

Notes and News

A Survey of Africa

A SURVEY of Africa south of the Sahara, specially designed to supply the American public with 'non-partisan and unimpeachable information', is to be prepared by Dr. G. H. T. Kimble under the auspices of the Twentieth Century Fund, New York. It is proposed that the survey, after an introductory account of the history of European discovery and settlement of Africa and of 'the present ferment', shall include the following major sections: *Colonial Africa as a whole*; this will include a survey of geographical, geological, and climatic features, including water supplies, vegetation, fauna, soils, mineral resources, &c.; an account of African peoples in which such subjects as ethnic groupings, population density and distribution, languages, religions, social structure, diet and living standards, and 'cultural diffusion and fusion' will be discussed. This chapter will also deal with detribalization, 'evolus', European, Asiatic, and multi-racial communities, and the spread of 'the western veneer'; a discussion of the economy, covering types of economic activity, land use and land tenure, mineral exploitation, industry, trade, transport and communications, labour and capital, with references to schemes of land and industrial development, will occupy a third chapter; a fourth will be devoted to government, including indigenous political structures, colonial administration, indirect rule and native authorities, nationalist movements; this chapter will include a discussion of law and justice. A fifth will be concerned with health and medical services, including 'the inter-connections of diet, health, productivity and prosperity'. Education, including adult education schemes, vocational training and higher education will be dealt with in Chapter 6, and the concluding Chapter of this first section is devoted to 'Research and Development'. The second major section, *African Colonies*, will treat each non-self-governing territory separately, presenting much of the material in the form of maps and tables. The last section will discuss *Some Contemporary Problems* in a series of essays on such subjects as 'The education of an African Intelligentsia', 'The democratization of Colonial Administration', 'Inter-Colonial Co-operation', 'Integration of European and Indigenous Cultures'. The survey will include a bibliography of sources, a list of authorities consulted and information on centres for African studies in North America, Europe, and Africa.

The comprehensive character of the survey and the systematic treatment of material are clear from the foregoing summary of the prospectus issued by Dr. Kimble and circulated by the Twentieth Century Fund. Indications are given that those responsible for the survey intend to consult all the existing sources of information in America, Europe, and Africa—official and independent organizations, research institutions, academic bodies, and individual scholars. In addition field studies extending over a period of 9–12 months are envisaged. Since the basic components of the survey are considered to be geography, economics, social anthropology, and government, the first stage of the survey will be the preparation of a series of illustrated reports written by specialists in these fields. The production of film-strip series, documentary films, maps, illustrated booklets, and newsletters may follow, while the final report, described as 'a one-volume distillation of many peoples' skills, experience and opinions', will be more concerned with synthesis than with analysis and would be addressed to the educated layman rather than the specialist.

East African Literature Bureau

IN pursuance of its aim to increase the number of books available to East African readers, the Bureau up to the end of 1952 had published, or helped to publish, 281 books in 16