

The new holiday centres might be placed under the management of a semi-public body of the type of the National Camps Corporation or the National Service Hostels Corporation. Such a National Holiday Centre Corporation would be responsible for maintaining good standards of holiday provision at minimum prices at the centres under its control. Various forms of management might be tried experimentally, including indirect management through non-profit holiday organizations which would be free to run the centres in their own way, subject to inspection and to general conditions as to charges and standards. The Corporation might be assisted by an advisory committee representing the consumers and the experience of voluntary bodies concerned with workers' holidays.

COLONIAL RESEARCH IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE

THE survey of Colonial research in the British Empire prepared by Dr. Lucy Mair (*Agenda* for October) is of particular interest at the present moment. Under the Colonial Research Committee appointed in June 1942, a comprehensive survey is at present being made, as the first work of the Committee, of the facilities existing in Great Britain and the Colonial Empire, both for research and for the training of research workers. Pointing out that research in the Colonial field has tended in the past to be directed to the overcoming of practical difficulties that have already been encountered, Dr. Mair emphasizes that the present demand for a planned and consciously directed welfare policy is not a demand for something entirely new, but for more effective measures in the pursuit of aims already accepted. In regard to research by administrative officials, while those responsible for the conduct of policy in the Colonial Empire are fully aware of the need for knowledge of every aspect of the lives of its native populations, such inquiries, often limited in scope by the difficulty of finding time for them amid the pressure of other work, and carried out by those who have no specialized training in research in the relevant subjects, have not had a scientific value on a level with that of work done by trained specialists devoting their whole time to research.

In social anthropology, the London School of Economics, where B. Malinowski held the chair from 1926 until 1942, is the centre for this work in Great Britain. A great expansion in research was made possible by the Rockefeller Foundation which, after adding social anthropology to the subjects qualifying for its research fellowships, made a generous grant to the International Institute of African Languages and Cultures. The latter body from 1931 until the outbreak of war played a leading part in financing the training of social anthropologists and research by them in Africa. Chairs of social anthropology have been founded at Cape Town and Sydney, and research workers trained at these universities, and also at the Department of African Studies of the University of the Witwatersrand, have undertaken field-work in the adjacent Colonial areas of Africa and the Pacific. While such field-work is in suspense, a special advisory board in Colonial studies constituted in 1941 has undertaken a review for the University of London of the achieve-

ments and potentialities of the various social sciences in regard to Colonial research.

At the London School of Economics a Colonial Research Division has been set up to co-ordinate work on the various subjects which have Colonial aspects. Linguistic research in Colonial areas of a most practical kind is the work of the School of Oriental and African Studies (University of London), while the Colonial Department of the University of London Institute of Education has as its primary object the training of teachers for work among Colonial peoples but has also encouraged research on educational problems. The Oxford University Social Studies Research Committee organized in 1938 a co-operative expedition to Kenya, in which two anthropologists, an expert in Colonial administration, an economist and a geographer collaborated. The principal centre at Oxford for sociological research on Colonial questions is now Nuffield College, where a programme of research has been organized including a study of the economic problems of Nigeria and the Gold Coast, a comparative study of the various political institutions which have been developed under British rule in tropical Africa, and a study of the institutions, official and unofficial, through which economic policy is formed and executed.

In addition to the universities, the International Institute of African Languages and Cultures was also in peace-time an important institution for the organization of sociological research in Africa, and the war has prevented the completion of a plan to establish in Northern Rhodesia a Rhodes-Livingstone Memorial Institute as the first centre in Africa itself for the special study of problems arising out of the relations between local peoples and other races. Dr. Mair's survey also includes a brief reference to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, as well as to other medical research institutes in the Colonial empire where research in tropical medicine, in nutrition and in other health matters is carried out.

There are numerous institutions in the Colonies and in Great Britain which are concerned with agricultural and veterinary research and assist Colonial research workers with information and technical advice. Fishery departments have made surveys of local resources in Palestine and in West Africa, while in Malaya the Fisheries Department has concentrated its attention on raising the efficiency of this native industry. In the Colonial empire the most extensive forestry research has been done in Malaya by a well-equipped Forest Research Institute. The principal centre for forest research in Great Britain is the Imperial Forestry Institute at the University of Oxford, while research on the utilization of forest products is carried out by the Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough, and the Colonial Forest Resources Development Department. A considerable amount of research has been carried out on the mineral resources of most Colonies by the geological departments, as well as by mining and oil companies, and this work has the assistance of the Mineral Resources Department of the Imperial Institute. At the present time, research on technical subjects has run far ahead of the study of social and economic problems, and Dr. Mair suggests that the disproportion may be corrected by the influence of the new Colonial Research Committee, on which both the social and the natural sciences are represented.