

is to be found in the fact that the Colonial Office have now adopted an almost identical plan for the training of cadets for their own agricultural services. The Corporation have trained fifty-two men, the majority of whom are now directly concerned with the production of cotton, and of whom a considerable proportion are competent to undertake the work that was done, and could only be done, five or six years ago, by the above-mentioned agriculturists from India.

During these years there has been an ever-growing perception of the importance of scientific agriculture, of which tangible evidence is to be seen in the numerous conferences on the subject which have taken place at various centres. Of these the latest and most striking example is the Imperial Agricultural Conference of the autumn of 1927, when agricultural officers from all parts of the Empire were assembled and took part in what may be termed a preliminary discussion of their problems. Further, an opportunity was thus provided for their meeting one another officially and unofficially and discussing matters of common interest. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that this Conference was the direct outcome of an agricultural conference of officers in South and East Africa held at Nairobi in 1926, which originated in a suggestion made by Mr. H. C. Sampson, then the Corporation's senior officer in Nyasaland.

Last, but by no means least, a Committee was set up by the Colonial Office under the Chairmanship, first of the late Lord Milner, who was succeeded by Lord Lovat, to consider the status and position of the colonial agricultural scientific and research staff throughout the Empire.

To what extent this movement, which has led to a fuller realization of the importance of suitably trained agriculturists in these new countries, has been directly influenced by the Corporation may be arguable; but it is undeniable that they pointed the way by the institution of their system of studentships, which has practically been followed by the Colonial Office. At the same time, their policy has been to form a "pool" of skilled men with experience in several tropical territories, while the formation of such a pool and such interchange of agriculturists constitutes one of the principal recommendations made by the Lovat Committee in their recently published report.

For the last two years the Corporation have published in book form the collected reports from ten experimental stations, and have thus commenced a series which is bound to be of the highest interest and value to cotton agriculturists all over the world. The evidence given before the Empire Cotton Growing Committee testified to the lack of co-ordinated scientific knowledge of many of the problems