

Education and other Government services, missionaries of long experience and with educated Africans who showed themselves most interested in this—to them—new aspect of their language. I also met the Ibo Literature Committee, on which Africans were well represented. It is too early to say how my material can be used, but it ought in time to be possible to set out my findings, incomplete as they must be.

The question of the orthography of Efik and Ibo is, unhappily, not satisfactorily settled: the Government has authorized the use of the new script in its schools, and books are being produced in it, but the Missions who accepted it in 1929 have since decided not to use it. This is largely though not wholly due to financial reasons, the reprinting of the Bible in the new script being a proposition which no Mission can face at present. The division in the country on an important question of this kind is greatly to be regretted.

(Communicated by Dr. I. C. Ward.)

African Research Survey.

Readers of this journal will have noted with interest recent announcements in the press that a survey was to be made of the extent to which modern knowledge was being applied to the problems of Africa. For the last two years a group of persons interested in Africa have been considering the possibility of such a survey, as a prelude to further development of study and research, and to the wider application and better co-ordination of their results. Lord Lothian is the Chairman of the group and the other members include Lord Lugard, the Rt. Hon. W. Ormsby Gore, Mr. Lionel Curtis, Dr. Oldham, Sir Arthur Salter, Professor Julian Huxley, and Professor Coupland. It will be seen that the Chairman and Administrative Director of this Institute are associated with the inquiry. Through the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation, funds have been made available to meet the cost of the initial survey, and the services of Sir Malcolm Hailey, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., Governor of the United Provinces in India, have been secured, after his retirement next autumn, to carry out the inquiry and to prepare a report.

The aim of the survey is purely objective. Its purpose is to show the existing situation in study and research, to note fields in which little is being done, and to observe the degree to which knowledge is related and applied to the chief problems of the continent. During the current year a certain amount of preparatory work is being undertaken. Dr. E. B. Worthington, the Cambridge ecologist, who has already had experience of research in Africa, is preparing a preliminary report on the work which is being done in, or on account of, Africa in the field of natural and biological science. Specialist help is at the disposal of the group in collecting comparative material referring to other aspects of the inquiry, and in particular this

Institute is in a position to supply information regarding anthropological study and its significance. The Report will deal with the British dependencies in Africa, the Union of South Africa, and Rhodesia, and it is hoped that information may be obtained from other governments in order to make the survey as complete as possible of what is being attempted in the whole continent south of the Mediterranean littoral. It is expected that the Report will be ready for publication in 1936 or 1937.

American Mission Boards.

The American Mission Boards have from the beginning been among the most generous contributors to the funds of the Institute. The list of members circulated last year did not give the names of all the Boards subscribing, as the contributions in a number of cases were included in that received direct from the International Missionary Council. Subscribing Boards not included in the published list are: American Baptist Foreign Mission Society; Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., Board of Foreign Missions; Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., Executive Committee of Foreign Missions; United Brethren in Christ, Foreign Mission Society; American Bible Society.

Congrès International des Sciences Anthropologiques et Ethnologiques.

The first session of an International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnographical Sciences is to meet in London from July 30 to August 4, 1934.

It has been decided to form an African Sub-Section to the Ethnographic Section, the Chairman of which will be the Rev. E. W. Smith. Captain R. S. Rattray is the Hon. Secretary. It is suggested that the subjects for discussion should be: (a) The Vital Things in the old African Culture; (b) How far African Customs and Beliefs can be incorporated in the Christian System; (c) African Marriage Laws and Customs and the effect upon them of contact with Western civilization; (d) Witchcraft and the Colonial Legislation thereon. Joint meetings will also be held with the Psychological, Religion, Languages and Writing, and Ethnography sections.

Preliminary Notice of Prize Competition for Books in African Languages, 1935.

The Thonga cluster (Thonga, Ronga, Tswa), Shilluk and Luba have been selected as the three languages in which books written by Africans in African languages may be entered for competition next year.

The regulations will be the same as in previous years, and leaflets giving full details are available. Manuscripts must reach the offices of the Institute by October 1st, 1935.