

as important to economic growth as capital and raw materials. The sub-committee drew attention to the increasing number of people under 16 in the population of the area and the problems posed by youth unemployment. Between two-thirds and four-fifths of the work force in the area is engaged in agriculture, where acute unemployment or under-employment already exists. Yet it is in this sector that the bulk of the additional population must be absorbed. The sub-committee's report included proposals about vocational guidance, the importance of formalized apprenticeship, the mobility of labour, the role of national employment services, and an analysis of the characteristics of a manpower-planning agency. The Committee agreed that the special topic for next year's meeting should be development problems of the rural areas.

The Committee took the opportunity of reviewing the information activities of the Colombo Plan Bureau, the programme of publicity for the year 1963-64, and recommendations for future publicity. The Committee stated that it should have a comprehensive picture of the information facilities available to member countries, so that a practical programme for improving publicity without increasing the budget of the Bureau might be proposed. A Colombo Plan exhibition was held in Bangkok during the meeting, consisting of photographic and other displays prepared by member countries.

The twelfth annual report adopted by the Committee at Bangkok will be published, and is expected to be available to member countries on or after January 15, 1964. The Consultative Committee welcomed the invitation of Britain to hold its 1964 meeting in London.