c. Such provision of literature in other vernaculars as will provide for Christian instruction and worship and form a bridge to the main vernacular of the region or to a lingua franca.

Decisions on priorities within this three-fold programme must be taken at area level; a continent-wide decision is not possible.

Where the lingua franca is a European language, a new literature must be written from within the social and cultural life of the region, some of it being in a simple version.

Encouragement should be given to the development of union vernaculars, and the policy of Bible translation into very small vernaculars should be kept under review by the Bible Societies and the Churches.

Research is required into the social dynamics of populations and into the changing nature of particular languages.

A Church working in a minor language area will consider it as a main language; nothing in this report should be considered as preventing such a Church serving itself in literature from its own resources as it may deem wise and be able to do so.

Simple English

The Conference notes the need for Christian literature in extremely simple English for school children, for many school-leavers and for certain adults. We ask the Christian Literature Council of the British Conference of Missionary Societies to have prepared a report on the guidance already available from different sources about the writing of English at this level.

SIMPLE ENGLISH

The following is a brief extract concerning the writing of theological books in simple English, taken from an article entitled "Theological Books for Africa" by Miss F. M. Dearing, which appeared in Books for Africa, *January 1962, pp. 5-7. We are grateful to the editor of this publication and the author of the article for permission to reprint this extract. Ed.*

No work of this kind can be done in isolation. The more people there are who care about the problem and who are willing to co-operate and make suggestions, the better. Above all, an African contribution is necessary. Any new writing or translation should be tested widely for its worth in communicating the Christian truths it contains. "Simple" English is not really enough. The English of *Africa* is needed; the English which is becoming a living African language alongside the vernacular tongues, which borrows expressions from everyday life in Africa, and which conveys, in terse and telling phrases as well as in elaborate metaphor, the ideas which move the hearts and minds of men and women.