

In the second broadsheet the problem is approached from the consumer's point of view, and the need for further information about consumption habits in different areas and at different income levels as a basis for market policy is emphasized, as well as the importance of making the necessary economic adjustments to enable British agriculture to take advantage, so far as possible, of demand changes in its favour and to minimize the repercussions of other changes in demand. Needs in distribution are summarized as assembling and placing at the disposal of the consumer a suitable supply of the products demanded, at convenient times, at the lowest possible cost and at prices he can afford, and carrying out a large range of ancillary services such as delivery and credit. The value of concentrating demand where possible and of steady contracts is stressed, as well as the opportunities of developing rival industries, and the importance of efficient organization in the farming units if the good will and support of the urban electorate are to be held. The Marketing Boards have as yet scarcely touched the major problems with which they are confronted of expanding the market for home produce, increasing the return to the farmer, and reducing the cost to the consumer through savings in transport and distribution, or gaining for the farmer a larger share in the profits of processing his output or in reducing the contribution to the profit derived by supplying him with fertilizers, feeding stuffs and seeds.

The third broadsheet, dealing with the farm and of agriculture, emphasizes that the industry has far

too many diverse elements and is affected by too many other activities at home and abroad for any one formula or panacea to offer a solution of its problems. Determined criticism of all one-sided approaches or ideas is indispensable. British agriculture is also regarded as having lost the close touch with the consumer demand which it had when the market was smaller and more static. The necessity for adapting agriculture as an industry in which the landowner and land agent, the farmer, agricultural engineer, the veterinary officer, marketing expert and other specialists can effectively work together is also stressed, as well as that of continuous local leadership. A stable rural basis for agriculture can no longer be assumed, and only an all-round policy of rural reconstruction can save British agriculture as a living and growing organism. Stable prosperity for farmers, it is suggested, can only be secured by types of farm and methods of farming designed to give the maximum net return each year over a long period. Agricultural subsidies and assistance should have for their objects urgent salvage or relief work of an essentially temporary nature for badly hit branches of the industry; permanent re-adjustment of the balance between town and country life, through subsidizing of rural roads, telephones and social services; and long-term development, such as improving farms and buildings, improving stock and eradicating disease, increasing the fertility of the soil, afforestation, land drainage, and information services. Particular stress is laid on the importance of increased expenditure on research.

Bantu Blood Groups

IN a comprehensive study of the blood groups of the Bantu of Southern Africa by Mr. Ronald Elsdon-Dew (*Pub. South African Inst. Med. Research*, 7, No. 39), a suggestion is made, based on this line of research, as to the early racial history of the African peoples.

Five thousand recruits for the Witwatersrand mines, grouped according to Bantu tribal origin, were submitted to the blood test. On this evidence it would appear that the Bantu are not homogeneous from a serological point of view; but as a whole they show a position close to the origin in the predominance of *O*, a position unoccupied except by such races as the American Indian, and indicating a more primitive distribution of the groups than is found in any other black race of which the figures are known. The known crosses of Caucasoid and Negro as exemplified in Algeria and Tunis occupy a position midway between the Caucasoid races and the origin. The Berber peoples show a small proportion of *B*, but they have a proportion of *A*, which gives them a type of distribution found in certain races separated early from the stock of mankind, such as the Australian aborigines. The Bush race shows a similar arrangement, while the Hottentot lies between the black races and the Egyptians.

The Southern Bantu are found to fall into three main groups, a primitive group, an intermediate group and a Caucasoid group. In the Caucasoid group fall the Mpondo and Xhosa. In comparison with other groups, this must have absorbed a con-

siderable proportion of Caucasoid blood. The Bushman-Hottentot complex could have had this effect, and this agrees with the fact that Mpondo and Xhosa show culturally and linguistically the results of Bushman-Hottentot contact to a greater extent than is shown by the other races. The intermediate group comprises Zulu, Shangaan, Tswana and Southern Sotho, corresponding roughly to the Nguni group. The primitive group comprises on one hand the Tchopi and Inyambane, about whose separate entity there is no doubt, and on the other hand the Swazi and Northern Sotho, whose position needs further investigation with reference to the Bantu as a whole, and the alleged primitive black race. If, as is usually held, the Bantu is derived from a Negro stock with Caucasoid (Hamitic) admixture, it is remarkable that serologically it should be more primitive than the Negroes of West Africa, a fact which suggests to the author a revision of early African racial history.

At some early date Africa was inhabited only by a black race, probably living near the west coast, and composed solely of the *O* group, as *A* and *B* had not appeared at the time it separated from the main stock. Africa was then invaded by a light-skinned small race bearing the factors *B* and *A*, which moved south, forming the Bushmen. A taller, light-skinned race with the factors *O* and *A* then arrived, but remained in the north, forming the Berber race. Then came a race with all the blood-groups which

spread all over Africa, pushing the Bushman south and giving rise to the Hottentots. The black race, still unaffected by *A* and *B*, moved south, following Bushmen and Hottentot and followed by other races with all the groups, who affected the black left behind in West Africa and the rearward.

The Bantu are thus the result of the interactions between the Caucasoid and a primitive black race showing little or no *A* and *B*. Serologically they are more primitive than the Bushman, while if the Hottentot has had any effect it is only in recent times.

Excavations of the Egypt Exploration Society in Nubia, 1936-37

AN exhibition of archaeological finds by expeditions sent out by the Egypt Exploration Society at Tell el-Amarna and Sesebi on the Upper Nile in Nubia in the season 1936-37 opened in the rooms of the Palestine Exploration Fund, 2 Hinde Street, Manchester Square, London, W.1, on July 5, and will remain open until July 24.

The excavations in Nubia, which have been carried out under the direction in the field of Prof. A. M. Blackman, were undertaken in view of the approaching termination of the Society's operations at Tell el-Amarna, and in the expectation of obtaining a view of the culture of that period at an angle differing from that of the Amarna evidence. Sulb and Sesebi, sites covered by the concession granted to the Society by the Government of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, have been known since 1908 to be associated with Akhenaten, when the late J. H. Breasted identified Sesebi with the Nubian Gem-Aten, and recognized that the founder of the temple there had been Akhenaten, and not, as previously supposed, Sethos I, who had covered the inscriptions of the earlier king with plaster and inscribed on them his own name and a rededication of the temple.

Although the official name of the city was doubtless changed after the time of Akhenaten, the former name must have been retained among the people, as it was still known by that name seven centuries later, when the god of the place was recorded as "Amun of Gem-Aten".

The temple was founded about 1370 B.C., before Amenophis IV had changed his name to Akhenaten, as is shown by the foundation deposits. This change took place about the fourth year of his reign, or at Sesebi, owing to its remote situation, perhaps a little later. Scarabs of Tethmosis III and Tethmosis IV from the cemetery suggest that Sesebi was an Egyptian settlement of some importance long before the accession of Amenophis IV.

The fortified town of Sesebi is situated between the Second and Third Cataracts of the Nile, about one hundred and eighty miles south of Halfa. The fortress, which lies about two hundred metres distant from the river on the west bank, enclosed an area of about two hundred and seventy metres long by about two hundred metres broad. Its crude brick walls are about 4.60 m. thick, and in some places still stand to a height of 4-5 m. The width of the buttresses is approximately 3.15 m. and they stand out 2.65 m. from the walls. In each of the four walls is a well-constructed gateway.

Within the walls, the most striking feature is a group of three temples, before excavation thought to be one only, erected on a single and unusually solid substructure, and extending along the western side of a forecourt, once enclosed in massive walls. Four

sets of foundation deposits were found intact under the north-west and south-west corners of the substructure. They comprised among other relics two inscribed blue faience plaques and a large inscribed scarab of the same material, clearly showing that the foundation had taken place before the monarch's change of name. The full significance of this fact was brought out by reliefs on the walls of a subterranean crypt below the central temple, in which the king, sometimes with the queen, is represented seated in the company of various deities. The reliefs, therefore, belong to his polytheistic period, before he changed his religion to the monotheistic worship of the Aten. They are in the ordinary style of the Eighteenth Dynasty and not that of the Amarna period.

The crypt is in itself a remarkable discovery. It is the only known example of such a substructure at so early a date, preceding the well-known crypt of the Ptolemaic temple of Denderah by approximately thirteen hundred years.

What are conjectured to be portions of the sandstone façade of the temple, showing some highly finished reliefs, were found. Of these one shows the head of the goddess Hathor, while on another are the heads of two negro prisoners, possibly part of a much larger war relief, to which belonged a representation of the king slaying captives, not brought to England. The style of this block, with the strongly marked features and masterly line, closely resembles that of the magnificent scenes in the tomb of Horemheb. It is probably to be assigned to the end of the Eighteenth Dynasty. Mention may also be made here of a remarkable head of a granite statue of a king, or possibly of Queen Hatshepsut.

Outside the temple area an important find was a stone structure situated close to the north-east corner, which had undergone at least one reconstruction. In its original form it had been a small colonnaded open court on a stone platform about 11.70 m. square and two metres high. This had been the work of Akhenaten, and possibly was a small sun temple, a view supported by the unusual feature that it was approached by a ramp or stairway on the western side, which would enable the officiating priest to greet the rising sun on entering the temple at dawn.

Immediately south of the temple were found three rows of magazines, and south of these again the south-western portion of the residential area. In the magazines a doorjamb inscribed to a vizir of the reign of Amenophis II supports the earlier dating of the settlement.

Although the area of the town examined had been much disturbed, it produced a quantity of interesting material. It has been possible to make out the symmetrical rectangular planning of the streets.