

La Semaine de Missiologie de Louvain.

Fondée en 1923, la Semaine de Missiologie de Louvain a pour but de fournir régulièrement aux missionnaires l'occasion de mettre en commun et de systématiser leurs expériences, et d'en faire bénéficier tous ceux qui s'intéressent pratiquement aux missions. Elle est internationale en ce sens qu'elle fait appel à tous les missionnaires catholiques sans distinction de race, de langue ou de pays. Parmi les moyens mis en œuvre, elle tint principalement des séances, au moins une fois tous les ans, pendant un nombre de jours variable. Des missionnaires et d'autres personnalités compétentes y présentent des rapports qui sont discutés par l'assemblée. Ceux-ci sont ensuite publiés en volume, avec éventuellement les échanges de vue qui ont suivi chaque rapport.

Ces comptes rendus sont de nature à intéresser spécialement les lecteurs d'*Africa*. Dix volumes sont actuellement sur le marché: *Les Aspirations indigènes et les missions* (1925), *Autour du problème de l'adaptation* (1926); *Les Élités en pays de mission* (1927); *L'Âme des peuples à évangéliser* (1928); *Obstacles à l'apostolat* (1929); *Les Conversions* (1930); *Après la conversion* (1931); *L'Action catholique aux missions* (1932); *L'Éducation chrétienne aux missions* (1933); *Mariage et famille aux missions* (1934).

Les titres révèlent qu'en principe rapports et discussions ne se limitent pas aux missions d'Afrique, s'étendent au contraire au monde missionnaire tout entier. En fait cependant les missions africaines s'y trouvent à l'avant-plan. Dans le dernier compte rendu qui vient de paraître (1934) huit communications sur seize se rapportent aux institutions familiales en Afrique. (*Communiqué par le PROFESSEUR N. DE CLEENE, de l'Université Coloniale d'Anvers.*)

Vernacular Periodicals, No. 17, Minsamu Miyenge (The Message of Peace).

The first number of this Kongo monthly journal appeared in the year 1893 at Kibunzi, Belgian Lower Congo. It was published by the Swedish Mission (Svenska Missionsförbundet) and printed on a small hand-press. Later on it was published and printed at the printing-office at Matadi.

The journal has been of great interest and of a high value, full of useful knowledge for the natives during the time when the literature in Kongo was of a very modest character.

The journal has always been illustrated, though the illustrations have often been poorly printed for want of technical skill. These difficulties have now been overcome, and the two native assistants, Mavasu and Poolo, who have been working at the printing-office almost from the beginning, are now experienced and carry out the printing with skill and faithfulness.

The journal contains 16 pages. The introductory article has always been of a religious character. The others have for years taken the form of series of articles on geography, natural history, the human body, hygiene and so forth.

In addition one of the Psalms was translated and new hymns composed. As far as possible folk-lore, proverbs and even riddles for solving and other subjects of competition were included.

For the natives the journal was for many years the only source of knowledge and interest at their disposal. They became very interested in it and they are now very diligent in contributing articles of different kinds.

Besides the religious articles there are also series on different subjects, for instance, exegesis, biographies (Livingstone) and so on. Missionary news from different societies is always received with great interest, and also short sketches in commemoration of missionaries and natives, as well as news of every new missionary coming to the Congo.

The journal has a good circulation, and it is eagerly welcomed both by the young people and the old people, who listen to the boys when reading it aloud for them.

It was proposed to raise the subscription and enlarge the journal, but this has been postponed because of the general financial depression. (*Communicated by* DR. K. E. LAMAN *of the Swedish Mission.*)

The Problem of Witchcraft in Africa.

The next number of *Africa* (vol. viii, no. 4) will be a special number devoted to the problem of witchcraft in Africa. This important subject has aroused much interest in recent years, and we have been fortunate in obtaining articles on various aspects of the question from some of the highest authorities and from many different parts of Africa.

With the help of members of the Institute resident in Africa, we have been able to get into touch with a number of Natives, who have given their views on the subject. Their contributions will appear both in the original vernacular and in a translation.

Executive Council Meeting.

The Fourteenth Meeting of the Executive Council of the Institute will be held in Switzerland at Basle on July 15 and 16. The Chairman of the Council, the Rt. Hon. Lord Lugard, will preside, and the Swiss Government has intimated its intention of entertaining the members at an official luncheon.

A report of the proceedings will appear in the next number.

Cours à l'Université Coloniale Belge d'Anvers.

Notre Directeur, M. le Professeur H. Labouret, a été appelé pour professer une série de Cours sur les possessions françaises de l'Ouest-africain à l'Université Coloniale Belge d'Anvers, au mois d'avril dernier.