

NOTES & NEWS

BRITISH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FOR OVERSEA COUNTRIES.

New Department Completes One Year

Eight hundred and fifty-five British experts recruited by the Department of Technical Co-operation in the 12 months since its inauguration are now serving overseas. Of these, 160 are operating in independent Commonwealth countries, 525 in dependent territories, 60 in other overseas countries and 110 under United Nations programmes.

Twenty-one thousand Britons appointed through the Department, or through the recruiting organizations now incorporated in the Department, are also serving overseas.

Reviewing the first year's work of the Department, an official spokesman in London said that nearly 2,600 trainees from overseas would have arrived in Britain by the end of July. Well over £1,000,000 had been spent in the past 12 months in providing equipment to independent Commonwealth and other overseas countries.

Of the trainees, 939 come under regional programmes, such as the Colombo Plan and the Special Commonwealth Aid to Africa Plan, and their training expenses were paid for by the British Government. Six hundred and eighty-two of them are from independent Commonwealth countries, and 257 from other overseas countries.

Another 1,895 students are financed by Colonial Development and Welfare funds or overseas governments. Of this number, 421 are from independent Commonwealth countries and 147 from dependent territories.

HELP FOR INDIA

Equipment valued at £15,260 is being supplied to the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur; and among the projects which the Department has helped are the Durgapur Steel Works and the Delhi College of Engineering and Technology.

The Fisheries Adviser to the Department undertook a Colombo Plan mission to India to advise on the co-ordinating of research into marine fisheries. The recommendations are still under consideration by the Indian Government.

A scientist of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, Mr. N. W. Pirie, has returned from an interesting mission in India where he has developed a new method of recovering protein from lush vegetation. This is showing promising results. Dr. Black, a Scottish potato expert, has been to Simla to show how larger potatoes of better quality can be produced. Scottish seed potatoes will be used to upgrade the Indian seed stock.

At the Central Food Research Laboratory, Mysore, research is being done to increase and improve India's food supply. Equipment to help this research, given under the Technical Co-operation Scheme of the Colombo Plan, has been in use for several years at the institute.