

lication in the daily Press. These notices included invitations to apply for vacancies in the Public Service; for awards of Scholarships; and for Tenders. The Police Criminal Investigation Department was responsible for 13 notices in respect of persons wanted either in their own interests or in pursuit of justice.

### Chapter III ----- FILMS

51. Throughout the year the Film Library continued in its primary function - supplying standard cinemas and 16 mm or sub-standard projector units in the Colony with British films. Of the former, 49 were so supplied and of the latter 24. These films <sup>well</sup> ~~are~~ ✓ of an educational and informative nature and covered a very wide and comprehensive range of subjects, from simple handicraft to the more complex and equally intriguing turbo-jet engine.

52. Highlighting developments in the Department's Film Branch was the innovation of locally produced documentary films. A conference of Heads of Government Departments was arranged through the Secretariat for the purpose of outlining proposals for a programme of film production to be undertaken by the Film Librarian (Mr. W. A. Lee). The first of such films formed the final part of the course in cinematography which Mr. Lee had pursued at the Film Training School conducted in Jamaica during 1950 under the auspices of the Colonial Office. Early in the year, Mr. Lee undertook to produce a film on the cocoa industry. This initial effort was quite encouraging and showed, beyond doubt, that films bearing local and familiar backgrounds can create a greater impact upon audiences. The main theme of this film depicted Cocoa Rehabilitation and the introduction of the clonal type of cocoa with which successful experiments had been conducted at the I.C.T.A.

53. Encouraged by this successful start, other short films were produced and they included our "Annual Gymkhana", "Hosein Festival", "Remembrance Day Ceremony, 1951", and a film on the work of the blind entitled "Our Forgotten Ones". The editing of these films as well as the written commentaries were done locally. Recording of the commentary for "Our Forgotten Ones" was also undertaken here. Laboratory processing and finishing of each film were done free of cost to this Government by the Colonial Film Unit which also supplied a show copy in each case.

54. Responsible to a very large extent for the production of the films mentioned above, were three officials of the Colonial Film Unit, all of whom paid visits to this Colony in the course of the year. First, came Mr. Ronald Harris, Technical Instructor; and Mr. Gareth Evans, Creative Arts Instructor, who were both responsible for the West Indies Film Training School in Jamaica. They arrived early in February to hold discussions with Government, and to set the stage ready for organising a local film production unit to carry on with the valuable work from which their unit was gradually withdrawing. Mr. Evans' chief concern, however, was to advise where necessary and check upon details in connection with the minute preliminary work involved in the production of the film "Cocoa Rehabilitation". Having to return to Jamaica at short notice, Mr. Harris' stay was limited to five days only, however; but before leaving he was able to hold a discussion on film-making and appreciation over the local radio station together with Messrs. Evans and Lee. Mr. Evans' visit extended to three weeks.

55. The third official from the Colonial Film Unit was Mr. William Sellers, its founder. He arrived in the Colony on September 17th and used Trinidad as a base of operations in his mission to the Caribbean. On his arrival, Mr. Sellers was met at Piarco Airport by the Acting Information Officer (Mr. J. V. Rodriguez) and the Film Librarian (Mr. Wilfred Lee). After a call at Government House on the following day, he had discussions with the Acting Information Officer, the Acting Assistant Information Officer (Mr. H. E. Cameron), the Regional Broadcasting Adviser (Mr. Kenneth Ablack), and the Film Librarian (Mr. Lee, the Colony's trainee at the Jamaica Training School), with whom he discussed technical matters.

56. At the instance of the Acting Information Officer, Mr. Sellers also met the Hon. the Colonial Secretary; the Hon. the Financial Secretary; the Minister of Agriculture and Lands; the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce; the Minister of Communications and Works and several other Government Officers; as well as representatives of the Caribbean Commission; the British Council; the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture; Trinidad Clay Products, Limited; Trinidad Leaseholds, Limited; Trinidad Lake Asphalt, Limited; and the Blind Welfare Association of Trinidad and Tobago. Chief object of his visit to the Caribbean...

Caribbean was to gauge the progress made in film production in the West Indies since the conclusion of the Film Training School at Jamaica in 1950 - 51, and to give advice to the various Governments in the setting up of effective organisation for economical operation of film units.

57. In late February, Ministers with Heads of Government Departments, and other interested officials, were entertained at an exhibition of a film, "Citrus - Harvesting Methods", produced by the students of the Film Training School in Jamaica. Through the courtesy of the British Council, the show was held at Whitehall; it was arranged jointly by Mr. Gareth Evans of the Colonial Film Unit and this Department.

58. At another film exhibition held at the pre-view room, Mr. Sellers reported on the progress each Colony was making, and finally outlined the great educational value of the film in backward areas, and in the development of a progressive society. After a stay of 18 days, he left Trinidad on the 5th October for Jamaica and Washington, to hold similar talks.

~~59.00.~~ Distribution: Early in the year under review, a set-back was experienced in the supply of 35 mm films. The supply from the United Kingdom of films of this size was reduced to an alarming margin, and as the months went by it became increasingly difficult to keep this service functioning at normal level. On an average 1.25 films were received each month; when it is remembered that five "Release" cinemas in the City alone required a new film every week, it would at once be appreciated how difficult the situation had then become. The number of such films received during the year was 15. The number of issues made was 2,021 and the total estimated number of persons seeing these films was 1,860,000. The outstanding films of this size were : "This / Is ..

Is Britain" (a series); "London in Festival Year"; "Commonwealth of Nations"; and "Caribbean Journey". (This film was not available for regular distribution).

62.60 Distribution of 16 mm size of films was carried out smoothly and efficiently. The main exhibitors continue to be the mobile cinema units operated by the Departments of Health and Education; the British Council; and the Colleges. Total number of these films received during the year was 101, British Newsreel accounting for 51. Issues amounted to 655 and the total estimated audience was 1,102,745. Most popular among these films were: "El Dorado"; (depicting British Guiana), "Rape of the Earth"; "London in Festival Year"; "Delay Means Death"; "Caribbean Journey"; "Cocoa Rehabilitation"; "India and Pakistan"; "University College of the West Indies"; "Distance Races"; "Life in Her Hands"; and "Land of Cyprus".

62.61 "Caribbean Journey" is the title given to a film shot in the West Indies during 1949 by Mr. Graham Wallace of the Crown Film Unit. In April 1951, it was received from the Central Office of Information for commercial release here and negotiations were successfully concluded with Roodal Theatres Limited and 20th Century Fox Pictures for its release and subsequent showing. It was exhibited simultaneously in Port of Spain by the De Luxe and Empire cinemas at the beginning of June and by December it had been shown at 17 other cinemas. The nett proceeds were duly deposited at the Treasury for account of the Central Office of Information.

62.62 Film-Strips: Distribution of strips is not as satisfactory as could be desired. Altogether, 16 titles were received, consisting of 128 strips. A title of very topical interest was "Trade Unionism in Britain". Four copies of each title were given to the Supervisor, Government Cinema Units; one to the Government Training College; one to the British Council; and one to the Caribbean Commission. However, use of these strips is very limited and in certain cases it appears that hardly any use is made of them at all, the reason advanced being that there is a lack of personnel to supply the talks which should accompany exhibition of these films. The remaining copy is retained in the Department's Library for circulation among private users.

63  
64. Loan of Films: The Department was happy to be of assistance to neighbouring Colonies in regard to the loan of the film "To Vote Is a Great Duty" in 16 mm and 35 mm sizes. This film was requisitioned by the Electoral Officers of Grenada and St. Lucia in connection with the General Elections in those islands under their new Constitutions. As already stated, <sup>production of</sup> this film was <sup>directed</sup> ~~produced~~ in 1946 by the Supervisor of Elections, (Trinidad), in collaboration with the Information Office. Appendix "A" gives a summary of the distribution of films and film strips.

65.64 British Film Quota: There is a law in force providing for each and every cinema in the Colony to exhibit a minimum of 8,000 feet of British News film per month. Formerly, this Office supplied the full requirements of the exhibitors who elected to use these films exclusively. However, partly because of complaints by commercial distributors that this course was jeopardising their business, and partly because of the acute shortage of films mentioned above, supplies to all were cut down to a maximum of 5,000 feet per month. In this connection, a monthly report of the footage supplied to each cinema is submitted to the Commissioner of Police as Chairman of the Board of Film Censors for his information.

66.65 Censorship: In the past, every new film received was submitted to the Board of Film Censors for examination prior to release. This practice, has however, been superseded by the submission of the related film scripts to the Director of Education under whose authority they are certified as "Educational Film". All films received for the entire year fell under the category of "Educational". Altogether, fourteen (14) applications covering 156 reels were addressed to the Director of Education for the necessary certificate. There was no objection in any case.

67.66 Catalogue: A completely new descriptive film catalogue was prepared and circularised among the cinemas and interested bodies using 16 mm films. The total number of 16 mm films in the Library at the end of the year was 292 consisting of 512 reels and valued at \$14,745.00 while in the 35 mm group there were 122 titles covering 216 reels of an estimated value of \$14,505.00.

68.67 Film Storage: Accommodation for storage and handling of 35 mm film of an inflammable nature remains on the makeshift basis. This /consists...

consists of an ordinary concrete building off Long Circular Road, situated in such a way that it receives the full effect of the sun almost throughout the day. With temperatures often rising to as high as 104°F., it is not difficult to understand why it is regarded as a potential fire hazard.

69. Indents: The ordering of films specially selected by other Departments continues to be a function of this Department. Two indents were placed on the Crown Agents for the Colonies during the year; one covered the film requirements of the Departments of Health and Education; and the other was for film accessories.

~~70.69~~ Consignments: This section of the Department continued to be responsible for the clearing of consignments through the Customs. Six hundred and forty-two (642) packages of various types of material were received from the Central Office of Information. These involved the preparation and passing of 156 free entries. Included in the consignments were material for H.M. Trade Commissioner, the Commissioner of Labour, and the Regional Broadcasting Adviser to the Eastern Caribbean.

#### Chapter IV ----- PUBLIC RELATIONS.

~~71.~~ <sup>70</sup> Reference to our activities under this Head has already been made in the opening Chapter of this Report, but not the least of our efforts in this field has been the extending of facilities and courtesies to visitors. There was a fair number of these during 1951, and the according of due attention to them involved making arrangements for meeting Government officials, Ministers, or prominent businessmen and citizens; accumulating and co-ordinating data and otherwise assisting them to carry out their respective programmes.

~~72.71~~ Mention has already been made of the visits of Messrs. William Sellers, O.B.E., Gareth Evans, and Ronald Harris of the Colonial Film Unit but other visitors whom this Department had to accommodate in one way or another included:

Mr. Fitz Maximilian, an Economist from Haiti who came in connection with his studies on Industry under a United Nations Fellowship

Professor Inez Adams of Fisk University, U.S.A., interested in Anthropological Research undertaken on a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship;

Mr. Edmett of the British Broadcasting Corporation.

/Mr.