

## DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE IN THE BRITISH COLONIES

REPORT FOR 1953-54

THE schemes detailed in the latest return made under the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts, covering the period April 1, 1953-March 31, 1954\*, bring the total commitments for development and welfare schemes under the Acts to £110,879,335, of which £14,729,660 was for the year in question, and for research schemes to £12,401,606, of which £716,818 was for the year ended March 31, 1954. Of this last-named sum, £249,596 was for agriculture, £205,312 for medicine, £83,226 for social science, £96,923 for insecticides, £22,100 for tsetse and trypanosomiasis, £32,295 for products research, £7,137 for fisheries and £7,059 for economic research. There were no grants for research fellowships.

Of the actual research schemes, much the largest were £123,743 for the establishment of the West African Council for Medical Research, £110,000 for the continuation of research at the East African Veterinary Research Organization, a supplementary £66,984 for the maintenance of the West Indian Institute of Social and Economic Research and £50,000 for the control of malaria in the hyper-endemic area at Taveta-Pare, East Africa. A supplementary £31,330 was provided for the continuation of sugar technology research at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad, while the West Indies also received £23,371 for research into the 'unknown' disease of coconuts and Panama disease of bananas, and £14,300 for banana breeding research (both in Jamaica) and a supplementary £2,444 for research into the control of leaf-scald disease of sugar-cane in British Guiana. East Africa received supplementary grants of £18,750 for the preparation of the "Flora of Tropical East Africa" at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, £16,000 for the establishment of a malarial unit and £8,500 for the establishment of a team in Tanganyika for insecticides research on the control of crop pests.

In West Africa £14,780 was provided for the establishment of a fungicide research unit, £12,250 for the maintenance of the West African Institute

\* Colonial Development and Welfare Acts. Return of Schemes made under the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts by the Secretary of State for the Colonies with the Concurrence of the Treasury, in the Period from 1 April, 1953, to 31 March, 1954. (Colonial No. 181.) Pp. 26. (London: H.M. Stationery Office, 1954.) 1s. 3d. net.

for Trypanosomiasis Research, £12,290 for the expansion of the Veterinary Research Laboratory, Vom, Nigeria, and £9,850 for a pilot scheme for tsetse reclamation. £16,022 was provided for an investigation into the control of filariasis in Fiji by insecticidal methods, and £6,975 for the establishment of the Fisheries Research Unit at the University of Hong Kong. In south-east Asia the Federation of Malaya received £14,915 for research on virus and other diseases transmissible from animals to men and £9,334 for the establishment of a Timber Research Station, and North Borneo £9,784 for an investigation of the diseases of the manila hemp plant. A general grant of £13,525 was for the establishment of a pool of Colonial soil surveyors.

Grants of particular scientific interest for development and welfare schemes include the following: £182,101 for the Desert Locust Control campaign in East Africa; £37,000 for the establishment of the agricultural and veterinary training centre at Lilongwe, Nyasaland; £22,300 for the development of medical and health services in Gambia; £474,600 for land planning and soil conservation in the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast; £162,030 for the control of leprosy in Nigeria, for which £181,335 is also provided for a scheme in the Development Plan towards which a supplementary £2,583,551 was granted. Out of that sum, supplementary schemes for agriculture received £273,417, for technical education £347,113, and for medical and health £386,679. £100,000 was provided for tsetse control in the northern region of Nigeria, £68,039 for the geological survey of Sierra Leone, while among other grants the University College of the West Indies and its associated teaching hospital received £120,000 for the main building programme; the Nigerian College of Arts, Science and Technology, Ibadan, £124,410 for the construction of student accommodation; the University College of the Gold Coast, £400,000 for the construction of a hall of residence; University College, Ibadan, £51,600 for the development of the permanent site; and Makerere College, £180,000 for the construction of a men's hall of residence, senior staff housing and science laboratory.

## PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC CIVIL SERVANTS

IN evidence submitted to the Royal Commission on the Civil Service, the Institution of Professional Civil Servants claims that the status and standing of professional, technical and scientific Civil servants in relation to the remainder of the Civil Service should more accurately reflect the relations existing between the administrator and the professional man outside the Civil Service and the importance of the professional man in the life of the country as a whole; they should also be such as to encourage young people to take up professional, scientific and technical careers. At present the heads of the various

sections of the professional Civil Service are in an unsatisfactory position with respect to each other and especially to the administrative class; the highest professional officer is always a grade lower than his administrative colleague, and this relation, applying right down to the lowest technical grades, is a factor in diminishing the attractiveness of such careers.

After referring to Lord Cherwell's statement for the Government in 1943, and the representations made in the Barlow Report and by the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, the Institution urges that the Commission has the opportunity to place science