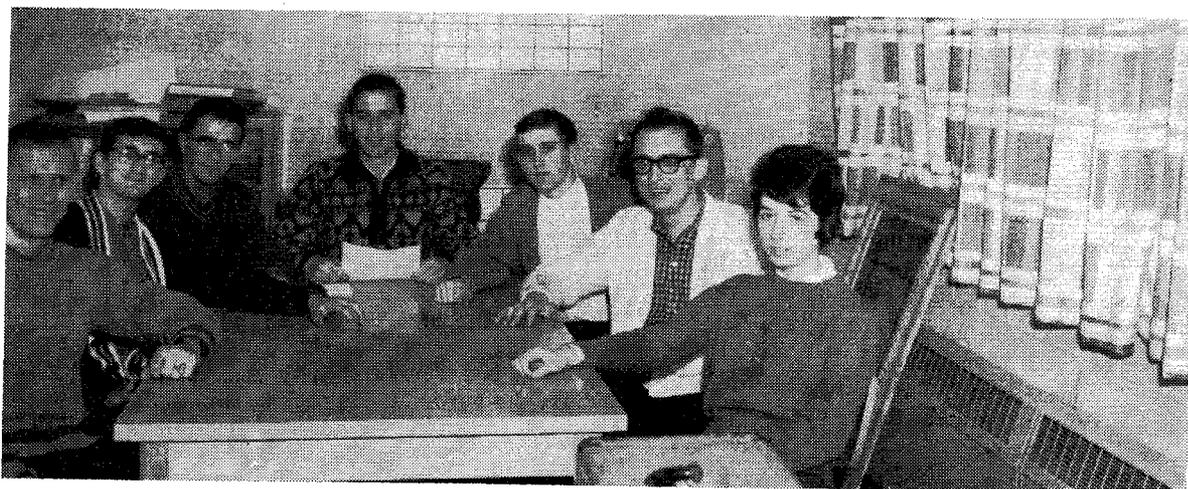
At the first Belles-Lettres Society meeting of this term, the following officials were elected to replace those who left for the main campus: Secretary, Mary O'Donnell; Publicity chairman, James Scarcella; and Treasurer, Anthony Molinari.

The progress of the Historical pamphlet that various committees were working on was discussed. Plans also were continued to have informational cards concerning the Hazleton Campus printed.

Preparations are also being made for the two annual Reading Festivals which the Belles-Lettres Society sponsors each Spring.

Discussion, concerning the two Reading Festivals held annually at the Hazleton Campus, consumed part of the meeting. The High School Reading Festival, held for the purpose of allowing area high school students to display their skill in dramatic and poetic reading, will award trophies to the winners.

The second Reading Festival is limited to Hazleton Campus students only. The winner will be awarded an expense paid two day trip to the Main Campus, where he will enter the General Reading Festival.



BELLES LETTRES OFFICERS—Left to right: Richard Groich, public relations secretary; James Scarcella, public relations chairman; Anthony Molinari, treasurer; John Rosenstock, president; Gregg Smith, vice president; Robert Haas, fine arts chairman; Mary O'Donnell, secretary.

LIST OF GIFT BOOKS AVAILABLE AT HIGHACRES LIBRARY

Rev. Frederick B. Crane:
Patrick, G. T. — Introduction to Philosophy.
Wilson, R. D.—A Hebrew Grammar for Beginners.
Robert, H. M.—Robert's Rules of Order.

Jones, O. G.—Parliamentary Procedure at a glance.
Allport, F.H.—Social Psychology.
Ball, F. K.—The Elements of Greek.
Colson, F. H. — A First Greek Reader—Stories and Legends.

Arey, L. B.—Developmental Anatomy.
Tapper, T.—First and Second Year Harmony 2 vol.
Smith, F. M. — Essays and Studies: prose selections for college reading.

FRUMKIN BROS.

21 Famous Brands

21 W. Broad St. Hazleton, Pa.

COLUMBIA RECORD STORE

The Finest of Record
Selections In The Area
DOWNTOWN HAZLETON

Compliments

of

DAIRYLEA