

YEAR BOOK
OF
CARIBBEAN
RESEARCH
1949 SUPPLEMENT

Natural Sciences

Survey of Research and Investigation in
the Caribbean and Adjoining Countries

Compiled by
RESEARCH BRANCH, CENTRAL SECRETARIAT
CARIBBEAN COMMISSION
KENT HOUSE
PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD
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The Anglo-American Caribbean Commission was created by the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom on March 9, 1942, for the purpose of encouraging and strengthening social and economic cooperation between the United States of America and its possessions and bases in the area known geographically and politically as the Caribbean, and the United Kingdom and the British Colonies in the same area, and to avoid duplication of research in these fields. On December 20, 1945, the following joint communiqué was issued: "The Governments of France and of the Netherlands have accepted an invitation extended to them by the Governments of the United Kingdom and United States of America to join the Anglo-American Caribbean Commission. The name of the Commission will be changed appropriately..." The Commission is now known as the Caribbean Commission.

The Caribbean Research Council was established by the Commission in August, 1943, to survey needs, to determine what research has been done, to facilitate research on a cooperative basis, and to arrange for the prompt dissemination of the results of research, all without limitation to the field of inquiry.

In pursuance of these objectives, a number of Research Committees has been appointed for various fields of research.

The Central Secretariat of the Commission is located at Kent House, Port of Spain, Trinidad. The work of the Secretariat is divided into two main branches: administrative and research. The Research Branch, which includes a Statistical Unit, works in close cooperation with the Caribbean Research Council and its various Research Committees.

INTRODUCTION

The first edition of the Year Book of Caribbean Research, containing a record of research and investigations being undertaken in the "Commission territories" of the Caribbean in 1948, was published by the Research Branch of the Central Secretariat of the Caribbean Commission in May, 1949. The Year Book was divided into four parts, covering respectively the fields of (1) Agriculture, Forestry, Fish and Wildlife; (2) Medicine, Public Health, Sanitary Engineering, Nutrition; (3) Sociology, Statistics, Economics, Education, Planning and Housing; (4) Building, Chemical Technology, Engineering, Geodesy and Surveying, Geology. It recorded details of a total of 789 projects. This was the first attempt to give a systematic account of the research and investigations being conducted in the area, and it was well received by research workers and directors throughout the Caribbean. Numerous requests have also been received for copies from institutions and individuals outside the area.

It has been decided, in view of the favourable response, to publish a revised edition of the Year Book periodically and to maintain its records up-to-date in the interim by the publication of a series of annual supplements. For the sake of convenience, future editions of the Year Book and the annual supplements will be published by sections. It has also been decided, in view of the increasing attention to research in the Natural Sciences in the Caribbean, to add a fifth part, Natural Sciences, to the Year Book. The present bulletin is the first annual supplement dealing with research in the fields of Anthropology, Biology, Botany, Geology, Physics and Zoology during 1949.

The general plan of this supplement follows that adopted for the Year Book. The Universal Decimal System of classification has been used, and projects are numbered seriatim. For ease of reference, projects continuing from 1948 are identified by a second number in parenthesis. This latter is the number of the project in the 1948 Year Book, which, as mentioned above, will be the basic text of reference until superseded by a new edition. No additional information was obtained in respect of a number of continuing projects; these are shown separately, under their 1948 Year Book number in parenthesis, in an Appendix for record purposes.

A select bibliography of Caribbean Research or research of interest to Caribbean territories published in 1948-49 has been added, following the recommendation of the Research Council at its Second Meeting held at Kent House, May 27-30, 1949. Research personnel and institutions are listed in a separate section, also in accordance with the recommendations of the Research Council.

The Secretariat is greatly indebted to all research workers and institutions who contributed details of their work and wishes to record its appreciation of their cooperation, without which the compilation of this supplement would not have been possible.

C.K. Robinson
Editor

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|----------|--|
| BD | Botany Department |
| BGM | British Guiana Museum |
| DA | Department of Anatomy |
| D. Arch. | Department of Archeology |
| DG | Department of Geology |
| GMS | Geological Mining Service |
| GSD | Geological Survey Department |
| ICTA | Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture |
| IJ | Institute of Jamaica |
| NWNA | Natuurwetenschappelijke Werkgroep Nederlandse Antillen (National Science Study Group in the Netherlands Antilles) |
| PD | Physics Department |
| PU | Princeton University |
| SM | Science Museum |
| SSRC | Social Science Research Center |
| UCWI | University College of the West Indies |
| UPR | University of Puerto Rico |
| YU | Yale University |
| ZD | Zoology Department |

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