

été soumises. On peut compter que le volume ou peut-être les deux volumes qui les contiendront paraîtront sous peu. *Africa* se devra alors d'exposer longuement les tendances et les résultats de la Réunion de 1938, qui intéresse au premier chef tous ceux qui s'occupent de l'Afrique.

Oxford University Summer School on Colonial Administration.

IN 1938 the Oxford University Summer School on Colonial Administration held a second session. Professor Coupland was again in the chair, with Miss Margery Perham as Vice-Chairman. The Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lindsay, gave the School an official inauguration and the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Malcolm Macdonald, chose this occasion to express his belief that, even among the backward tribes of Africa, the trend was towards their ultimate establishment as 'self-supporting and self-reliant members of a great commonwealth of free peoples and free nations'.

The members numbered 189, of whom 149 were serving officials, mostly administrative officers. Retired officials, the wives of officials, and missionaries made up the total. It is interesting to learn that of the 149, 106 came from Africa; the Sudan, with 28 members, heading the list of 13 African territories, and Nigeria coming second with 20.

As the membership was entirely new the course followed the same general scheme as last year. The anthropologists who addressed the School were Professors Malinowski and Radcliffe-Brown, and Doctors Fortes, Mair, Evans-Pritchard, and Wagner. The School also heard Professor Le Gros Clark upon race and Sir Robert McCarrison upon native diet. This year even more time was given to discussions, formal and informal. These were especially vigorous upon the relations of administration and anthropology. The School, in its comparative survey of administration, had the pleasure of hearing Monsieur le Neveu and Monsieur Marzorati.

Conference on African Drama.

IN January 1938 the African Drama Section of the British Drama League convened a conference for the purpose of tracing the development of theatrical expression among the African peoples. Since the last conference which was held in 1934, much ground had been covered, and an interesting development was the growth of groups of professional players who were working unconsciously on the lines of the travelling players of Greece. Since the conference other information has been received about this development. Miss Marjorie Coates, of the Jeanes School, Kenya, said that they realized the important parts drama and music played in the lives of the people attending the school, and that they would be invaluable for educational purposes; she described how one evening a week was set aside for this work.

Mr. Andre van Gyseghem described his activities as Pageant Master to the Empire Exhibition, and urged producers and writers guiding the Bantu to preserve native culture. Miss Bertha Slosberg gave a short history of the work done by the Mtetwa Lucky Stars, the oldest professional troupe in the Union. Mr. John Goldman, technical adviser to the unit which made 'King Solomon's Mines' spoke of the amazing natural acting ability displayed by Africans employed in the crowd scenes.

The conference proved a great success, and it was decided to hold a second conference on African Music in February. Records of native music and specimens of native handiwork were very kindly lent by Miss Slosberg, Mr. van Gyseghem, and Mr. John Goldman. There were a large number of Africans among the audience. (*Communicated by MISS MARY KELLY, of the British Drama League.*)

Carnegie Non-European Library, Transvaal.

This library was started in 1931 when the Carnegie Corporation offered a grant of £1,000 for the purchase of books, provided that local authorities would accept the financial responsibility of maintaining the library, and defraying the costs of book distribution. The library is subsidized by the Witwatersrand Council of Education, the Provincial Council, and several towns of the Witwatersrand.

As Non-Europeans may not borrow books from any Transvaal Public Library to which Europeans are admitted, the establishment of this library was a real necessity. For the distribution of books the Travelling Library system was adopted. The head-quarters library in Johannesburg purchases the books, catalogues them, and sends them out in batches of fifty or more to various centres. Each centre has its own paid or voluntary librarian who accepts delivery of the books and encourages people living in the vicinity to read them. No subscription is charged. In 1934 an Organizer Librarian was appointed; he visits centres, encourages people to read more, gives lectures on reading, and tries to reorganize dormant centres. The Organizer is an African Native.

Books are provided both in English and in the vernaculars. There has been a consistent demand for books in the vernacular languages. The library possesses all the books published in Zulu, Xhosa, Suto and Tswana, but as the total number of works available does not exceed three hundred, the Library cannot, even with multiplication of copies, satisfy the demand. There is also a demand for books in Pedi, Shangaan, and Venda. In this connexion it is gratifying to learn that the Transvaal Education Department is willing to subsidize the publication of books in the vernacular.

Experience in various parts of Africa has shown that as a rule the African is not keen on reading fiction but prefers books which are of practical use