George Simpson, Pennsylvania State College
Lorenzo D. Turner, Fisk University
Mark Hannah Watkins, Fisk University
Eric Williams, Howard University
Harvey Wish, De Paul University

Invited but unable to attend were
Guy B. Johnson, University of North Carolina
Gunnar Myrdal, The Carnegie-Myrdal Study
Elsie Clews Parsons, New York, N. Y.
Carter G. Woodson, Association for the Study of Negro Life and History
Donald Young, Social Science Research Council

Among the scholarly disciplines represented were physical and cultural anthropology, history, political science, sociology, economics, psychology, philosophy, literature and the arts.

Papers were presented at each session of the Conference and followed by discussion. The stenotyped record of the complete proceedings which was prepared has, in the interests of economy, been considerably reduced to form the present report. All of the papers, which are given practically in full, were submitted to their authors for corrections before publication. In editing the discussions effort was made to prevent the exclusion of any comments contributing to the main purposes of the Conference; incidental remarks and repetitions of argument were deleted; and for the sake of clarity or conciseness the form of the conversations was at some points altered.

It seems desirable at this point to present a summary of the findings and recommendations of the Conference as they were defined at the close of the final session. Following this summary the papers and other discussions will be given in their chronological order.

2. Summary of Findings and Recommendations

At the final session of the Conference, the numerous suggestions that had been made for further work in the field of Negro studies, and the general agreement as to the stimulation afforded workers [342]
in this field by opportunity to discuss together their mutual problems, clearly indicated the need for a continuing body which should act as a center for the advancement of Negro research. It was felt that the work of such a group would include the integration of Negro studies in one discipline with those in others; that such a body could aid in making possible greater facilities for Negro students by breaking down or circumventing social barriers that make their work difficult; that a group of this kind might arrange for the setting up of microfilm centers where copies of documents important in the study of Negro history and otherwise difficult to obtain could be made available to qualified scholars; that such a group might direct the publication, either in periodical form or as memoirs, of significant studies in the field, giving particular aid where such studies fall between two disciplines; that such a publication program might include the encouragement of dignified popularization of valid scientific materials concerning Negroes; and, finally, that such a group could act as a clearing house for research projects and thus bring about increased coordination and at the same time provide a logical channel through which funds available for Negro research might eventually flow.

To this end the Conference named a special Committee on Recommendations, consisting of the Chairman (Mr. Herskovits), Mr. Bunche, and Mr. Turner, and instructed that Committee to transmit to the American Council of Learned Societies the consensus of the Conference that the appointment by the Council of a permanent Committee on Negro Studies, which might act in the capacity outlined above to achieve the ends there stated, would be of great advantage to scholarship. In carrying out this mandate the Committee on Recommendations later submitted the following report to the Executive Offices of the Council:

"It was the unanimous opinion of the Conference that a continuous interchange of information and integration of interests in the total field could be best achieved by acceding to the suggestion made ... in opening the Conference, that a permanent Committee on Negro Studies be set up by the Council. It is not too much to say, indeed, that the entire proceedings of the
Conference... will constitute a documentation of the need for a central agency such as a standing committee of this kind would constitute. In accordance with the action of the Conference, therefore, we wish to request the Executive Committee of the Council to authorize the establishment of a standing Committee on Negro Studies."

[Note: Acting on the above request the Executive Committee of the Council subsequently appointed a standing Committee on Negro Studies, consisting of the following members:
Chairman, Melville J. Herskovits, Northwestern University
Sterling Brown, Howard University; Otto Klineberg, Columbia University; Richard Pattee, United States Department of State; L. D. Reddick, New York Public Library; Lorenzo D. Turner, Fisk University; Donald Young, Social Science Research Council; D. H. Daugherty, American Council of Learned Societies, Secretary. That Committee held its first meeting in Washington, D. C., on June 6, 1941. Publication of the present proceedings was authorized by the Executive Committee.]