

## Italian Scholars back for another expedition

By Selome Kifle

A group of scholars and researchers from Maremma, Italy, the natural history museum of GrossAeto, and the University of Florence, lead by Pro. Carlo Cavanna presented at the Italian cultural institute here in Addis a lecture on the Naturalistic Speleologic, geologic, archeological and historical images on the topic "A look on Wolayta," last Thursday December 4.

The researcher gave lectures on what they have observed during their expedition in Soddo-Jesuba area.

At the opening Ceremony Dr. Emiliano Longhi, Director cul-

### *Ancient caves discovered*

tural and Scientific Attaché said that this is a clear demonstration of Italian researchers in Ethiopia in Naturalistic, speleologic, geologic and archeological findings.

It was also learned that this research group has conducted a research in Ethiopia a year ago. He also noted that this research is different from last year's that was only an archeological research.

On his part Prof. Carlo Cavanna said that they conducted two types of discoveries: he called the first one excavation finding, and the second one environmental discovery.

About the excavation findings,

he said that they have carried out different types of excavations in the region of Wolayta and Soddo. They have also made environmental discoveries in those regions, according to him. "We hope, we have done our share of making Ethiopia better known to the world," he said.

Asked if there was any particular significance to the caves and rocks that were discovered during the expedition, Professor Luca Bachechi told the audience that at this time they couldn't say the exact significance of the rocks. He could only state "this stones are definitely different from stones in any other place in the world".

However, it is estimated that



*Prof. Carlo Cavanna and Professor Luca Bachechi*

the caves could date back to 10 B.C. Some of the caves contain pictures indicating that people must have inhabited them.

He further explained that the nature of the rocks are basalt and granite."

The expedition members included Prof. Carlo Cavanna, Prof. Luca Bachechi, Dr. Roberto Torre, Dr. Antioio Landi, Dr. Debora Moretti, Speleologist Gildo Lobardi, and Prof. Giovanni Cannavale.