

Harvard. Subsidies had been granted to two missionaries in the Belgian Congo to enable them to pursue their studies of African peoples in this area. At the instance of the Commission des Sciences de l'Homme, IRSAC had subsidized the biometric researches carried out by Professor Dory under the auspices of the Institut National pour l'Étude agronomique du Congo Belge; had made a grant to the Centre pour l'Étude de l'Art Africain attached to the Musée du Congo Belge, and had given its support to the expedition to the Congo undertaken by Mlle Boone for the purpose of preparing a revised edition of *Les Peuplades du Congo Belge*. Professor Olbrechts also refers to the assistance given by IRSAC to Miss Mary Tew, a research fellow of the International African Institute who is making a field study of the Bashilele of the Belgian Congo.

A Research Service for the Colonies

A RESEARCH Service for the British Colonies has been introduced by the Secretary of State with the object of creating a service with salary, terms of service, and standards comparable to those for research workers in the United Kingdom. Members of this service will normally work in the Colonies, but arrangements will be made whereby research workers in the Colonies may be able to work for a time at a scientific institution in the United Kingdom, and a scientist in this country to undertake research in the Colonies. All such work will count as one continuous period of pensionable service. Full details are given in the pamphlet *Appointments in His Majesty's Colonial Research Service*, published by the Colonial Office, London.

Higher Technical Education in the Colonies

A COMMITTEE has been set up to advise the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the development of Colonial Colleges of Arts, Science, and Technology and the expenditure of Colonial Development and Welfare funds allocated for this purpose. The committee consists of representatives of British universities, technical institutes and training colleges, of colonial education departments, and includes the Educational Adviser and Assistant Educational Adviser to the Secretary of State. Initially the committee will concern itself primarily with West Africa, where it is hoped that two new colleges, one in the Gold Coast and one in Nigeria, will be established in the near future. It will be the aim of these colleges to provide courses of Higher Technical and Commercial education as well as training courses for teachers and social welfare workers. They will also participate in adult education schemes, and will provide refresher courses and centres for the encouragement of arts and crafts.

Nigerians to Study British Local Government

TWENTY-ONE local government officials from Nigeria—fifteen Ibo and six Yorubas—are undergoing an intensive course of study in local government. After a period spent at a central training centre in Surrey they have been working in groups of three with various local authorities in England and, after a month in London and Oxford, will return to Nigeria in August.

Education Plan for the Sudan

THE Sudan Legislative Assembly recently approved a revised education plan for 1949-56, designed to promote a more rapid expansion of education. It is proposed that by 1956 elementary and sub-grade education will be available for 40 per cent. of the population of the Northern Sudan; this will mean that the present number of elementary schools, both

boys' and girls' schools, will be more than doubled by 1956. In order to provide the teachers required for this expansion, provision has been made to increase the yearly output of trained teachers by the establishment of new training centres. Secondary and intermediate education is also to be developed by increasing the number of government intermediate schools, although the rapid expansion of girls' intermediate education will not be possible at present owing to the lack of qualified staff. Adult education is to be developed side by side with the expansion of schools; there is to be an increase in the number of after-care clubs attached to certain elementary schools; the Gezira experiments among adult villagers are to be extended, and mass literacy campaigns, on the lines of experiments already carried out, are to be conducted in new areas. The plan also incorporates a comprehensive scheme for technical and commercial education, which includes pre-apprenticeship schools, evening classes, and training of selected candidates at a central technical school. A Technical Institute is to be founded at Khartoum.

In order to implement these proposals, a number of non-Sudanese will have to be employed, but simultaneously steps are being taken to replace non-Sudanese officials by sending selected graduates of Gordon Memorial College abroad, to England and Egypt, to obtain degrees; in addition teachers are being sent abroad on short courses.

Sierra Leone Protectorate Literature Bureau

THE report of the Literature Bureau for 1949 describes literacy campaigns conducted in Nongowa chiefdom, where teaching has been carried on during the year by five paid teachers and a total of 1,151 reading certificates have been awarded. In Dama chiefdom the paid teachers have been withdrawn at the request of the Paramount Chief and the work has been carried on by voluntary teachers under a Chiefdom Committee. About one-seventh of the adult population of this chiefdom are now literate. A literacy campaign was started in Kpanga chiefdom by eight young men, who after training at Bo were stationed in various sections, one of the teachers who had served at Dama being appointed supervising teacher. By the end of the year 425 reading certificates had been awarded to new literates. In this chiefdom and in Dama, Sande girls are being taught to read. In other chiefdoms voluntary work by missions has continued.

The Bunumbu Press has published twelve books during the year, one in Temne and the others in Mende, making a total of 54,000 books in Mende and 8,000 in Temne. There are also 25 manuscripts ready for printing. Figures of sales and income from sales show a rapidly increasing demand for books, the average annual expenditure per literate in 1949 being 1s. 8d. with the average price of books at 5d. per book. Most of the sales are effected through the central stations of the Mission; in the campaign areas a mobile bookshop has been of great value.

Since the majority of the new adult literates are in the smaller towns and villages, and constitute for the most part the younger section of the farming community, it would be as well if this could be followed up by literature of special interest to farmers, and also if possible by efforts, such as the encouragement of community centres, to make village life more interesting.

Bantu Studies in South Africa

A FACULTY of Bantu studies is to be established at the Potchefstroom University College this year under the supervision of Dr. F. R. Lehmann, for many years a teacher of anthropology at the University of Leipzig, Germany, who has been associated with the Department of Native Affairs for 10 years. A conservatoire of music, under Mr. C. Roode, for some time superintendent of music of the Transvaal Education Department, has also been opened.