

and Research has been adopted by the Education Department of the Cape of Good Hope. The use of the new orthography becomes obligatory in January 1937, up to that date its use is optional. The University of South Africa had already given permission for the use of the new orthography, but its use was optional only. In the new system diacritics are abolished and three new symbols are to be used. The main changes are as follows.

(1) Aspiration, hitherto represented by a rough-breathing mark over the following vowel, is to be represented by *h*.

(2) The prepalatal voiceless fricative, now represented by *sh*, is to be represented by the symbol *ʃ*.

(3) Implosive *b*, now represented by the plain letter, will be represented by a new symbol, *β*, and the plain *b* will represent the explosive *b*.

(4) *r*, which now represents both the voiceless velar fricative and the rolled *r* of English, will represent only the rolled *r*; and a new symbol, 'ʀ', will represent the unvoiced fricative, *gr* the voiced, and *kr* the ejective varieties.

(5) The radical click sounds following a nasal will be represented by the click symbol preceded by *k*, instead of by the dotted symbol.

(6) The aspiration of nasal clicks will be represented by *h* instead of the rough-breathing mark.

(7) When it is necessary for clearness, long vowel sounds are to be shown by doubling the vowel.

(8) When it is necessary for clearness, relative tone will be marked by a small vertical line on movable type, placed before the vowel, the line to stand above the upper line of the small letters, for relatively high tone, and below the line for relatively low tone; e.g. 'a and ,a.

The action of the Bible Society in publishing St. Mark's Gospel is greatly helping to make the new orthography known. A large number of copies are being made available for free issue to educational institutions and prominent men, so that the proposals can be judged on their merits. *Nomalizo* has been adapted, and Mr. Bennie has also adapted the Stewart Readers to the new system; they will shortly be published. Mr. Bennie is now at work on portions of the New Testament. The modified orthography is practical and easy to use, and it is now possible almost to eliminate ambiguity—certainly in about 90 per cent. of cases. It is also easier to read than the old.

(Communicated by Mr. W. G. BENNIE, late Chief Inspector for Native Education, Cape Province.)

An Africanistic Review in Flemish.

Kongo-Overzee, Tijdschrift voor en over Belgisch Kongo, Ruanda-Urundi en apaalende Gewesten. This is the title of a new review 'for and on the Belgian Congo, Ruanda-Urundi, and neighbouring regions', published in Antwerp by *De Sikkel*. Its aim is to contribute to the study of colonial science and particularly

to that of anthropology, linguistics, native art, and missionary problems, and also to establish a closer contact between the Flemish people in the homeland and those in Africa. It will be published twice a month, the annual subscription being 75 *fr.* for Belgium and 85 *fr.* for abroad. The editor is Dr. A. Burssens, and the majority of the collaborators are Roman Catholic missionaries.

The first number, published in October 1934, contains the following articles: 'De oudste nederlandsche teksten over het oude Koninkrijk Kongo', by A. Burssens; 'Yebola', by P. E. Boelaert (this is a state of possession by spirits found among natives on the middle Congo); 'Enkele Benomingen voor het opper-wezen bij de Baluba-Shankaji', by P. S. Peeraer; 'Het Probleem der Kongoleesche Niet-Bantoetalen', by A. Burssens; and vernacular texts in several Congo languages with Flemish translation.

Kongo-Overzee promises to become an appreciable and welcome supplement to the well-known review *Congo*.

Mission du Directeur en Afrique Occidentale.

Notre Directeur le Professeur H. Labouret vient d'accomplir en Afrique Occidentale et dans les territoires du Cameroun français un voyage d'études linguistiques et sociologiques. Comme dans sa précédente mission, il était accompagné par un élève de l'École Nationale des Langues Orientales Vivantes et de l'École Coloniale qu'il désirait former aux recherches sur le terrain. Les résultats scientifiques de ce voyage sont les suivants: M. Labouret a pu faire les observations assez approfondies sur les provinces du nord du Cameroun dominées par une aristocratie peule; l'organisation y est empruntée aux émirats haoussas. Quant à la culture des populations sujettes, elle est de type agricole et soudanais sans caractéristiques spéciales.

M. Labouret a pu prendre également quelques informations sur les peuplades de la zone sylvestre, puis son effort s'est porté sur les importantes tribus des Bamoun et des Bamiléké dans le Nord-Ouest du Cameroun. Il a examiné le fonctionnement des organisations dites secrètes, répandues dans ces régions, et dont les buts sont à la fois religieux, politiques et économiques. Grâce à la collaboration d'indigènes lettrés et pleins de bonne volonté il a réussi à rapporter une documentation importante sur ces deux tribus et plus de 2.000 pièces ethnographiques destinées au Musée du Trocadéro, ainsi que des vocabulaires et des textes empruntés aux langues les moins connues des régions traversées.

Au cours de son voyage M. Labouret a pu entrer en contact avec les Gouverneurs de diverses possessions françaises et en particulier avec M. Brévié, Gouverneur Général de l'Afrique Occidentale. Il a constaté que, sous l'influence de ce haut fonctionnaire, se poursuit en ce moment dans l'Ouest-Africain français une œuvre d'importance capitale répondant pleinement aux