

UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



GENERAL
A/2129
27 August 1952
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Seventh session

DOCUMENTS
INDEX UNIT
MASTER

30 SEP 1952

INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES.
SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION TRANSMITTED
UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Summary of information transmitted by the Government of Belgium^{1/}

In accordance with paragraph 4 (a) of General Assembly resolution 218 (III), the Secretary-General has prepared the following summary of the information transmitted in 1952 showing the progress made over the last three-year period in respect of economic, social and educational conditions.

The information has been arranged under the main headings of the four parts of the revised Standard Form approved by General Assembly resolution 551 (VI).

The present summary deals with information transmitted on the Belgian Congo.

^{1/} This summary is also submitted to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

/BELGIAN CONGO
A/2129

BELGIAN CONGO

The area of the Belgian Congo is 2,343,930 square kilometres, and the indigenous population in 1950 was 11,331,793 as compared with 10,353,909 in 1940.

The non-indigenous population rose from 23,735 in 1940 to 59,157 in 1950.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

General

During the year 1951 considerable progress was achieved in all branches of the economy, and this progress is reflected in an increase in the value and tonnage of foreign trade. Thanks to more advanced mechanization, the mining industry was able to increase its output while reducing its labour force. Agricultural production, both of foodstuffs and of export goods, is progressing, and improvement of quality has been under constant study, by specialized bodies as well as private enterprise. The most notable progress, however, was achieved in the processing industries; many new undertakings were established and existing ones enlarged. While 1950 was devoted chiefly to research and final planning for the great works to be launched under the Ten-Year Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Belgian Congo, 1951 saw the first results of these great projects in electric power supply, increased shipping and the extension of port installations.

The Ten-Year Plan is carried out for the most part by the Administration of the Colony, assisted by OTRACO (rail and water transport), REGIDESO (water and electricity supply in populated centres), the Native Welfare Fund (Fonds du Bien-Etre indigène) (medical programme, education and water and electricity supply in rural areas), the National Institute for Agronomical Studies (I.N.E.A.C.) (Institut national pour l'étude agronomique du Congo Belge) (agricultural programme), the Institute for Scientific Research in Central Africa (I.R.S.A.C.) (Institut de la recherche scientifique en Afrique centrale), the electrification boards (construction of four hydro-electric power stations), and the Offices for Special Centres and for Native Towns (Offices des Centres extra-coutumiers et des Cités Indigènes).

/The capital

The capital invested in 1951 may be estimated at 3 thousand million Belgian francs, not including investment by OTRACO, REGIDESO and the Offices for Native Towns (Offices des Cités Indigènes).

Agriculture and livestock

The Agricultural Service deals with agronomy, agricultural instruction, water and forests, hunting and fishing, and colonization. The Veterinary and Cattle-Breeding Service, the Office of Agricultural Products and the cotton, anti-locust and anti-erosion missions are also under its authority.

The staff employed by the Agricultural Service, including the Veterinary and Cattle-Breeding Service, was as follows:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Europeans	558	564	633
Indigenous	7,368	7,825	8,083

The credits allocated to the Service were as follows:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Credits under the ordinary budget	385,000,000	526,000,000	483,071,000
Credits under the Ten-Year Plan	189,751,000	154,000,000	237,000,004
Contribution by the Native Welfare Fund	45,089,000	38,400,000	23,599,500

Land tenure: Land in the Belgian Congo is divided into three categories:

(a) Indigenous land, tenure of which is governed by a decree of 3 June 1896. This decree gives the indigenous inhabitants exclusive disposal of land on which they live and which they cultivate or work for their immediate needs. Fallow land is placed in the same category as occupied land.

(b) Registered land, which belongs to private persons and is entered in the registers of the Registrar of Land Titles (Conservateur des titres fonciers).

(c) State lands (terres du domaine), which are owned neither by indigenous communities nor by private persons. Such lands belong to the private domain of the State, which may transfer them or grant them under concession with a view to their development. Land concessions are granted with due regard to the density of the population in the regions concerned, and the percentage of available labour is calculated in such a way as to ensure that a sufficiently large proportion of the population should continue to engage in indigenous /agriculture.

agriculture. Concessions are granted by the King, the Governor-General or the provincial governors, according to the area of land involved and the general and special conditions of the concession. Every contract for the transfer of land must contain a clause under which the property may be bought back by the Colony, and must include provision for forfeiture in case of failure to pay the appropriate dues. All transfers and concessions are granted without prejudice to the rights of the indigenous inhabitants, and are subject to fulfilment of the conditions of exploitation.

The total area of the Belgian Congo is 236,500,000 hectares, including 100,000,000 hectares of forest and 136,500,000 hectares of savannah. The area of arable land is 50,000,000 hectares, and of pasture 2,344,000 hectares. The area of the land cultivated by the indigenous inhabitants - including land lying fallow - amounted in 1947 to about 48,700,000 hectares. Up to 31 December 1947 non-indigenous inhabitants had been granted concessions covering a total area of 6,740,782 hectares, 1,226,893 hectares of which were at that time under exploitation.

/The following

The following table gives the areas under cultivation and the volume of production for the principal crops:

	<u>Native Crops</u>					
	Area cultivated (in hectares)			Production (in tcrs)		
	1948	1949	1950	1948	1949	1950
Cassava	1,400,000	1,500,000	1,440,852	1,182,000	11,000,000 ^{1/}	11,149,754
Maize	547,000	545,000	532,951	381,000	331,000	373,406
Bananas (plantains)	365,000	365,000	361,077	1,675,000	1,650,000	2,166,462
Groundnuts	370,000	395,000	351,757	225,400	245,400	217,757
Cotton	317,852	311,222	328,543	123,757	143,081	138,386
Paddy	190,000	210,000	202,621	152,000	175,000	187,016
Beans, peas	159,000	150,000	149,717	122,000	110,000	108,228
Sorghum, millet, eleusine	122,000	140,000	136,294	85,000	95,000	92,656
Sweet potatoes	99,000	99,000	97,916	466,000	550,000	537,770
Sesame	55,000	60,000	58,480	33,000	35,000	41,164
Elaeis	58,373	60,000	53,162	-	-	-
Palm oil	-	-	-	105,345	106,000	170,774
Palm kernels	-	-	-	54,087	53,000	101,577
Para-rubber	28,392	21,000	24,116	62	95	179
Urena Lobata	19,121	19,791	21,909	18,247	17,645	21,077
Potatoes	3,210	3,000	2,463	15,477	16,000	19,038

^{1/} Raw cassava.

Principal European Crops

	<u>Area cultivated</u> <u>(in hectares)</u>			<u>Production</u> <u>(in tons)</u>		
	1948	1949	1950	1948	1949	1950
Elaeis	100,058	110,000	108,882			
Palm oil	-	-	-	50,107	56,000	48,671
Palm kernels	-	-	-	57,436	58,000	16,769
Para-rubber	54,514	57,813	58,511	5,239	6,692	8,998
Coffee	54,478	67,938	56,378	18,001	19,452	19,489
Cocoa	2,288	16,338	17,939	1,167	1,695	1,786
Cinchona	4,538	5,612	6,077	919	1,218	1,772
Bananas (table)	4,956	6,237	7,274	2,828	5,458	12,089
Sugar cane	-	-	2,896	-	-	12,906
Pyrethrum	2,244	2,657	2,938	511	669	688

The livestock population was as follows:

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
<u>European stock</u>			
Bovines	236,056	255,552	270,673
Sheep and goats	-	40,360	33,162
Swine	31,733	40,934	30,111
<u>Native stock</u>			
Bovines	366,710	381,854	393,074
Sheep and goats	1,550,438	1,446,477	1,770,750
Swine	184,279	117,666	145,857

The Veterinary Service is trying to improve the quality of the cattle by installing dipping-tanks, dispensaries and suitably located artificial watering places. To prevent the deterioration of pasture, the weight of livestock, per hectare, per annum, is limited to 50 kilogrammes.

The problem of agricultural indebtedness does not exist in the Belgian Congo.

Assistance to agricultural production is provided in a great variety of forms, e.g.: loans to co-operatives, with total exemption from taxation for three years; agricultural credit for the development of agriculture or industry among indigenous inhabitants, and financing of activities yielding delayed returns, such as sericulture, apiculture and pisciculture; grants of funds from the Cotton Bank Reserve Fund (Fonds de Reserve de la Caisse Cotonnière) for the purchase of small agricultural equipment for cotton-planters, and for road-building in inaccessible areas; and establishment of public "offices" responsible for promoting the development of domestic and foreign markets for agricultural products by quality testing and the preparation of agricultural products for export.

Agricultural instruction is provided by the following institutions:

	<u>1948</u>		<u>1949</u>		<u>1950</u>	
	Number	Pupils	Number	Pupils	Number	Pupils
Schools for agricultural techniques (<u>Ecoles d'assistants agricoles</u>)	2	54	2	55	2	58
Agricultural training schools (<u>Ecoles professionnelles agricoles</u>)	8	357	8	465	9	575

/The National

The National Institute for Agronomical Studies (I.N.E.A.C.) was established to promote the scientific development of agriculture in the Belgian Congo. Its activities are many and various. They include the selection of the best varieties of cultivated plants, the distribution of seeds and plantation equipment, experimental work, the development of natural animal and vegetable resources, the improvement of rural housing and the study of agricultural mechanization. Before being introduced into indigenous agriculture, selected seeds and new methods of cultivation are tested at 26 local experimental stations and agronomical centres.

Recent achievements include a survey of 704,000 hectares for the settlement of new agricultural communities. The number of cultivators already settled increased from 25,000 in 1949 to 40,000 in 1950, and 20,000 more holdings were allotted in 1951. Agricultural work in the agricultural communities has been supplemented by the building of social and medical centres, the harnessing of 225 springs and the preparation of 200 fish-preserves. There are twelve rural co-operatives, whose objectives are to offer their members materials of superior quality, to process crops by mechanical equipment and to market the harvest at the highest possible prices.

Forests

Forestry policy is designed to achieve two objectives: the conservation of the forest cover and the exploitation of timber resources. The Government has applied a number of forest conservation measures, including the establishment of 972 hectares of wooded belts providing protection against brush-fires for 10,946 hectares of savannah, the placing under management of 1,887 hectares of forest, the modification of indigenous systems of cultivation by suitable rotation, and the organization of indigenous "agricultural settlements" with a view to the natural regeneration of the soil.

By the end of 1950, the Forestry Service had surveyed an area of 475,000 hectares, and 165 forestry reserves had been established. In 1950, timber-felling permits were issued for a total area of 109,083 hectares, as compared with 125,426 hectares in 1949.

/Forestry production

Forestry production was as follows:

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Lumber (cubic metres)	363,643	431,544	453,893
Firewood (cubic metres)	3,398,428	-	5,495,061

In 1950, 2,212,749 metres of pit-prop timber were used by the mines.

<u>Gross weight, tons</u>		<u>Timber exports</u>			
<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>Value, thousands of francs</u>		
			<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
78,099	71,359	118,956	138,468	106,981	174,994

The Forestry Service employs 272 officers, of whom 197 are indigenous.

Forestry research has been placed in the hands of the Congo Timber Research Commission (Commission d'Etude des Bois Congolais), which has carried out technological, industrial, chemical and microscopic research on the Colony's timber resources, and on insect timber pests and means of timber preservation. The first reports of this Commission will be issued in the near future.

The forestry development programme provides for:

1. The bringing under management of 5,000 hectares of forest land per annum.

It should be noted that the forests thus brought under control will produce three times as much timber per hectare as natural forest.

2. The afforestation of denuded land.

3. The establishment of 5,000 hectares of protective belts per annum, shielding an area of 50,000 hectares.

Fisheries

The administrative staff responsible for this branch comes under the Directorate of Waters and Forests (Direction des Eaux et Forêts). In 1946 the Fisheries Commission of the Belgian Congo (Mission Piscicole du Congo Belge) was established to increase the yield of the fisheries without endangering their future. The means employed included the establishment of fisheries research stations and stocking centres in various parts of the Congo. A fishing school is under construction at Kilwa (Lake Moero). Educational work on pisciculture among the indigenous inhabitants is conducted by missions, agricultural training schools and schools for agricultural assistants. By the end of 1950 there were /15,000 ponds,

15,000 ponds, most of them in indigenous communities and covering an area of almost 1,000 hectares. The yield is from one to two tons per hectare. The fisheries and ponds produce about 40,000 tons of fish, for which the producer obtains between eight and ten francs per kilogramme.

Extractive industries

There is a mines service with a budget of about 10,000,000 francs, and a geological service with a budget of about 26,000,000 francs. All matters affecting mining rights - particularly the granting of mining concessions - are dealt with by the land service.

Mining concessions are granted by decree, on the basis of agreements or permits.

The statistics of mining production for the years 1949 to 1951 will be found below:

Mineral production

	1949 (tons)	1950 (tons)	1951		
			tons	value in millions of francs	average prices francs
Copper	141,399	172,113	191,000	5,710,900	29,900.00
Coal	152,370	159,967	217,900	78,444	360.00
Crude zinc concentrates	109,263	146,753	172,216	1,016,074	5,900.00
Cassiterite	16,083	15,123	14,958	1,546,667	103,400.00
Manganese	12,247	9,900	70,945	177,363	2,500.00
Cobalt	1,976	2,174	2,543	611,083	240,300.00
Wolfram	131	28	119	28,535	239,000.00
Tantalo-columbite	115	126	79	4,413	55,500.00
Silver	141	135	134	195,363	--
Cadmium (kg.)	24,635	29,668	24,316	11,365	467.40
Gold nuggets (kg.)	10,564	10,763	10,783	654,587	60,700.00
Industrial diamonds (carats)	9,099,545	9,604,128	10,027,103	486,314	48.50
Diamonds for jewelry (carats)	550,423	543,443	537,652	109,412	203.50

Ownership of the mines is separate from that of the soil and is vested in the Colony which grants concessions for exploiting the mines. Africans may continue exploiting their mines without concession in the manner in which they were worked up to 1 January 1938. These mines are chiefly iron and salt mines.

/Geological research

Geological research is conducted by teams of from one to four geologists to each province. Work on the geological map is still at the stage of preparing the stratigraphical and technical material. The first attempts to synthesize these materials will be made in 1952.

Power

The electrification of the Colony is being actively promoted. The development and distribution of electric power are controlled by Section 3, "Water and Electricity", of the Directorate of Civil Construction and Public Works of the Government-General (3^e Section "Eau et Electricité" de la Direction des Batiments Civils, Travaux Publics du Gouvernement Général). The construction and operation of two hydro-electric power stations and five thermal stations in comparatively unproductive areas have been entrusted to the Monopoly for the Distribution of Water and Electricity in the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi (Regie de Distribution d'eau et d'électricité du Congo Belge et du Ruanda-Urundi), a body controlled financially and technically by the State.

There are thirteen hydro-electric stations and twenty-two thermal stations belonging to private companies. Besides serving industrial production, these stations supply whole areas with power.

The construction of new hydro-electric power stations to supply the main areas of the Congo is being planned by four syndicates whose members, though a majority of them are representatives of the State, also include many representatives of private enterprise.

Total annual production for industrial and domestic needs is about 750,000 kilowatt-hours. Three new power stations are under construction and plans for two others have been completed.

Industry

The General Economic Service (Service de l'économie générale) is responsible for industrial development. It comprises, at the level of the Government-General, a Legislation and Planning Bureau (Bureau de direction des études et de la législation) and a Section for General and Indigenous Economy and for Weights and Measures (Section d'économie générale, d'économie indigène et de métrologie). There is an Economic Affairs Service in each province.

/During the

During the year under review the rate of industrialization in the Belgian Congo has consistently risen. The productive capacity of the existing factories increased considerably in respect of the following products: jute sacks, hosiery, textiles, footwear, soap, explosives, cement and articles of fibro-cement. New factories include a blanket factory at Léopoldville, a jute spinning-mill in the Lower Congo, a hosiery factory at Léopoldville, two spinning mills at Elisabethville and Léopoldville, a sulphuric acid and sodium chlorate factory, a factory producing cement slabs for prefabricated houses, two tea factories at Kivu, a brewery at Stanleyville and a flour mill at Léopoldville.

In 1950 the foodstuffs industry had 1,062 factories distributed as follows: 192 butter-dairies, 4 breweries, 27 lemonade factories, 112 rice mills, 436 palm kernels processing works, 198 fish salteries, 73 flour mills and 20 establishments producing miscellaneous products.

The metallurgical industry is represented by 5 factories, where modern methods are used to process and refine tin, copper, cobalt, cadmium and zinc ores.

The chemical industry has 112 factories producing explosives, chemical products, quinine, varnish and soap.

In 1950, there were 197 establishments in the textile industry, comprising 3 textile mills, 83 cotton ginneries, 92 clothing factories and 19 miscellaneous establishments.

Among the other industries, numbering in all 2,141, mention should be made more particularly of 6 cigarette factories, one boot and shoe factory, 59 factories for the processing of rubber, 286 for coffee, 31 for cocoa and 10 for pyrethrum.

The principal subsidiary industrial products in the years 1949 to 1951 were:

	<u>Unit</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Cement	Tons	144,325	166,000	240,000
Soap	"	12,342	13,000	15,500
Sugar	"	12,730	13,000	14,000
Beer	Hectolitres	299,338	320,000	460,000
Metal products	Drums	-	900,000	850,000
Textiles	Metres	33,883,000	30,000,000	40,000,000

/The principal

The principal crafts are tending to disappear because they no longer answer the requirements of the indigenous communities. New trades are springing up and developing both in rural areas and towns.

Indigenous inhabitants own 221 undertakings in the food industry, 31 textile undertakings and 190 miscellaneous undertakings.

Transport and communications

Maritime navigation: The principal Congo ports are Matadi with 1,590 metres of deep water wharfage and 500 metres of lighterage wharves, and Boma with 215 metres of deep water wharfage and 230 metres of lighterage wharves. The traffic figures are as follows (net tonnage):

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Matadi	1,165,643	1,363,432	1,252,826
Boma	557,940	668,458	-

River navigation: The internal waterways comprise 12,284 kilometres of navigable waterways, including 2,667 kilometres accessible to barges of 1,200 tons. There are 1,300 kilometres of shipping routes on the lakes. Many of the river ports are provided with equipment. The river boat service is the most economical transport network in the Congo. In 1951 the volume of traffic conveyed by river and lake amounted to 1,016,000 tons.

Railways: The total length of the railway network is 4,998 kilometres. The volume of traffic conveyed was 7,694,300 tons.

Aviation: The network of air routes covers the whole territory for the transport of passengers and goods. There are four international airports and 25 airlines which cover a total distance of 16,200 kilometres, the volume of traffic conveyed in 1951 being 37,198 passengers and 2,051,175 kilometric tons of cargo.

Highways: At the end of 1950, the highway system included 15,201 kilometres of main roads, 86,185 kilometres of local roads and 12,858 kilometres of private roads, making in all a total of 114,244 kilometres of roads, as against 111,597 kilometres in 1949. The tonnage conveyed by road in 1951 amounted to 197,000 tons, and the number of persons to 85,061.

/Posts:

Posts: The number of post offices increased from 163 in 1949 to 168 in 1950 and 179 in 1951.

Telegraphs: There are about 3,000 kilometres of telegraph wires connecting 50 telegraph offices.

Telephone: On 31 December 1951 there were 27 public telephone systems, including 2 automatic exchanges.

Radio: In addition to the 136 official radio stations, there are 152 private stations. For the use of aircraft, there are 6 radio stations and 23 wireless beacons and meteorological stations.

Public Finance, Banking and Credit

Article 1 of the Colonial Charter lays down the principle of the Colony's financial autonomy. In view of the separation of State property as between the Colony and the metropolitan country, the budgets of the two countries are also kept separate. The Colony bears all its own expenditures and meets them out of its own resources.

The budgetary system provides for a regular budget and an extraordinary budget. The extraordinary budget includes all appropriations for expenditure designed to extend colonial lands and expenditure which is either directly or indirectly productive, while its receipts are derived from the alienation of capital assets and the application of special financial measures necessary for the payment of the extraordinary expenditures.

The regular budgets for 1949, 1950 and 1951 were as follows (in francs):

	<u>1949</u> (Estimates)	<u>1950</u> (Estimates)	<u>1951</u> (Estimates)
Receipts	4,562,602,000	4,032,220,000	5,125,501,000
Expenditures	4,460,764,000	4,008,982,000	4,963,544,000

The principal sources of revenue were (in francs):

	<u>1949</u> (Estimates)	<u>1950</u> (Estimates)	<u>1951</u> (Estimates)
Customs duties (import and export)			
excise and warehouse taxes	2,367,810,000	2,100,591,000	2,813,326,000
Company and professional income taxes	1,065,155,000	889,243,000	999,496,000
Native taxes	201,136,000	257,381,000	250,377,000
Other taxes and charges	171,632,000	198,555,000	222,709,000

/The extraordinary

The extraordinary budgets for 1949, 1950, and 1951 showed the following figures (in francs):

	<u>1949</u> (Estimates)	<u>1950</u> (Estimates)	<u>1951</u> (Estimates)
Receipts	17,689,000	321,357,000	61,148,000
Expenditures	3,144,868,897	7,716,380,250	2,746,623,000

The excess of expenditures over receipts in these budgets is covered by loans, the financial implications of which appear in the regular budget.

The extraordinary expenditures can be broken down into the following main categories:

I. Expenditures not provided for under the Ten-Year Plan

	<u>1949</u> (Estimates)	<u>1950</u> (Estimates)	<u>1951</u> (Estimates)
Investments	249,846,000	80,983,000	133,778,000
Acquisition of landed property and capital assets	60,769,375	4,286,000	8,533,000
Transport	2,494,843,462	-	-
Defence of the Colony	18,635,000	66,106,300	546,762,000
Miscellaneous	320,775,000	390,787,500	130,099,000

II. Expenditures for the fulfilment of the Ten-Year Plan

	<u>1949</u> (Estimates)	<u>1950</u> (Estimates)	<u>1951</u> (Estimates)
Transport	-	3,607,297,000	597,426,000
Scientific equipment and public services	-	967,011,800	835,680,000
Electricity and water supply	-	836,009,850	180,447,000
Education of the indigenous inhabitants	-	608,992,850	34,768,000
Hygiene and medical installations	-	760,236,800	42,129,000
Immigration and settlement	-	200,000,000	-
Agricultural development	-	194,670,000	237,001,000

The personal tax, income tax and native tax are direct taxes.

Personal tax is paid on the basis of buildings or land owned, the number of employees, the number of boats or vehicles owned, or the area of mining concessions.

As regards the income tax, the Decree of 10 November 1951 draws a clear distinction for the future between income from real estate, income from stocks and shares and professional income. Different rules apply to each of these types of income according to whether the taxpayer's domicile, headquarters or main administrative office is in Belgium or in the Colony.

/The net

The net income from the renting of buildings is taxed at a fixed rate of 15 per cent.

The tax on professional income is fixed at a standard rate of 25 per cent in respect of firms which do not have their headquarters either in the Colony or in Belgium, but engage in activities in the Colony.

For the purpose of assessing the taxation of firms having their headquarters in the Colony, the profits are divided into four blocks and the rate of taxation is fixed at 10, 15, 20 and 25 per cent respectively for each of these blocks.

The indigenous inhabitants are subject to income tax only if their net annual income exceeds 12,000 francs.

Native taxes consist of main tax, per capita varying from 2 to 150 francs according to the economic resources of the person concerned; to this tax all adult and able-bodied coloured males are liable. A supplementary tax is paid by men for each able-bodied wife except the first; this tax varies from 20 to 150 francs.

The territory is served by six banks. A new bank of issue has been set up, la Banque Centrale du Congo Belge et du Ruanda-Urundi, which will start operations on 1 July 1952.

International Trade

Imports and exports were as follows:

	<u>Imports</u>		<u>Exports</u>	
	Quantity (thousand tons)	Value (million francs)	Quantity (thousand tons)	Value (million francs)
1949	916	10,346	823	10,967
1950	879	9,633	915	13,631
1951	1,122	15,419	1,082	20,115

The most marked increase over the 1950 figures has been shown in the following products (imports in millions of francs):

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Food products and beverages	953	1,297
Mineral oils	347	547
Cement	110	200
Metals and special products	1,044	2,019
Mechanical machines and machine tools	1,796	2,789
Vehicles and spare parts	1,476	2,223
Clothing, underclothing and ready-made clothes	291	650
		/Total

Total imports for 1951 showed an increase of 27.66 per cent in tonnage and 60 per cent in value as compared with imports for 1950.

The increase in value is reflected chiefly in the manufactured products (15,252 million francs).

The percentages of imports by country of origin were as follows:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Belgium (Economic Union of Belgium and Luxembourg)	38.2	38.1	40.08
United States of America	27.8	24.8	22.34
United Kingdom	10.5	9.0	8.78

The value of the principal exports was (million francs):

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Vegetal products	6,418	9,684
Mineral products	6,665	9,769
Animal products	119	132
Manufactured and processed goods	175	290

The five principal exports according to value were (million francs):

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Copper	3,189	4,749
Other minerals	2,980	4,430
Diamonds	496	581
Oil (chiefly palm oil)	1,611	2,965
Fibres (chiefly cotton)	1,977	2,358
Coffee	1,279	1,710

In comparison with 1950, the tonnage of exports increased by 18.39 per cent and the value increased by 47.56 per cent. The substantial increase in value is due to the rise in prices on the world markets.

The percentages of goods exported to various countries were:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Belgium (Economic Union of Belgium and Luxembourg)	45.5	46.4	45.0
United States of America	8.9	9.5	8.7
United Kingdom	9.9	10.1	9.0

The entire Territory is part of the Conventional Basin of the Congo and therefore under an international regime of freedom of trade established by the Act of Berlin of 1885, and revised by the Convention of Saint-Germain-en-Laye of 1919.

/Preferential

Preferential treatment in respect of duties and customs does not exist. The customs system for the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi was co-ordinated and revised by the Decree of 29 January 1949. The tariffs for imports and exports were published as an annex to that Decree.

The Belgian Congo does not conclude commercial agreements. Export and import quotas have been assigned to the Congo under the agreements entered into by the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxembourg.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Status of Women

The status of the Congolese woman is not uniform and varies from tribe to tribe. Generally speaking, she has traditionally a less favourable status than that of men, but, in everyday life, practice by no means conforms to theory. The status of women is rapidly improving in centres inhabited by detribalized peoples who are becoming more and more individualistic. In many cases a woman occupies a position equal to that of her husband.

Labour and working conditions

Labour policy is aimed mainly at inducing indigenous inhabitants to make of their own free will a sustained effort to better their conditions. The Colonial Charter formally forbids compulsory labour by indigenous inhabitants for or on behalf of individuals and companies. Under various decrees, especially those of 15 June 1921 on workers' health and security, 16 March 1922 on work contracts, and 11 January 1922 on articles of apprenticeship for indigenous inhabitants, the Government closely supervises the recruitment of workers, regulates transport, feeding and health conditions, and measures for the acclimatization of workers. It protects workers against possible abuses by a work contract regulating the hiring, the services of workmen, employees and domestics, especially as regards duration, pay, food, security and health, and the duties of the employer and the employee.

/This colonial

This colonial policy aims at ensuring that economic development never occurs at the expense of the people's well-being and health. Generally speaking, the number of men employed in their regular place of residence may not exceed 15 per cent of the total able-bodied adult male population. The number of workers who may work in a place far away from their regular place of residence is limited to 10 per cent. Only 25 per cent of the able-bodied adult male population can therefore be engaged.

The Government has only one concern as regards non-indigenous workers - to ensure that they receive the same protection as workers in the metropolitan country receive under law. The new decree on work contracts, which came into force on 1 January 1950, tends indirectly to favour the local engagement of labour by compelling the employer to pay the travel expenses of the family of the employee engaged at a place far from his place of work.

The administrative services responsible for work inspection come under the direct authority of the Governor General, and consist of the following three sections:

A medical inspectorate whose medical officers supervise the health of the workers and the health conditions of their place of work.

A technical inspectorate staffed by engineers whose duty it is to prevent industrial accidents.

A labour inspectorate - which carries out all other non-specialized missions. There were fifteen labour inspectors and four engineer-inspectors on duty on 31 December 1951.

During the period 31 December 1949-31 December 1950, the number of indigenous workers rose from 892,515 to 962,009, an increase of 69,494 workers. These 962,009 workers represent 34.14 per cent of the population of "able-bodied men" and 30 per cent of the total male population.

This man-power was distributed as follows:

Agriculture	24.82	per cent
Mining	14.02	" "
Industries	12.83	" "
Trade	6.45	" "
Transport and management	6.46	" "
Building	8.82	" "
Offices	1.98	" "
Miscellaneous employees	24.62	" "

/Salaries and

Salaries and wages vary considerably. In 1951, in a large centre like Leopoldville a workman earned from 550 to 625 francs a month, a mason from 875 to 2,500 francs, a chauffeur from 750 to 2,200 francs, a domestic servant from 800 to 1,200 francs. Workmen and employees also receive a daily ration except in the higher-wage categories. Wages were lower in other areas. As regards the personnel employed by the Administration, wages varied during the same year from 15,000 francs a year for a third-class assistant clerk to 80,000 francs for an assistant editor. The State pays the lodging and medical expenses of its personnel and also provides family allowances: 200 francs a month for a wife and from 50 to 390 francs for each child, according to its age.

It should be noted that an official system of family allowances for indigenous workers was introduced by the decree of 26 May 1951. The amount of the allowance was fixed at half the value of the worker's ration for a wife, and at a quarter of the value of that ration for children.

There is an eight-hour working day, but the practice is not confirmed by any legislative act.

Very few migrant workers enter the Belgian Congo or go to work abroad. In the interior of the country 273,698 men were working outside their regular place of residence on 31 December 1950, as compared with 252,433 in 1949 and 256,858 in 1948.

Non-indigenous workers in the private sector numbered 11,365 on 1 January 1950. Generally speaking, these supervise indigenous workers and occupy administrative or supervisory posts. Monthly wages vary between 12,000 and 13,000 francs for male employees, and between 6,000 and 7,000 for female workers, who are generally unskilled.

The number of indigenous trades unions and of their members were as follows:

	<u>1949</u>		<u>1950</u>		<u>1951</u>	
	Number of Trades Unions	Number of members	Number of Trades Unions	Number of members	Number of Trades Unions	Number of members
Definitively constituted indigenous trades unions	40)		34)		40)	
Temporary trades unions)	4,000)	-)	5,175
	15)		2)		9)	

/There are

There are four professional associations of non-indigenous employees:

The General Federation of Trades Unionists (Confédération Générale des Syndiqués), attached to the Fédération générale du travail de Belgique, the Federation of Christian Trades Unions of the Congo, (Confédération des Syndicats Chrétiens du Congo), the Professional Association of Agents of the Lower Congo Railway Company, Katanga (Association professionnelle des agents de la compagnie de chemin de fer du Bas-Congo au Katanga) and the Association of Officials and Agents of the Colony (Associations de fonctionnaires et agents de la Colonie). There are also many employers' associations, the most important being the Association of Industrial Undertakings of the Congo (Association des intérêts industriels au Congo), which comprises ninety business concerns, many chambers of commerce and various colonists' associations.

A series of ordinances promulgated in 1946 govern relations between employers and native workers. On 31 December 1950 there were 525 indigenous business councils (composed of the employer and of 3 to 12 members of the indigenous staff), 71 indigenous workers' committees (composed of 7 to 12 indigenous workers, half of whom, at least, belonged to work councils and trades unions); 19 regional commissions (composed of 3 representatives of the Administration, 3 to 5 employers' representatives and 3 to 5 workers' representatives), and 6 provincial indigenous work and social progress commissions (which have the same composition as the preceding ones).

The settlement of work disputes is governed by the decree of 27 June 1944, setting up conciliation and arbitration committees. The procedure is optional. There was no collective stoppage of work of more than one day's duration during 1950.

Co-operative Societies

The setting up and development of native co-operatives are directed mainly by the Administration, through the joint action of the provincial services of indigenous business undertakings and workers on the one hand and the local territorial authorities on the other.

A sum of 14,500,000 francs was set aside in the 1951 budget for the granting of loans for setting up co-operatives. There are 26 producers' co-operatives with a membership of 47,323, 8 artisans' co-operatives with a membership of 545 and 5 food co-operatives with a membership of 3,277 members.

Standard of living

The retail prices of some native foodstuffs in Léopoldville are as follows:

	<u>1949</u> <u>Congo francs</u>	<u>1950</u> <u>Congo francs</u>	<u>1951</u> <u>Congo francs</u>
Palm oil (per 75 centilitres)	6.--	12.--	11.50
Beans (per kilogramme)	6.--	8.--	11.--
Shelled peanuts (per kilogramme)	6.--	8.--	12.--
Corn flour (per kilogramme)	2.50	2.50	--
Manioc flour (per kilogramme)	3.50	3.50	4.50
Chikwanges (per kilogramme)	2.--	2.--	3.--

Basing themselves on two theoretical typical budgets, one for a European family with an average income, the other for an emancipated Congolese family, the joint commissions have drawn up two index numbers, one for 1935 and the other for 1948, reflecting the variations in the general price level.

Rise in the cost of living index for Europeans (basic year: 1935)

<u>Period</u>	<u>Global Index</u>
1935	100
1. 7. 1944	196.18
1.10. 1950	259.813
1. 1. 1951	265.458
1. 4. 1951	273.959
1. 7. 1951	290.475
1.10. 1951	293.293

Rise in the cost of living index for the Congolese (basic year: 1948)

<u>Period</u>	<u>Global Index</u>
1. 1. 1948	100
1.11. 1950	111.518
1. 5. 1951	120.907
1. 8. 1951	126.264
1.11. 1951	128.634

Congolese national revenue in 1950 was estimated at 33,000,000,000 francs.

Housing and town and country planning

The indigenous population of the rural districts generally continues to live in traditional types of dwellings adapted to climatic conditions. The very rapid growth of the population in the large centres has led to over-crowded housing conditions.

Employers are bound to provide accommodation for indigenous workers whose regular place of residence is more than five kilometres from their place of work. An ordinance of April 1949 improved the minimum standards of such accommodation.

The Government grants loans to indigenous inhabitants who wish to build dwellings of durable material in urban centres and districts. The total amount of money placed at the disposal of the various bodies for granting loans amounted at the end of 1951 to 132 million francs.

Township or extra-tribal centre offices were set up in 1949 with a view to the cheap mass construction of dwellings of durable materials. The sum expended by these offices amounted to 139 million francs by the end of 1951.

Social welfare and security

Various services are responsible for social welfare and security: the Medical Service (Service médical) (medical assistance); Indigenous Manpower (Main-d'oeuvre indigène) (social welfare and work relating at the same time to indigenous manpower and population); Labour and Social Insurance (Travail et prévoyance Sociale) (preparation of regulations governing working conditions and social insurance), Work Inspection (Inspection du travail) (control of working conditions).

The social welfare service has a central office in the Ministry of the Colonies, a central office in the Governor-General's office (control and inspection of social welfare centres) and provincial offices (same duties at the provincial level).

There are at present 25 social welfare centres of which 7 are official and 18 are managed by recognized private associations. The staff comprises 66 trained social workers and 32 assistant social workers. In 1951 the operating costs of these centres amounted to 20 million francs and building expenses to 15 million. Their programme of work included the organization of youth and leisure, the

/setting

setting up of peoples' restaurants and the organization of household and child welfare courses. The visiting nurse attached to the social welfare centre organizes ante-natal and infant welfare consultations and visits recently confined women in their homes.

Under the decree of 6 December 1950 delinquent children receive special treatment as regards punishment and rehabilitation.

Campaign against crime and the treatment of delinquents

The information submitted relates only to offences dealt with by the district courts and courts of first instance, and not by police courts and indigenous courts.

Criminal statistics

Description of offence	Number of convictions					
	<u>1949</u>		<u>1950</u>		<u>1951</u>	
	<u>Non-indigenous</u>	<u>Indi-genous</u>	<u>Non-indigenous</u>	<u>Indi-genous</u>	<u>Non-indigenous</u>	<u>Indi-genous</u>
Assassination and murder (including attempts)		339	1	350	3	322
Wilful assault and battery	105	820	184	4,967	183	6,549
Accidental homicide or wounding	41	338	58	500	113	925
Attempts against personal freedom (violation of domicile, arbitrary detention)	11	107	38	366	13	454
Theft and extortion	12	2,422	19	9,952	13	14,126
Other offences	265	2,961	173	11,740	180	13,644

The Government has just set up a new penitentiary system to ensure the better re-education of convicted persons by the following means: a more strict segregation of convicted persons, organization of workshops and of land cultivation, use of an expert staff.

/The system

The system of release on licence (libération conditionnelle) is applied to all convicted persons with a good conduct record on condition that they served a quarter of their sentence and have been imprisoned for more than three months.

Public health

The Health Service (Service de l'Hygiène) consists of a Chief Medical Officer in Léopoldville, who is in charge of the Service and is assisted by a Chief Pharmacist, and of a Provincial Medical Officer, assisted by a pharmacist, in each province. The provincial medical services are divided into sections for public health, resident or travelling medical practitioners, and doctors and study and research specialists. A laboratory for bacteriological and serological diagnosis is to be found in every province. Some of these laboratories are equipped for the preparation of vaccines.

The medical staff of the Government, together with that of voluntary organizations, private societies and missions, comprised:

	<u>Government</u>	<u>Mission</u>	<u>Private Enterprises</u>
1. Registered physicians	263	54	195
Licensed physicians	none	none	none
Special categories	none	none	none
Medical assistants	443	101	99
2. Nurses of senior training	61	486	72
Certificated nurses	none	none	none
Partially trained nurses, male nurses, and nursing assistants	3,129	none	none
3. Midwives of senior training	See figures in 2		
Certificated midwives	none	none	none
Partially trained midwives	192	none	none
4. Sanitary inspectors	none	none	none
5. Laboratory and X-ray technicians	none	none	none
6. Pharmacists	12	none	35
7. Others			
Dentists	7	none	23
Biologists	3	none	none
Health wardens	67	none	none

/The budget

The budget of the Public Health Service was as follows (Congo francs):

<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
388,256,000	459,739,000	561,432,000

In addition, 802,365,800 francs were allocated under extraordinary budgets for the three year period 1950-51-52.

Establishments (Government and Private)

	<u>Number of Establishments</u>	<u>Number of Beds</u>
1. Hospitals:		
General hospitals	306	24,934
2. Dispensaries:		
(a) Exclusively for out-patients	520	none
(b) Having beds for cases not sufficiently serious for hospitalization	869	14,429
	<u>In general hospitals</u>	<u>In dispensaries</u>
		<u>As separate units</u>
3. Specialized units:		
(a) Maternity and child welfare centres	306	66
(b) Tuberculosis	9	none
(c) Venereal disease	2	none
(d) Leprosaria	none	85
(e) Mental institutions	1	2
(f) Others		
Laboratories	none	8
Public health stations	none	8
4. Mobile units:	<u>Number of units</u>	<u>Total staff</u>
"Mass Chest Survey"	2	4

The Belgian State diploma or a recognized equivalent is required for physicians, dentists, midwives, pharmacists and druggists. Native medical personnel are fully trained in the Belgian Congo in specially established schools, the curricula of which are gradually trying to attain the level of higher studies. In 1950, there were three schools for the training of medical assistants with a total of 79 students, 7 schools of nursing with 441 students, one school for

/nurse-midwives

nurse-midwives, 40 schools for nursing assistants with a total of 708 students, several schools for midwives' assistants with 156 students, and 4 schools for health wardens with an enrolment of 21.

Accurate vital statistics are not available for the Territory as a whole. In 1951, a demographic investigation of two hundred and fifty groups consisting of 375,145 natives yielded the following results:

Birth rate: 30.9 per 1,000

Death rate: 22.88 per cent

Infant mortality: 102.5 per cent

Statistics on diseases

<u>Principal Diseases</u>	<u>Number of Cases</u>
Malaria	At least 50 per cent of population
Syphilis	95,770
Leprosy	70,000
Tuberculosis	7,800
Bilharziasis	9,000
Amoebic dysentery	8,554
Vitamin deficiencies	9,725

As regards hygiene and public health, the drinking water problem has been solved for more than half the European population and almost one million natives in large urban centres. A water-borne sewage disposal system has not yet been adopted in the towns. The provision of drinking water for Native tribal concentrations has been entrusted to the Native Welfare Fund, one department of which concerns itself with well-drilling and spring-tapping.

Among current health problems is that of the compulsory co-operation of the Native authorities in the measures intended to combat epidemic and endemic diseases. Apart from collective obligations in this field, the indigenous population is also required to comply with rules of personal hygiene. They must keep their dwellings and surroundings perfectly clean, eliminate mosquito breeding grounds, sink wells for drinking water and construct latrines.

The medical services have initiated an extensive plan of campaign against malaria and onchocercic-filariasis by spraying DDT in homes and from aircraft. It has been possible to intensify measures against leprosy by the use of new,

/very active

very active medicaments obtained by the Native Welfare Fund. Continuing use is being made of B.C.G. vaccination in the campaign against tuberculosis, and facilities for the treatment of lung diseases are being developed in the chief hospital centres.

As regards native maternity and child welfare, modern maternity homes are provided, under the direction of one or more medical officers assisted by European nurse-midwives and native midwives. Most of the rural dispensaries also have a maternity home run by a European nurse-midwife. All the maternity homes provide for pre- and post-natal consultations. Every town of any size has a pediatrics centre in charge of pediatricians.

EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

General

The aim of the Government's educational policy is to educate all young people; to prepare them for life either inside or outside their traditional communities; to train an elite class; to adapt education to local conditions keeping in mind the aspirations of the indigenous population, and to reduce illiteracy among adults.

The Government strives to avoid concentrating too much on the elite at the expense of the education of the bulk of the population, and conversely to avoid neglecting the training of the elite by devoting too much of its attention to the mass of the population. It wants to build a homogeneous social structure in which the advanced groups will not be isolated in the midst of a large mass of uneducated persons.

Public education for natives is free in all schools. It is not compulsory. Education for Europeans is neither free nor compulsory.

Educational Administration

A General Directorate of Education, Public Worship and Missions (Direction générale de l'enseignement, des cultes et des missions) has general charge of education. It consists of general education sections for Europeans and scientific institutions and for natives, public worship and missions, and

/sections

sections in charge of vocational training for natives. Provincial education services exist in each province. Inspection of schools is conducted both by the Government and by the missions. There are some thirty missionary inspectors. The official inspectorate comprises a chief inspector and two inspectors attached to the education services of each of the Territory's six provinces. An engineer with special qualifications in technical education supervises the implementation of the programme to reform technical education.

The extensive system of schools is the result of co-operation between the Government and the religious missions. All education for natives is in the hands of missions, whose work is helped by subsidies, free land concessions and a liberal religious policy. Educational subsidies hitherto reserved for Belgian missions, whether Catholic or Protestant, have, since 1 January 1948, been made available to foreign missions of any denomination. The large industrial and commercial companies have also organized schools for the general education and vocational training of indigenous children.

The budget for education was, as follows (in francs):

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Ordinary expenditure	205,650,000	191,786,000	201,904,000
Extraordinary expenditure for construction	<u>32,000,000</u>	<u>202,997,000</u>	<u>202,997,000</u>
Total	237,650,000	394,783,000	404,901,000

Expenditure by missions, voluntary organizations, private associations and native districts is not included in the above credits. The contribution by the Native Welfare Fund amounted to Fr. 42,170,000 for 1951. In 1947 expenditure on education for Europeans amounted to Fr. 83,247,000, Fr. 47,000,000 of which was for construction.

Structure of the educational system

Education for European children is provided in infant and primary schools and secondary institutions (public secondary schools, colleges and institutes). There are either recently established Government schools or subsidized denominational institutions conducted by religious communities. The curricula

/of these

of these institutions correspond as closely as possible to the curricula in Belgium with some adaptation to the colonial environment, more particularly in the case of post-primary instruction for girls in certain subsidized schools. There is no organized higher education for European young people in the Belgian Congo. The language of instruction is French; the study of Flemish as a second language is encouraged to the greatest possible extent.

The Government considers that it is in the interests of the native peoples to have their own educational structure, taking into account their environment, needs and languages. French is used as the first language of instruction and as the language of instruction in intermediate schools for general education and secondary modern and classical schools. The native language takes first place in the remaining schools. Special attention is paid to local culture at all levels of education.

A university centre is being established at Kisantu under the auspices of the University of Louvain. By an agreement with the Government concluded in March 1950, the Centre universitaire congolais Lovanium has undertaken to organize higher education for the indigenous inhabitants in the Belgian Congo, starting with the special schools already set up at Kisantu in the Lower Congo. A school of medicine, a school of agronomy, a school of administrative science, and a training college for middle and secondary school teachers are to be provided. The problem of opportunities for higher education in Belgium has not arisen, since there are no students who could suitably continue their education at a university, although there is no objection in principle.

Teaching about the United Nations has been ensured by the distribution of the pamphlet "Notions sur l'ONU à l'usage des écoles du Congo belge" to all post-primary and central primary schools.

The main educational statistics are given below. The number of school-age children stands at 2,100,000 native and 8,500 non-native. At December 1950, about 37 per cent of the population was able to read and approximately 63 per cent was illiterate out of a total of 11,331,793.

/Number of

Number of schools

Schools	Government			Subsidized			Non-subsidized			Total
	Boys	Girls	Mixed	Boys	Girls	Mixed	Boys	Girls	Mixed	
1. Nursery and pre-paratory schools	-	-	7			261			1149	1417
2. Primary schools										
(a) of first degree	6	}	-	}	10	7425	}	17370	}	26170
(b) of second degree						1359				
3. Secondary or post-primary schools										
(a) secular	9	-	-	29	70		22	31		161
(b) for clergy	-	-	-				67	38		105
4. Vocational schools	4	-	-	47	-	-		56		107
5. Teacher training	-	-	-	85	25	-	15			125
6. Preparation for higher education at the "Lovanium" Centre	-	-	-	1	-	-				1
7. Higher education for clergy	-	-	-				4			4
	19	-	17	162	95	9045	86	22	18644	28090

/Number of

Number of pupils

	<u>Government schools</u>		<u>Subsidized schools</u>		<u>Independent schools</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	
1. Nursery and pre- paratory schools	365		13,751		31,953		45,889
2. Primary schools							
(a) of first degree	4,753		334,774		440,750		897,605
(b) of second degree			117,348				
3. Secondary or post- primary schools							
(a) secular	523	-	1,725	1,620	1,368	1,690	6,926
(b) for clergy	-	-	-	-		3,086	3,086
4. Vocational schools							
(a) in the Territory	491	-	1,534	-	1,757	-	3,782
(b) in the Metro- politan country	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Teacher training	-	-	3,985	643	300	-	5,128
6. Preparation for higher education at the "Lovanium" Centre	-	-	79	-	-	-	79
7. Higher education							
(a) in the Territory (for clergy)	-	-	-	-	317	-	317
(b) in the Metro- politan country	-	-	-	-			
(c) elsewhere	-	-	-	-			
	6,112		475,479		482,221		962,812

/Teaching

Teaching staff

	<u>Government schools</u>		<u>Subsidized schools</u>		<u>Independent schools</u>	
	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
1. Nursery and preparatory schools	8			326		
2. Primary schools						
(a) of first degree	105	(8)	15,606	(955)		
(b) of second degree						
3. Secondary schools						
(a) secular	71 (34)	-	117 (86)	129 (61)	22,001	
(b) for clergy	-	-	-	-	(944)	
4. Vocational schools	38 (15)	-	162 (54)			
5. Teacher training	-	-	222 (189)			
6. Preparation for higher education at the "Lovanium" Centre	-	-	9	(9)		
7. Higher education	-	-	-	-		
	222 (57)		16,571 (1,354)		22,001 (944)	

Note: The number of non-native teachers is indicated in brackets.

Adult education

In 1950 there were 115 schools for adults with an average daily attendance of 7,531 students. These figures do not include the various private and missionary institutions for which the Administration has no specific data.

School buildings and equipment

The rural elementary schools are temporary buildings. Buildings for post-primary and secondary, and for most primary central schools, are of permanent construction. They are often supplemented by sports and educational facilities.

/Youth

Youth organizations

Most active among youth associations are the boy-scout movement, represented by the Fédération des éclaireurs catholiques du Congo belge and the Boy-Scouts de Belgique (500 members) and sports clubs (20,000 members). These societies are liberally subsidized by the Government.

Cultural institutions

There are 200 public libraries, with a total of 75,000 volumes and an annual circulation of 21,500 books.

Cultural institutions include study groups, drama groups, musical societies, lectures and broadcasts with native speakers which are specially designed for the indigenous population.

There are three ethnographic and ethnological museums and one geological museum. The association Amis de l'art indigène organizes an annual competition of arts and crafts. Art workshops have been established. Literary competitions have been organized. To preserve folk-lore, native songs and dances have been recorded and films have been made on the subject of native dances and crafts.

Mass communications

There are 55 current periodicals for the indigenous inhabitants, 15 of which are published in French and 40 in native dialects. Six of these publications are supported by the Government, 43 by religious missions and 6 are privately published.

Two hundred film projectors exist throughout the country and the Government has organized two mobile groups for each province with a view to providing shows in bush villages.

Broadcasting, consisting of a daily broadcast of two hours' duration, is done from Léopoldville. The broadcast, which is both for educational and entertainment purposes, is made in French and in the four main Congo dialects.
