

way form part of missionary activity. The missionary should never be diverted from his foremost task, which is to teach the Christian message, and thus to pave the way for the growth of a true Christlike spirit in Africans. This central task should not be left to the native helpers alone: here as elsewhere the missionary should be the leader through his own example, and for this he needs a thorough knowledge of the people, their language, their religion and ideals, and their ways of thinking. This factor should also find expression in the training of the modern African missionary.

The Bantu Educational Cinema Experiment.

An experimental piece of research in the use of the cinema as a means of education and entertainment for the native peoples of East Africa is being undertaken by the Department of Social and Industrial Research of the International Missionary Council. The plan provides for the making of films in Africa suited to the tastes and needs of Africans. Native actors will be trained and native fables and folk-lore will be used in the experimental films, in addition to instructional themes related to the welfare programmes of Government and Missions.

The aim of the experiment is to endeavour to assist the adult native population in their understanding of the world of new ideas and ways of life to which they are being so rapidly introduced, and at the same time to try to foster among native Africans a respect for their social heritage and traditions.

The work of the experiment is twofold—to produce trial programmes of films, and to display the films to native audiences and study their responses to the various pictures shown. Subsequent programmes will be produced progressively on the basis of what is learnt by this process.

The scheme has been cordially received by the British Colonial Office and the Governments of Tanganyika, Kenya, Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia, within whose boundaries it will operate. The British Film Institute has assisted in forming an Advisory Council under the chairmanship of Lord Lugard, which is helping the experiment in technical and educational matters.

The Field Director of the experiment is Major L. Notcutt and the Educational Director Mr. G. C. Latham, formerly Director of Native Education in Northern Rhodesia. The Directors will be assisted by a small staff of technical experts. The Field Staff sailed during May for Tanganyika and are to open head-quarters at Vugiri in Tanga Province, where the Government has provided a well-equipped Sanatorium for the purpose of the experiment. The undertaking is expected to continue until early in 1937 and will cost about £12,000. The funds have been largely provided by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. (*Communicated by MR. J. MERLE DAVIS, Director of the Department of Social and Industrial Research of the International Missionary Council.*)