

## Lecture Scheduled in La Jolla on February 1

**January 20, 1961**

An expert on American Indian languages will discuss the dating of such prehistoric tongues in a free public lecture in La Jolla on Wednesday night, February 1.

Dr. Harry Hoijer, Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Los Angeles, will present one of the Faculty Lectures sponsored by the University of California, San Diego, and the Theatre and Arts Foundation of San Diego County. The talk will be given in Sherwood Hall at the Art Center in La Jolla at 8:00 p.m. The public is invited. Admission is free.

Dr. Hoijer's talk will deal in part with his studies of the Athapaskan stock, a closely related group of North American Indian languages spoken by Indians living in three disconnected regions--Alaska and northern Canada, coastal Washington to northern California, and in Arizona, New Mexico, and Oklahoma. Today most of the Athapaskan languages have only a few speakers or are nearly extinct, with the exception of the Navajo language, spoken by a tribe of some 60,000 persons. More than half of the Navajos know no other language.

The title of the talk is "The Dating of Prehistoric Languages: a Contribution to Cultural History". It deals with Dr. Hoijer's present research interest, glottochronology, a recently devised method of dating languages which, like those of the American Indian, have no documented history.

As an anthropologist, Dr. Hoijer's interest in language lies more in its functioning in human societies and its influence on habitual thought and behavior than in structural or historical studies alone. Dr. Hoijer is a Fellow of the American Anthropological Association and was its president in 1958. In 1959, he was president of the Linguistic Society of America.