

PREFACE

In response to a recommendation of the Seventh Commonwealth Education Conference which urged the Commonwealth Secretariat to publish a resource book on science materials produced in various countries, the Education Division commissioned this study as the first of a series of publications describing the work so far undertaken in this field in various parts of the Commonwealth. It highlights trends in science education - particularly physics and integrated science - in the Commonwealth Caribbean which emphasise the use of the environment as a resource and attempts to relate science education closely to national development.

The book supplements efforts so far undertaken by the Secretariat to promote the development and use of low-cost science teaching equipment in member countries - efforts which include the collection and dissemination of ideas and practical experience among member states. The present publication takes the process one more step forward.

We are indebted to Judith Reay of the University of the West Indies for preparing this survey and are delighted to record our appreciation. In offering it to member states, it is our hope that it will stimulate educational administrators not only in the Commonwealth Caribbean but indeed all who are concerned with science education, to re-examine these issues in the light of their own experience so as to carry forward the challenge of making science education more closely an instrument of the development needs of member countries in the 1980s.

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