

Conference Sets Programme for 1948

"UNESCO MONTH" ATTRACTS THOUSANDS OF VISITORS TO MEXICAN CAPITAL

DURING a month marked by physical strife and bitter verbal exchanges throughout much of the world, Mexico City was host to one of the most important efforts for peace and international understanding since the war: the Second Session of the Unesco General Conference.

Delegates from forty member states and official observers from scores of international groups attended the Conference at which Unesco's activities during 1947 were appraised and a world programme of action was formulated for 1948. The meetings were held at the "Escuela Nacional de Maestros" on the outskirts of Mexico City, an ultra-modern, highly functional structure which was completed on the eve of the opening session. Nearly three thousand Mexican workmen and artisans laboured throughout the night of November 5-6 to prepare the school for use as the site of an international conference.

The school was built to house nearly 12,000 students, and included libraries, museums, gymnasium and industrial training workshops. It was, to all observers, symbolic of Mexico's great effort to modernise and strengthen its educational system. The opening session of the Conference was held in the resplendent "Palacio de Bellas Artes" in the heart of Mexico City. More than 2,500 delegates, observers, members of the Unesco Secretariat and visitors heard President Miguel Aleman of Mexico welcome the Conference, and sound a solemn note of warning which was the keynote of the month-long meetings.

"We are met," he declared, "at a crucial moment for humanity." President Aleman urged the assembled delegates to strive for the creation of a "mind for peace" as an antidote to the tensions which are a stumbling block to international cooperation. "I consider the work of Unesco in the field of Education, Science and Culture to be on the way to developing and strengthening the moral spirit of the world, on which the love of peace must rest."

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M. MARITAIN CALLS FOR UNITY

The text of the Unesco Appeal (printed in the adjoining column) was placed before the General Conference by the President of the French Delegation, M. Jacques Maritain. It is based upon the principles expounded at the beginning of the Conference by the famous French philosopher, who declared:

"We meet at a particularly grave moment in the world's history. In face of international tension and growing antagonism, the danger of which it would be vain to underestimate, vast sections of public opinion risk abandoning themselves to the idea of the inevitability of war."

"What makes Unesco's task seem at first paradoxical is that it presupposes unity of thought among men whose conceptions are different and even opposed. However deep we go there is no longer any common basis for speculative thought. In these conditions is unity of thought conceivable?"

This unity is possible, answered M. Maritain, because Unesco's ends are practical ones: "Agreement may still result spontaneously, not from a common speculative philosophy but from a common practical philosophy. This is enough to launch a great enterprise".

The Teachers' Normal School, was the seat of Unesco's 1947 General Conference. The school is one of the largest and most modern buildings in Mexico.

To Our Readers

With this issue we begin the publication of Unesco Courier, a periodical designed to inform the public of the activities of the Specialised Agency of the United Nations for Education, Science and Culture.

The Unesco Monitor will henceforth be reserved for the publication of official texts, resolutions and proceedings of the Organisation.

This first issue of Unesco Courier is devoted entirely to the work of the recent General Conference of Unesco, held in Mexico City between November 6 and December 3, 1947, and the programme adopted for 1948.

Highlights of Projects and Budget for 2nd Year

The Second Session of Unesco's General Conference was the first to permit a review of progress made by the Organisation. It was the first opportunity for Unesco to weigh its development with the measure of actual experience.

It was also the first Unesco Conference to be held away from the headquarters in Paris, which fact gave rise to many complex and delicate problems. At the same time, the Conference—dedicated to strengthening the forces of peace—convened during international conditions which were, to say the least, very troubled.

Any fears or unhappy anticipations were dispelled, however, by the great goodwill, the willingness for hard work and the earnest and continuous desire to co-operate which were manifest during the meeting.

The 1948 budget was among the first items on the Conference agenda. For this year, a ceiling of eight million dollars was placed initially on the overall Unesco

budget. This innovation enabled the working parties and the Programme and Budget Commission to draft their projects within the budgetary limits designated. The final budget, as ultimately adopted by the plenary session of the Conference, was fixed at \$7,682,637.

The 1948 Unesco programme, subject of detailed study and discussion at the Conference, was divided into six main chapters. These, with the sums for each are as follows:

Reconstruction	\$614,141
Communication	\$1,714,722
Education	\$854,551
Cultural Interchange ...	\$530,237
Social and Human Relations	\$327,236
Natural Sciences	\$918,926

These allocations total \$4,959,813 for 1948, leaving something over two million dollars for administrative purposes, for the next session of the General Conference,

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Unesco Appeal War not Inevitable

A solemn appeal was addressed by the Unesco Conference to "all those concerned with the dignity of man and the future of civilisation" to combat the forces which "threaten a just and lasting peace".

Voted by acclamation and endorsed by delegates from forty nations, the resolution reads:

The representatives of Education, Science and Culture, meeting together at Mexico City at the Unesco General Conference:

AWARE of the responsibilities imposed upon them by the Constitution of the Organisation to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law, for human rights, and the fundamental freedoms of the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion;

CONCERNED at the dangers to peace resulting from currents of thought conducive to the idea that another war is inevitable;

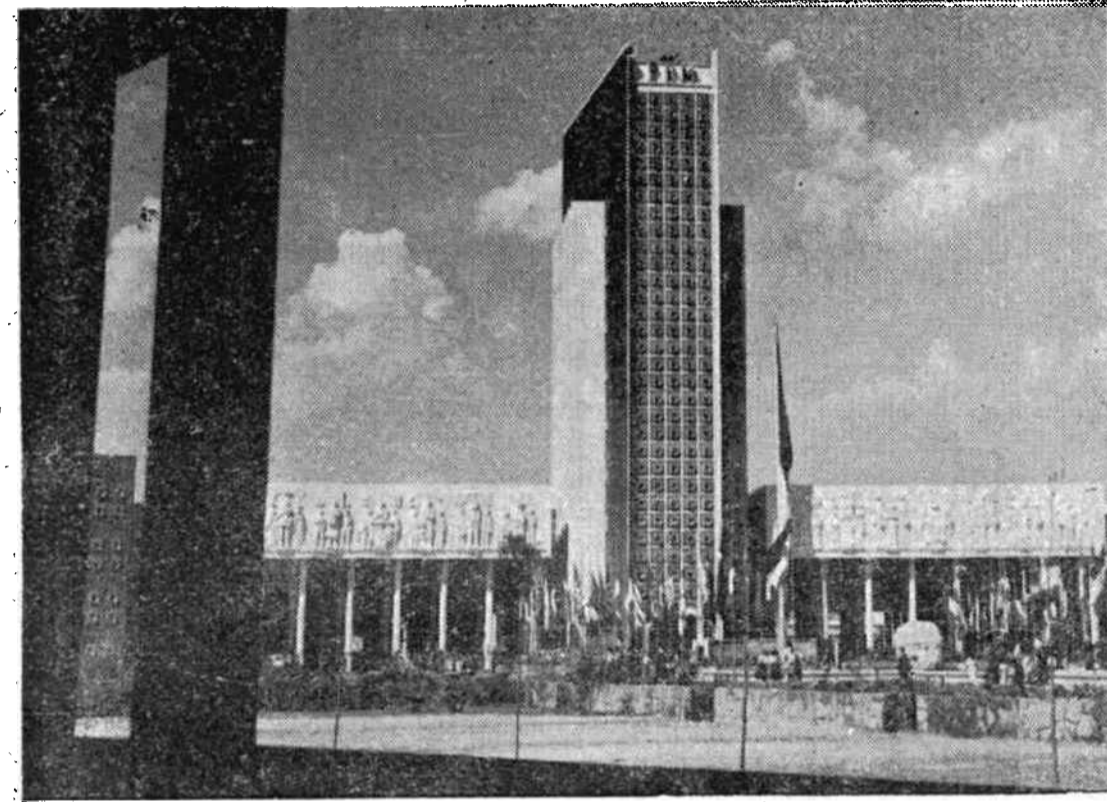
TROUBLED by the indifference, resignation and even calm acceptance which such currents of thought meet in certain sections of public opinion;

address a solemn appeal to all who are concerned for the dignity of Man and the future of civilisation, particularly educationalists, scientists, artists, writers and journalists throughout the world;

adjure them to denounce the pernicious idea that war is inevitable;

to act as the mouthpiece of the conscience of the nations, refusing collective suicide;

to combat, by every means in their power, surrender to fear and every form of thought or action which may threaten a just and lasting peace.



Dr Huxley Pays Tribute To Mexico

At the close of the Second General Conference of Unesco I feel I must express my very deep satisfaction and also my regret: satisfaction at the results achieved, due in large measure to the congenial atmosphere surrounding the Conference, and regret at leaving this unique country—with its wonderful climate and scenery, and remarkable, above all, for the character of the young race which inhabits it—a melting pot in which two old and vigorous cultures have been fused.

We have found an inspiration and an example to follow in the spectacle of a country which, in the midst of a troubled world, has preserved its serenity and has done more than any other in launching a vast campaign against illiteracy, aimed at developing strong and healthy minds in men who tomorrow will be the defenders of peace.

The Conference held in Mexico City has demonstrated clearly the benefits to be derived from the idea that Unesco should come into direct contact with all different cultures.

In the past month we have seen that what might be considered visionary is reality. We have seen living together in your beautiful country, united by the same ideal, men and women of different races, cultures, languages, ideologies and religions, all working together towards a common goal. And this, it must be fully recognised, has been made possible largely by the unbounded generosity of the Mexican Government and people.

For the moment I am not speaking of all the material facilities provided for us, including the splendid building put at our disposal for the Conference headquarters, but of the arduous preliminary work carried out by His Excellency the President, Licenciado Miguel Aleman, thanks to which nearly all Latin America has been represented in this Assembly; and of the example I spoke of a moment ago of those people who are doing so much to carry education and culture to the most inaccessible

parts of their country. This has been a powerful stimulus to those of us who seek to spread them to the remotest corners of the earth.

It has been an honour for me and for all of us to have as the President of the Conference Licenciado Don Manuel Gual Vidal, the Minister of Public Education of the Mexican Government, who has spared no effort to ensure the success of the meeting.

We shall never forget the generous hospitality of the Government or our warm welcome from the whole people.

Neither can I omit to mention the valuable co-operation given us by the Mexican press, I think I am not mistaken in saying that the whole press of the country was interested in our work, as well as a large group of foreign correspondents, representing the principal newspapers of the world. The work done by the correspondents of the Mexican papers has been a help for which Unesco can never be sufficiently grateful.

We have laid here the foundations of a new spirit of universal co-operation, which constitutes a guarantee of peace; and in clasping the hand of the intellectuals of Mexico we have shared with them the grave responsibility for watching over the world we hope to build for future generations.

And so, as we take our leave we cannot say goodbye, for we carry away with us the conviction that Mexico lives side by side with the rest of the world and that the Englishman, the Chinese, the Japanese, the Pole, the Australian, simply because they are men of goodwill, are giving reality to the ideals pursued by Mexico, which are the ideals of all right-minded peoples of the world.

Julian Huxley

NATURAL SCIENCES

PRACTICAL STEPS FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION AMONG SCIENTISTS

The importance of international co-operation in the natural sciences, pure and applied, both as an essential element in an integrated world civilisation, and as an immediate factor for peace, was given great emphasis by Unesco's General Conference. The successes already achieved in the natural sciences during 1947 serve as a firm foundation for continued and expanded activities in 1948.

The Field Science Co-operation Offices System

A system of Field Science Co-operation Offices was put into operation in 1947. The aim of these offices is to link together in every possible way the scientists and technologists of the countries less advanced in modern science and technology, with their colleagues in the more highly developed countries to facilitate international co-operation in science. During 1948 the highest priority has been placed on the maintenance of offices now functioning in the Middle East, Far East and Latin America and on the establishment of a new office in South Asia.

By

Dr. Joseph Needham

The office in Latin America will be closely co-ordinated with the project of the International Institute of the Hylean Amazon. A panel of Latin America experts is to be convened to advise on the best ways in which the development of science in Latin America can be assisted in the future.

The Middle East office has been most successful and has rendered useful services to scientists in this area including Alexandria, Cairo, Teheran and Baghdad.

The Far East Office, which at present serves China and the Philippines, is taking over UNRRA's engineering education programme in China which involves supervision of the distribution of 2,000,000 U.S. dollars worth of engineering equipment to Engineering colleges.

The South Asia office will serve Burma, Siam, Indonesia as well as India and, it is expected, will receive the same enthusiastic support accorded to the other offices already established.

Aid to International Scientific Organisations

This is the second of the two main pillars of the programme. If the first pillar, the Field Science Co-operation Offices, are the Missions, the international scientific and technological organisations are the Church. Since scientific knowledge is inherently international, and the accumulation of new knowledge is tremendously aided by international co-operation, scientists are particularly well fitted to demonstrate how people of all countries can work together on concrete problems. To extend and maintain the effectiveness of international non-governmental scientific organisations already in existence, grants-in-aid and other similar forms of assistance will be given during 1948.

Attention will be especially directed toward encouraging the creation of suitable organisations of scientists in the applied fields of engineering, agriculture and medicine where they do not already exist, since in pure science there is the International Council of Scientific Unions which, together with the Unions it federates, has proven of great effectiveness. As in the pure sciences, the engineering sciences are the sole responsibility of Unesco among the Specialised Agencies of the United Nations.

In the fields of agricultural and medical sciences Unesco will continue to work in close co-operation on problems of common interest with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the World Health Organisation Interim Commission (WHOIC). In particular, the World Health Organisation Interim Commission has been asked for full co-operation with Unesco's efforts to establish a Permanent Co-ordinating Bureau of Medical Sciences Organisations.

A sum of \$240,000 has been allocated for assistance in the form of grants-in-aid to scientific organisations to cover transportation of outstanding scientists to international conferences, the publication of invaluable reports and journals, and to assist in the operation of

established international laboratories and the maintenance of stockrooms of special materials and biological specimens.

Popularisation of Science

During 1948, in co-operation with appropriate international organisations, a report on the popularising work of existing national organisations will be prepared and circulated to Member States in order to encourage the establishment of organisations for this purpose in countries not possessing them. Steps will also be taken to stimulate the preparation and exchange, by various agencies, of material that will contribute to the popularisation of science.

In the popularisation of the social and international implications of science, the primary problem is the correct evaluation of implications, usually in the face of very complex situations. The achievement of the objectives of the United Nations and of its specialised agencies depends to a considerable extent on a knowledge of the international significance of a mass of scientific and technological developments—not only of recent key discoveries and inventions, but also of those that have accumulated over the last several decades.

In 1948 Unesco will promote basic research on the social relations of science through its fellowship programme and other available means. It will request all Member States, National Commissions and Co-operating Bodies to initiate throughout each country group discussions and debates on the social and international implications of a scientific subject to be proposed by Unesco. The results of these discussions will be analysed and given the widest distribution possible.

During the year steps will be continued toward the ultimate preparation (by suitable scholars) of books which will provide, for the general and specialist reader, a wider understanding of the scientific and cultural aspects of the history of mankind, of the mutual interdependence of peoples and cultures and of their contributions to the common heritage.

Emergency Aid

To-day, thousands of scientific workers in devastated countries are still out of action for lack of the simplest chemicals and apparatus. As far as Unesco's own funds and funds from outside sources permit, every assistance will be given to bring about scientific reconstruction and rehabilitation.

The World Liaison Centre For Science

Preparations were initiated in 1947 and will be continued in 1948 for setting up and operating a Scientific Apparatus Information Bureau for assisting experimentalists in devastated countries, those in regions served by the Field Science Co-operation Offices and, in special cases, in countries with a high degree of active scientific research. This Bureau will also make contributions, in co-operation with other international bodies, toward the standardisation and rationalisation of experimental and teaching apparatus.

Unesco has accepted the invitation of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations to participate in the preparations for, and deliberations of, the Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilisation of Resources scheduled to be held in 1949. Related to this forthcoming conference will be Unesco's preparation during 1948 for convening in 1949 an International Conference on the Protection of Nature.

In 1948 Unesco plans to convene a conference in Paris to consider the establishment and maintenance of high altitude research stations for the study of the effects of high altitudes on life and of physical phenomena observable only at high altitudes.

What Is the Hylean Amazon?

More than 7 million square kilometres comprise the Hylean Amazon, in a region of great forests (the world Hylean—from the Greek, Hyle—signifies forest, wood) of virtually untapped natural resources.

During 1948 it is expected that all necessary steps for bringing the Institute into being will be accomplished. Unesco will prepare a draft convention for submission to the Member States which will partake in the permanent operation of the Institute, and to international organisations interested in its field of work. While final formation of the Institute is being completed, Unesco is prepared to devote \$55,000 toward the carrying out of broad surveys of the Hylean Amazon in anthropology, soil science and biology; co-ordinate the activities of the Latin America Field Station with the project, and prepare the basis of co-operative effort with other institutions interested in this and similar areas of the globe.

A Conference for the establishment of the Institute will be held in Peru and Brazil in the spring. In 1947 the Brazilian Government, in collaboration with Unesco, called a conference on the Hylean Amazon project at Belem do Para which was attended by representatives from ten countries. These countries were Brazil, Bolivia, Columbia, Ecuador, British, French and Dutch Guiana, Peru, Venezuela and the United States. In addition there were delegates from the Inter-American Institute of Tropical Agriculture, the Pan-American Sanitary Bureau, the Pan-American Union, the International Labour Office, the Food and Agricultural Organisation and the World Health Organisation Interim Commission.

National Commissions to Play Big Role

UNESCO CONFERENCE AGREES

At its Second Session, the General Conference concentrated its attention in the field of External Relations on the following six questions of primary importance:

I. — Development of National Commissions and National Co-operating Bodies

Special efforts will be made in 1948 to encourage the establishment of National Commissions or Co-operating Bodies in countries where they do not yet exist, and to stimulate their development in countries where they were established in 1947.

The Conference was unanimous in emphasising that National Commissions were of vital importance to the success of Unesco.

In addition to the role of consultative and liaison bodies assigned to them by Unesco's Constitution, the National Commissions should become working organs and play an active part in the execution of Unesco's programme. It is only in this way that Unesco's aims can be achieved.

In order to ensure this development, Unesco will give assistance, at their request, to Member States who are setting up National Commissions. Programmes of work suited to the possibilities and traditions of each Member State will be drawn up for individual National Commissions. Close contact will be maintained both between the headquarters of the Organisation and the National Commissions and between the Commissions themselves. With a view to strengthening these contacts, news about the Commission's activities will be published regularly.

A conference for exchange of information between the representatives of the different National Commissions and of Unesco will be held at the time of the next Session of the General Conference.

II. — Relations with Germany and Japan

The General Conference instructed the Director-General to study, in consultation with the Allied Occupation Authorities, the possibility of extending the benefits of Unesco's programme, on an experimental basis, to Germany and Japan, in so far as it is likely to

contribute to the democratic re-orientation of their educational and cultural life.

III. — Regional Centres

The possibility of setting up Unesco Regional Centres was the subject of long discussions during the Mexico Conference.

The Latin American, Indian, Chinese and Middle East delegations showed keen interest in this project. The Cuban delegation generously offered to place at Unesco's disposal the offices required for the establishment of a Regional Centre in Havana, and, in addition, a sum of \$10,000.

Because of the complex administrative and financial problems involved in the creation of Regional Centres, and because of the doubts as to the timeliness of this step expressed by certain delegations, which considered it premature, the General Conference made no final decision; it instructed the Executive Board to make a further study of the question, after consulting the United Nations and other Specialised Agencies on their intentions in the matter.

IV. — Co-operation with Non-Member States

In order to ensure the widest possible participation in Unesco's surveys, conferences and other activities, representatives of non-Member States may be invited to co-operate whenever their participation appears desirable and possible.

As in the past, states which belong to the United Nations, but not to Unesco, will be invited to send observers to the sessions of the General Conference.

At present, there are 57 Member States in the United Nations. Forty countries are members of Unesco.

V. — Relations with the United Nations and its Specialised Agencies

The Conference unanimously stressed the importance of close friendly co-operation between Unesco and the United Nations in accordance with the agreement between the two organisations.

All steps will be taken to secure close co-ordination with the United Nations in matters of financial and budgetary administration as well as in the varied field of programming.

The Conference expressed its satisfaction with the agreements recently concluded between Unesco and the International Labour Organisation and between Unesco and the Food and Agriculture Organisation. It instructed the Director-General to develop effective co-ordination with the other Specialised Agencies, whose interests and activities are related to Unesco's purposes. In particular, the Preparatory Commission of the International Refugee Organisation will be contacted with a view to including Displaced Persons in Unesco's appeals for assistance to war-devastated countries.

VI. — Relations with other Organisations

The Conference decided to propose to the International Bureau of Education that the agreement providing for technical co-operation with this organisation in the field of education should be renewed.

The agreements concluded with the International Council of Scientific Unions and the International Studies Conference will also remain in force.

A new policy was adopted governing relations between Unesco and International Non-Governmental Organisations dealing with questions falling within Unesco's field of interest. Consultative arrangements will be made with certain of these organisations to ensure their participation in Unesco's activities, where appropriate, and their representation by observers at the sessions of the General Conference.

It is planned to set up, under Unesco's auspices, Consultative Committees, grouping together International Non-Governmental Organisations working in the same field (such as students and women's organisations).

Dr. Walker Elected Chairman of Executive Board

The Executive Board of Unesco, which held its fourth and fifth sessions at Mexico City in November and December, is a novel experiment in international understanding, including as it does eighteen members, each drawn from a different country, representing different cultural regions.

These members are appointed, however, not as governmental representatives but as individuals, who are elected by the General Conference for their competence in the fields of education, science and culture. The terms of office are three years, and members are immediately re-eligible for election; six vacancies are created annually.

The fourth session which met just before the opening of the General Conference in Mexico reviewed the final arrangements for the organisation of the Conference, and studied the possible sites for the next General Session, which is scheduled to be held in Beirut, Lebanon. In addition, certain other administrative questions were considered.

The fifth session of the Board followed the election by the General Conference of three new members: Dr. Stanislaw Arnold of Poland and Dr. Benjamin Carrion of Ecuador, replacing respectively Dr. Marian Falski of Poland and Professor H.R. Kruyt of the Netherlands, whose terms of office had expired, and Dr. George Stoddard, who was elected to complete the term of the Honorable Archibald MacLeish, who had resigned. Four members were re-elected: Dr. Chen Yuan (China), His Excellency Dr. Martinez Baez (Mexico), Sir John Maud (United Kingdom), and Dr. E.R. Walker (Australia).

The officers of the Executive Board for the coming year will be: Dr. E.R. Walker (Australia) chairman; Sir Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan

(India) and Professor Alf Sommerfelt (Norway) vice-chairmen. In addition, the members of the five permanent committees were named. The programme of meetings for 1948 was tentatively scheduled for the months of February, May and September.



Dr. E. R. Walker (left), succeeds M. V. Doré (centre), as Chairman of Unesco's Executive Board. Right: Dr. Walter H. C. Laves, Deputy Director-General of Unesco.

Executive Board Members

Dr. Edward R. Walker (Australia)—chairman.
Sir Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan (India)—vice-chairman.
Professor Alf Sommerfelt (Norway)—vice-chairman.
Dr. Stanislaw Arnold (Poland).
M. Pierre Auger (France).
Professor Paulo Carneiro (Brazil).
Dr. Benjamin Carrion (Ecuador).
Professor Chen Yuan (China).
H. E. Victor Doré (Canada).
M. Resat Nuri Guntekin (Turkey).
H. E. Dr. Manuel Martínez Baez (Mexico).
Sir John Maud (United Kingdom).
Dr. Jan Opocensky (Czechoslovakia).
H. E. Dr. C. Parra Pérez (Venezuela).
Professor Alex Photiades (Greece).
H. E. Shafik Ghorbal Bey (Egypt).
Dr. George D. Stoddard (U.S.A.).
M. Louis Verniers (Belgium).

"Free Flow of Ideas" Debated

Delegates Express Views at Working Party Meetings on Mass Communications

Lively debate marked the discussions on the "Free Flow of Information" during the meetings of the Working Party on Mass Communications at the Unesco General Conference recently held in Mexico City. The discussions were centered around varying points of view characteristic of the state of the world today.

Dr. Adolf Hoffmeister of Czechoslovakia criticised the principles of classical liberalism. He asserted that unrestricted competition in the field of mass communications was a danger to existing cultures especially for those cultures with relatively meagre financial and technical resources.

Dr. Hoffmeister further denounced the evils of irresponsible information, subservient to commercial interests, particularly in the United States, which he described as eager for sensational and vulgar reports to the detriment of truth, culture and peace.

Mr. Antoni Slonimski of Poland expressed a similar point of view and sharply attacked certain sections of the press, radio and cinema in the United States.

Speaking for the British delegation, Mr. J. B. Priestley stated that this question was not of primary importance to Unesco's 1948 programme, since it was one of infinite controversy, beyond the powers of Unesco to solve effectively. The obstacles to the free flow of information, he declared, stem directly from political and economic factors in the contemporary world situation over which an organisation such as Unesco has no control. Unesco should aim rather at stimulating the production and dissemination of information on questions of education, science and culture.

In the face of this criticism, Mr. Lloyd Free explained the position of the American delegation. Leaving to others the task of adjudging the merits and the deficiencies or the errors of American information organs, Mr. Free categorically denied allegations that the United States were, consciously or unconsciously, embarked on a plan of "cultural imperialism" for either political or economic purposes. The free flow of information, the American delegate declared, is not a one-way affair, but rather a system of reciprocal interchange on a basis of equality wherever possible. The United States, he added, was not unaware of the technical drawbacks of the different countries of the world, and for this reason had volunteered to play an important part in Unesco's plan for aiding poorly equipped nations to rebuild or develop their technical facilities.

While admitting the need for a deeper sense of responsibility towards the public by journalists and newsmen, and suggesting that this might be achieved through improved professional training, Mr. Free pointed out that freedom itself, nevertheless, was the crux of the whole problem. Without freedom, he said, neither information nor culture could exist. Freedom, he added, was one of the principle aims of Unesco, as defined in its Constitution, and this major obligation could not be evaded.

Mr. Free, undoubtedly, is not unaware of the present difficulties of the task. The ideal, at least, must be constantly kept in the minds of men, even if this means employing limited measures and achieving limited progress.

Several delegations attempted to show that a middle path was possible and that the two opposing points of view could and should be considered expressions of complementary rather than wholly incompatible lines of action. This middle-of-the-road view was taken by France (M. Joxe), Australia (Mr. Dunbabin), Mexico (Sr. Sanbago de la Vega) and Canada (Mr. Dilwaring).

In the final analysis this compromise opinion prevailed and is reflected in the balanced programme for Mass Communications as finally adopted by the General Conference.



Left to right: Mr. A. Slonimski of Poland; Mr. R. Calder and Mr. J.B. Priestley of the United Kingdom, three members of the Working Party on Mass Communications at the General Conference who helped formulate Unesco's challenging programme for 1948 in the field of radio, films and the press.

Production Unit Planned

MASS MEDIA TO BE USED

FOR PEACE

FAR-REACHING measures to mobilise the resources of press, radio and film for peace will be undertaken by Unesco in 1948. An impressive list of activities was planned during the month-long Conference at Mexico City by delegates from forty Member States.

During 1947, Unesco carried out a Survey of Technical Needs in 12 countries of Europe and the Far East. The survey, which was published in September, 1947, in both French and English, gave the first detailed picture of its kind of losses and deficiencies in equipment, manpower and raw materials in the press, film and radio industries. In view of the success of this first study, Unesco will extend its inquiries in 1948 to Central and South America, to India, Burma, Malaya, Thailand, Indonesia and the new Member States in Europe (Italy, Austria, Hungary and Switzerland).

Furthermore, Unesco will launch a world-wide appeal during the coming year, for contributions to a special fund designed to help war-devastated countries rebuild their media of mass communication so sorely hit during the last war.

In order to promote the use of mass media towards understanding and co-operation among nations and disseminate more extensively the cultural wealth of the world, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation will give high priority to the study of positive measures for the reduction of obstacles to the free flow of information. The obstacles that Unesco will attempt to break down include excessive postal and telegraph charges, high tariff walls, consorship, quotas, currency and postal restrictions, to educational, scientific and cultural material.

In this, Unesco will work closely with the UN Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission of Information and of the Press, the Universal Postal Union, the International Telecommunications Union and other agencies engaged in similar work.

International Ideas Bureau

Although it is important, and indeed necessary, that meetings of science, education and cultural specialists be organised, Unesco can become a truly world movement only when the ordinary people take an active interest and share in its work. In this light, the creation of a special Production Unit working with top-flight radio producers, film producers and newspapermen, assumes special significance. Known as the International Ideas Bureau, the production unit will promote special programmes, documentary and feature films, news stories, articles and books to

get across to the world the ideas Unesco stands for and thus encourage a greater sense of cultural solidarity among peoples. The headquarters of the International Ideas Bureau will be located in Paris, but sections of the unit will probably be based in other countries in order to facilitate productivity.

BY

John Grierson

Four key themes of world significance within the field of Unesco's interest will be mapped out during 1948. Each theme will then be tackled by top-notch writers and newsmen, aided by world-famous authors, specially engaged for the occasion, who will produce a series of highly readable articles, stories and "reportages" for publication in newspapers, magazines and periodicals throughout the world.

Simultaneously, a squad of script writers and radio producers, supported by nationally famous artists, playwrights and producers, will make available to the radio public, feature programmes and dramatisations built around the same themes. These programmes will be broadcast in various languages over medium, long and short wave bands.

At the same time the film experts at Unesco will endeavour to get the same themes covered by newsreels and treated either in documentary or feature films.

In addition to the joint projects envisaged for the development of Mass Media Major Themes, Unesco will also undertake, during the coming year, separate production programmes in the field of radio and films.

In the field of radio, for example, a World University of the Air is scheduled for 1948. It will work in close co-operation with existing radio networks in Member States, not in competition with them. The plan is to get the products of the world's best brains and best talents across to all peoples so that cultural knowledge and progress will not be contained within political frontiers. In this way Frenchmen can get to know what the Brazilians are doing in literature, music and drama, the Poles can get to know about the literature of India, the Italians about Canadian and U.S. science and education, rather than only about their political differences.

Unesco will collaborate in the operation of a United Nations World Radio Network if the UN decides on its establishment. If not, Unesco is to examine the

establishment of its own. Until that decision is made, however, emphasis will be placed on co-operation with existing radio stations and efforts to increase their programmes in the cause of peace and understanding between nations. In this connection Mass Media radio specialists will prepare a restricted number of high-quality transcribed programmes to be circulated for use on national hook-ups. Surveys of concepts, techniques and results obtained in the use of radio in school broadcasting by Member States will also be carried out. This data will ultimately be published so as to encourage a more extensive use of radio as an educational instrument.

In the development of its film programme Unesco will promote the production of a series of documentary film dealing with the achievements of a selected number of individual nations as well as subjects concerning whole groups of nations. These documentaries, of an educational, scientific and cultural nature, will be produced by the co-operative action of Unesco Member States for national and international distribution.

Staff specialists of the cinema will also study the problem of the inexpensive production of film projectors in the hope that this will ultimately encourage the cheap manufacture of all types of equipment used for mass communications.

International Press Institute

To strengthen ties and contact among journalists throughout the world, Unesco will help the creation of an International Institute of Press and Information. The Institute will facilitate exchanges of techniques and materials in processing of editorial ideas and standards. It is hoped that the feeling of unity among the world's pressmen will be strengthened and that mass communication techniques will be improved throughout the world through clearing-house activities, study grants and scholarships.

The Second General Conference in Mexico stressed the importance of such scholarships as a means for training film, radio and press personnel in devastated and deficiency countries. (Details of Unesco's programme for scholarships will be found elsewhere on this page.)

Of Unesco's overall budget for 1948, totalling just under 7,700,000 dollars, some 900,000 dollars will be devoted to the field of mass communications. Unesco believes that this is a small price to pay — a bill shared proportionately by its forty member states — to help outweigh the tensions, the prejudices and antipathies, and to help build in their place a stronger sense of world community among all peoples.

Surveys in Mass Media Broadened

Press, Radio, Film Needs Of New Member States To Be Studied

During 1947, Unesco carried out a survey in twelve war-devastated countries on technical needs in press, radio and films. Ten surveys were made in Europe and included Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Luxembourg, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. Two surveys were also carried out in the Far Eastern countries of China and the Philippines. The information thus obtained will permit an estimate of the amount of assistance that should be given to these countries.

The Conference charged Unesco with promoting the re-building of the means of mass media in the twelve countries indicated above.

In addition, the Second General Conference voted that this survey should be continued and extended during 1948, not only to the war-devastated nations but to those countries which lack the necessary technical facilities essential for press, radio and film work.

Although a complete list of the countries to be surveyed in 1948 has not as yet been definitely established, it is possible to state that Unesco will carry out surveys, subject to the approval of the governments concerned, in the following regions:

(I).—Those war-devastated countries not yet studied; Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary, Italy and Roumania.

(II).—Member States of Unesco in Central and Southern America: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela.

(III).—Several countries in the Far East: India, Thailand, Burma, Malaya and Indonesia.

48 Scholarships to be Awarded War-Hit Nations

RESOLUTIONS of the General Conference on the International Exchange of Persons stressed the role of Unesco as a clearing-house of information and analysis on all international educational interchange—governmental or private—and instructed the Secretariat to initiate enquiries with Member States on the international movement of persons for educational purposes.

The Conference urged that studies be made, in collaboration with appropriate organisations, of the barriers which impede the interchange of persons among nations, such as lack of transport facilities, difficulties of currency exchange or restrictive laws, or regulations of Member States. A study of the role of international cultural conventions in promoting the exchange of persons was also urged.

The Conference authorised the grant of sufficient funds for ten fellowships or equivalent expenditure in travel grants "to be awarded in exceptional cases where Unesco's purposes are clearly involved and where no other funds are available." These direct grants are in addition to 48 fellowships authorised by the Executive Board on the eve of the Mexico City Conference, to cover six grants to each of the following war-devastated States: China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Greece, the Netherlands, Norway, the Philippines and Poland.

Subjects to be covered by these fellowships are Science and Social Development, Cinema and Radio Education, Educational Problems of War-affected Children, Librarianship, Educational Administration and Art and Music Education. They will be for a period of six months.

In addition, Unesco will continue to administer fellowships in collaboration with accredited donor agencies and will offer its services as requested in the planning and promotion of international fellowship and study programmes. Priority is to be given to the needs of war-devastated Member States and to the promotion of opportunities for mature persons: professors, artists, government officers, experts, leaders in adult education and industrial and agricultural workers.

Fundamental Education

By John Bowers

ONE small boy, quarrelling with another in the streets of Mexico City, was overheard by a Brazilian delegate to the Second General Conference of Unesco flinging a parting gibe at his opponent: "What you need is Fundamental Education!" "Educacion Basica" had become a catch phrase in the Latin-American countries.

In the Conference Hall too, it soon became clear that Fundamental Education had caught the imagination of the delegates as a project whereby Member States would receive practical help from Unesco in a practical and urgent task—the task of establishing "a minimum fundamental education for all their citizens."

It is with this task in view that Unesco will seek in 1948 to link up the scattered and often isolated fundamental education enterprises in the territories of its member states into a concerted world movement.

The General Conference gave the project a clear field of operation, endorsing a definition of the aims and purposes of Fundamental Education wherein it was laid down that the project should be "specially and immediately concerned with the less advanced regions of the world and with the underprivileged groups in industrialised countries, where the education provided falls below the essential minimum"

There had been a tendency, when the term "Fundamental Education" was first coined, to regard it as no more and no less than a campaign against illiteracy, but it soon became clear that the skills of reading and writing were only of value as a means to a wider end. This wider aim of Fundamental Education has now been defined—"to help men and women to live fuller and happier lives in adjustment with their changing environment, to develop the best elements of their own culture, and to achieve the economic and social progress which will enable them to take their place in the modern world." "Fundamental Education should thus be designed to provide a first step to further education."

Literacy not only Aim

While, therefore, universal literacy will be a desirable ideal, the teaching of reading and writing is not the only purpose of Fundamental Education.

The work of the Mexican Cultural Missions provided a striking case in point. The whole life of one remote little Indian village, which was visited by delegates from the General Conference, was being transformed by a team of six "Fundamental Educators." They were teaching the peasants to pipe their water supply, to combat disease, to grow better fruit and crops, to build weather-proof houses and make decent furniture, to bake better bread and to weave and sew, but had not so far taught them to read and write. However, the foundations of a village school had been laid. So it is with fundamental education. Literacy teaching and the extension and improvement of primary schooling will take their place in a wider programme of community education for better living.

Fundamental Education will "be concentrated first on the most pressing problems of each particular community." More often than not, these will be—disease and poverty. Over vast regions of the globe human communities, which have scarcely risen above the civilisation of the Iron-Age, are living at a bare subsistence level—underhoused, underfed, and underclothed, their vitality sapped by disease. Their agriculture—if such it can be called—consists of shifting cultivation with the hand-hoe or the wooden plough. These untold acres of potentially productive land

might well alleviate, by a surplus production the world food shortage.

Instead, their fertility is being dissipated by improvident agriculture, leading to erosion and soil sterility, while their populations demand heavy importations of foodstuffs and not infrequently emergency famine relief. If it can help the people of these regions to rid themselves of endemic disease, to improve their agriculture and to develop a balanced economy—in short, to live fuller and more productive lives—then Fundamental Education will make a real and urgently needed contribution to world recovery.

With this end in view, Unesco's Fundamental Education policy will be closely coordinated with the work of the World Health Organisation and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations. It is hoped that at least one practical joint undertaking between W.H.O., F.A.O. and Unesco

Service, and will be ready to respond to requests for expert advice, by correspondence, by analysing and commenting upon documents and educational materials, by encouraging an informed and active interest in Fundamental Education and by visiting Fundamental Education projects in their own and other countries, as well as attending national and international conference. As Unesco's consultants and advisers. Two meetings of the Panel of Experts will be held in 1948, one in Paris early in summer and another later in the year, probably in a South American country.

It will be one of Unesco's most important jobs to keep workers in one part of the world in touch with the latest developments in other areas, and to supply them with the most advanced technical advice and information. The Secretariat will therefore act as a "clearing house" through which an increasing flow of information—a two-way flow—will cross-fertilise the many enterprises in Fundamental Education in all Unesco's Member States.

A periodical Fundamental Education Bulletin will be published by Unesco and given wide circulation in Unesco's working languages, with free rights of translation and distribution. Longer and more technical documents on every aspect of Fundamental Education will be circulated in mimeographed form. The part which the Panel of Experts will play has already been mentioned; there will also be a close tie-up between the Technical Information Service and Unesco's so-called "Associated" and "Pilot" Projects.

All over the world interesting and important enterprises are contri-

A Unesco Travelling Consultant will maintain personal contact with as many as possible of the Associated Projects, and visits of Liaison Officers or other persons from the Projects to Unesco's Headquarters or to Regional Study Conferences will be encouraged. The assistance of Unesco's Bureau for the Exchange of Persons will also be enlisted, to promote international exchanges of personnel between Associated Projects in different parts of the world. This new conception of Associated Projects was warmly welcomed by the Second General Conference.

Pilot Projects

Four "Pilot Projects" in Fundamental Education will be developed in 1948, as concentrated and controlled field experiments to be carried out at the invitation of National Governments with the guidance of a resident expert consultant from Unesco. Basic sociological and ecological surveys will be made as a foundation for a community education plan and a measure of its subsequent success, and the latest techniques of Fundamental Education, including the uses of mass media and visual and oral aids, will be tried out in the field.

Unesco will place at the disposal of the Projects the personal advice of experts as well as educational textbooks, films and film-strips. The results of these experimental projects will be made available in detail through Unesco's Technical Information Service.

Preparations have already been made for three of these Pilot Projects in 1948, in China, British East Africa and Haiti.

An American, with long expe-

rience in China, has been appointed as Consultant to develop the Pilot Project in the vicinity of Nanking, in conjunction with the Chinese Mass Education Movement.

In Nyasaland, after great rivalry between several tribal districts, the area for Unesco's Pilot Project has been selected, a special grant voted and the local staff appointed. A basic survey is now being carried out and a Danish Agricultural economist, with experience in the Folk High Schools, will go to Nyasaland as Unesco's expert consultant in February. The education and welfare side of the Tanganyika Groundnuts Scheme already mentioned will be treated as a comparative experiment with the tribal development scheme in Nyasaland. The Pilot Project for Haiti, although the first planned, has been delayed owing to the inability of the Haiti Government to bear the full financial burden and efforts are being made to launch the Project as a joint enterprise between the Haiti Government, the Specialised Agencies of U.N. (Unesco, W.H.O., and F.A.O.) and other outside organisations, under a Unesco director. The plan includes a rural training centre for young Haitians, comprising a small clinic, a demonstration farm, a community centre, library and museum and a teachers' training school. This will form an active nucleus from which Fundamental Education will spread outwards to bring literacy and a higher standard of living to the remote Valley of Marbial and, by degrees, to the rest of the Republic of Haiti.

The site for a New Pilot Project approved by the General Conference for 1948 has yet to be decided, but an invitation has been received from the Government of Peru to centre it upon the Cuzco area.

One Unesco Regional Study Conference is planned for the autumn of 1948 and will probably be held in one of the Middle East capitals. Here, representatives with special experience in Fundamental Education in the various countries of this region will come together for a month to analyse and discuss with members of Unesco's staff and Panel the particular problems of this area, plans and projects for their solution and new methods, techniques and materials developed for local use.

Conclusion

A well integrated programme for Fundamental Education has thus been drawn up by the Second General Conference. A portmanteau resolution adopted by the delegates requires the Panel of Experts to examine, and make recommendations on, a number of subsidiary questions relevant to Fundamental Education.

Among these are: the definitions of literacy as a basis for valid international statistics, the special application of Fundamental Education to underprivileged groups in industrial communities, tensions and barriers between colours, races and creeds, the status of women and inequality of the sexes in Fundamental Education areas, language problems in Fundamental Education as well as the place of arts and crafts and the use of popular libraries and museums in the development of the movement. In the last five of these, the co-operation of the Unesco Sections dealing with Social Sciences, Languages, Arts, Libraries and Museums will be sought.

A special resolution of the General Conference is devoted to research into the use of the media of mass communications in Fundamental Education.

It is clear that these new media can play a great part as visual and oral aids to teaching, as a vehicle of propaganda on Fundamental Education and as an educational medium to bridge the gap between the early stages of Fundamental Education and the successful completion of adult literary teaching.

PROGRAMME FOR 1948

will be realised in a Fundamental Education "Pilot Project".

In dealing with underprivileged groups in industrialised areas and with the problems of trust territories Unesco will also co-operate respectively with the ILO and the trusteeship Department of UN.

The Fundamental Education project will operate in 1948 as one of seven priority undertakings in Unesco's Education Programme. Among the staff of men and women are included Americans, Austrians, British, Chinese, Danish, French and Haitians and it is hoped that a Mexican and an Arab will soon be added.

In 1948 Unesco will take the fullest possible advantage of the services of a Panel of Experts. A list of more than 400 persons with special experience in Fundamental Education has already been compiled and invitations will shortly be sent to a selected number to become members of the Fundamental Education Panel.

This Panel will provide a worldwide body of experts, who will be kept in touch with the latest developments in Fundamental Education through Unesco's Information

Service, and will be ready to respond to requests for expert advice, by correspondence, by analysing and commenting upon documents and educational materials, by encouraging an informed and active interest in Fundamental Education and by visiting Fundamental Education projects in their own and other countries, as well as attending national and international conference. As Unesco's consultants and advisers. Two meetings of the Panel of Experts will be held in 1948, one in Paris early in summer and another later in the year, probably in a South American country.

It is Unesco's aim to bring the most significant of these scattered enterprises into a World Fundamental Education Movement, by linking them up as Associated Projects to Unesco's network, wherever such a link is desired. Each Associated Project will appoint its own liaison officer to send to Unesco general and technical reports and to receive in return individual advice, and general documents and material through the Technical Information Service.

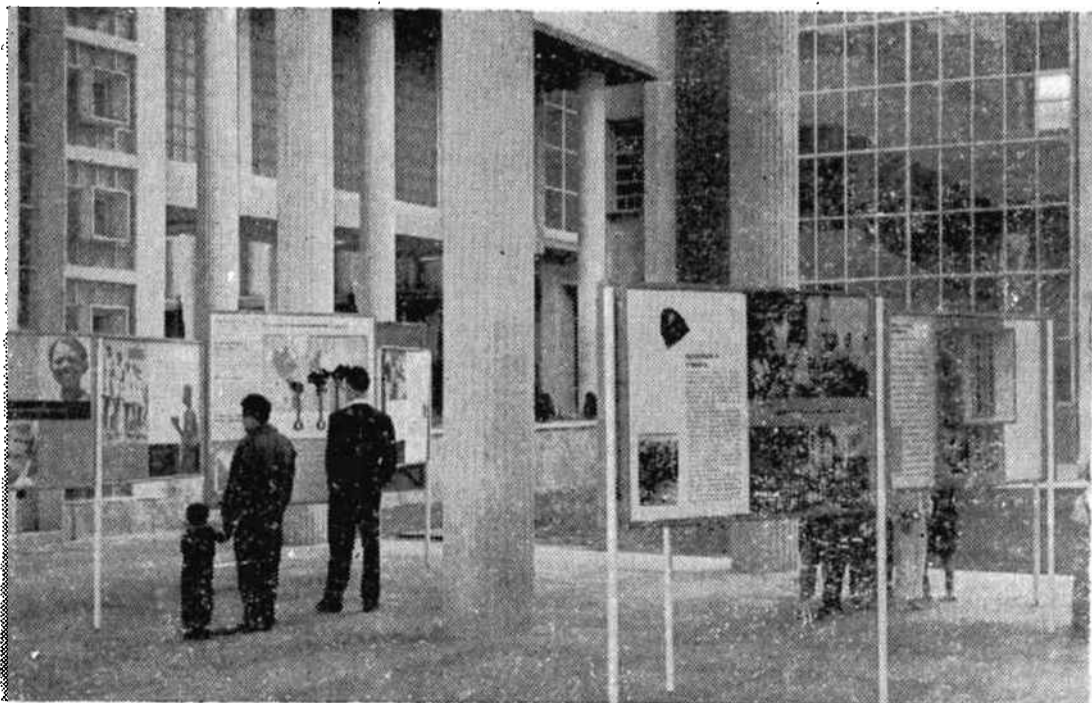
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Two international exhibitions organised by Unesco—one dealing with Libraries and Museums and the other with Fundamental Education and Reconstruction in Education—were shown for the first time during the General Conference in Mexico City. The Fundamental Education exhibition, which is pictured here, stresses the great problems which must be faced in providing at least Fundamental Education for all.

Brazil's Campaign for Literacy

A campaign in Brazil aimed at teaching illiterates of all ages to read and write has resulted in the establishment since the beginning of 1947 of nearly 14,000 schools. This was announced by the Brazilian Director-General of Education, Dr. Lourenço Filho, delegate to Unesco's Second General Conference, at a press conference in Mexico City on November 25, who declared that it was largely due to Mexico's example that Brazil embarked on its campaign of Fundamental Education.

More than 30 million cruzeiros (about \$1,250,000 U.S.) for this special instruction have been set aside from a national fund of over 120 million cruzeiros (about \$5,000,000 U.S.) created by the Brazilian Government for primary education.

"We are receiving enormous voluntary support from all sections of the nation," Dr. Lourenço said, pointing out that the success of the drive was only partly due to government initiative. Figures given by him showed that, of the schools established 3,000 were founded by industrial and commercial firms and other organisations, while 10,540 were set up by the Federal Government in collaboration with State authorities. The campaign will also be extended through communal centres and cultural missions, and it is expected that the number of students will exceed one million in 1948.

EDUCATION :

Three Seminars Slated for the Coming Year

Aware of the importance of contributions educators and teachers can make to international understanding as the condition of peace, delegates from forty nations, assembled in Mexico City at the General Conference of Unesco, assigned top priority for 1948 to a carefully integrated educational programme.

Seven major proposals, all of which will have equal priority, have been approved for 1948. At the outset, the Conference recommended that Unesco's activities in Fundamental Education should be combined with its other educational work so as to strengthen and co-ordinate all educational activities with the other aspects of Unesco's programme. (A special article on this vital aspect of Unesco's educational programme will be found on the opposite page.)

Three international study Seminars will be sponsored by Unesco.

Of these three Seminars in 1948, one will be sponsored jointly by Unesco and the United Nations, on the general topic of teaching about the United Nations and its Agencies, particularly in the elementary and secondary schools of Member States. Teacher and child education will be discussed at other international Seminars, in different areas of the world. The special educational problems of Latin American Member States may be considered at a fourth Seminar approved by the General Conference.

In planning these Sessions, Unesco has the benefit of experience gained at the eminently successful Seminar held in 1947 at Sevres.

Particularly concerned that children in all parts of the world shall

the work, already begun, of collating and disseminating information likely to help achieve this end.

Problems arising in the education of war-handicapped children will be studied in collaboration with national and international organisations concerned. From reports and information received from experts in different countries, plans will be drawn up to overcome these problems in the light of past experience.

Several Educational Missions, including representatives from teachers' organisations and school experts, may be sent to Member States upon request for purposes of consultation and advice on the re-organisation of educational systems, particularly in war-devastated areas.

Charter for Youth

Unesco will continue to co-operate with other United Nations organisations in a number of projects grouped under the general heading of education: Greater educational opportunities for women; the role of the arts and of science in general education; extended technical education and vocational guidance; and the special problems of language teaching, particularly the teaching of auxiliary languages in connection with Unesco's "pilot projects" in Fundamental Education. All these projects will be studied as part of the extensive work programme for 1948.

Implicit in the whole programme is the principle of equality for students and teachers alike. The possibility of an International Charter for Youth will be studied. This Charter will call for equality

By Dr. Kuo Yu-Shou

be able vividly to understand the nature and the objectives of the United Nations, Unesco delegates to the Conference voted to co-operate with the United Nations during the coming year in providing materials teachers could use. And in order to stimulate the interest of youth in the work of Unesco, two competitions are to be organised in Member States, with the help of National Commissions.

A conference of leaders in Adult Education is to be held by Unesco in the first six months of 1948. In sponsoring this conference, Unesco will capitalise on results obtained through contacts during the last year with leaders of the former World Association for Adult Education and of the projected International Federation of Workers' Education Associations, and with adult education experts in many parts of the world. The 1948 conference is being designed to canvass the opportunities of increasing international understanding through adult educational agencies, for the promotion of peace and security.

Association of Universities

The responsibilities of Universities in international matters is a question that has aroused so much interest recently that delegates to the General Conference instructed the Unesco Secretariat to bring university leaders together, to look into the possibility of closer co-operation between Unesco and the universities and of developing more extensive international courses in the universities themselves. The possible formation of a World Association of Universities is envisaged for the coming year, to study and report on equivalence of degrees and to promote education in international relations among universities.

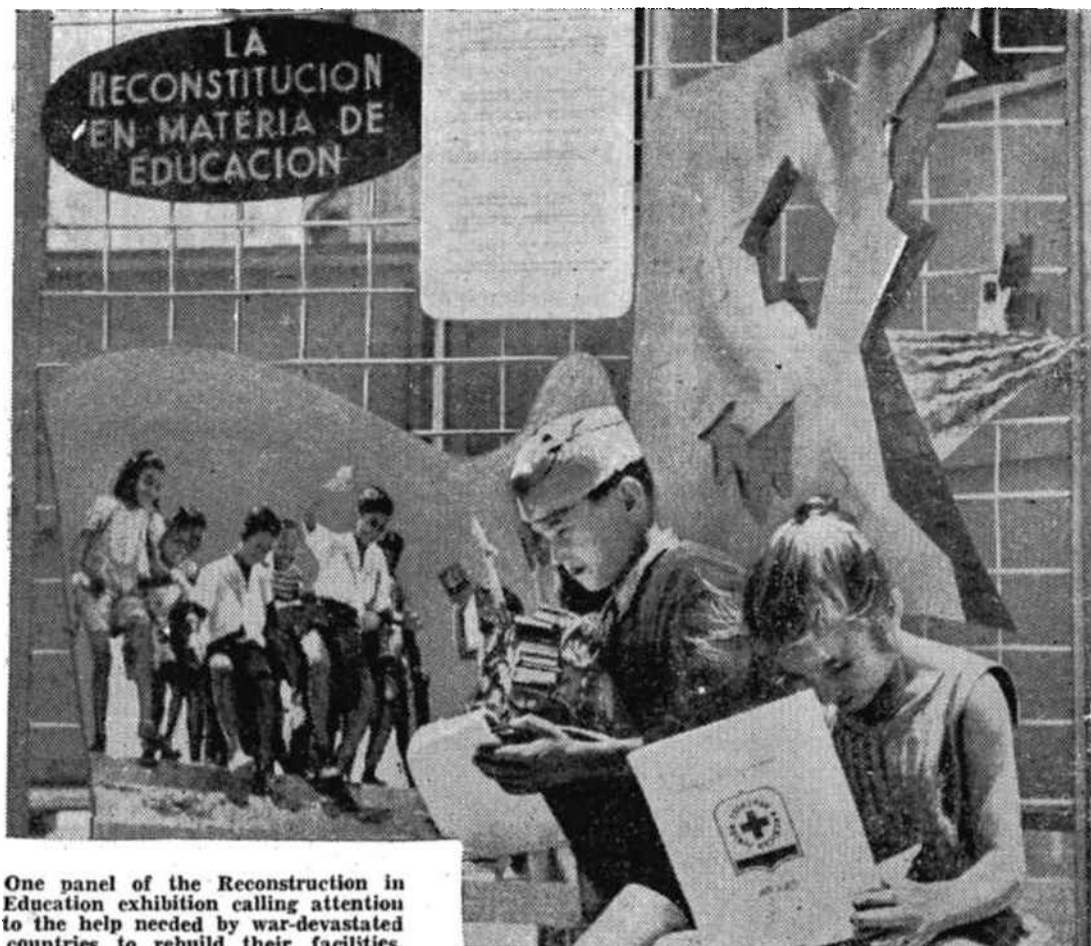
Delegates to the Conference also indicated their desire to see an improvement in textbooks and other teaching materials and instructed the Unesco Secretariat to continue

of educational opportunity, and includes the principle that no youth should be deprived, by reason of financial handicap, of instruction suited to his capacities.

Teachers at the Conference spoke optimistically of drawing up an International Teachers' Charter, without discrimination of race, colour, sex or religion, and applying it to all levels of the teaching profession.

In committee and plenary meetings alike, there was hardly a delegate who did not, at one time or another, stress the part teachers all over the world play in achieving the purposes for which Unesco stands.

Teacher-delegates spoke of the enormous reservoirs of goodwill that were waiting to be tapped, and of the results that could be achieved by correlating efforts now being made by teachers to help the cause of peace and understanding. In voting to continue an enquiry into the status of the teaching profession in Member States, the Conference agreed unanimously to encourage teachers' organisations to collaborate in drawing up a Charter designed to raise the professional and financial status of teachers throughout the world.



One panel of the Reconstruction in Education exhibition calling attention to the help needed by war-devastated countries to rebuild their facilities.

Unesco to Promote Reconstruction Fund

By Dr. Bernard Drzewieski

An extended programme, designed to assist and stimulate educational, scientific and cultural reconstruction was agreed upon by delegates to Unesco's Second General Conference for implementation throughout Member States during 1948. Committees who considered the draft programme recommended that Member States form National Committees of non-governmental organisations for the purpose of coordinating the task of rebuilding the means of learning and culture in war-devastated countries.

Unesco will continue to make available information on the needs of these countries and will provide material suitable for use in national campaigns, special emphasis being placed on radio broadcasts, documentary films and illustrated pamphlets.

Delegates urged that Member States be approached to arrange for the duty-free entry of contributed educational material and it was also recommended that more adequate information be given by recipient countries regarding the disposal of money and materials contributed.

T.I.C.E.R. Grows

The secretariat for T.I.C.E.R. (Temporary International Council for Educational Reconstruction) will continue to be furnished by Unesco. Created in May 1947, T.I.C.E.R. now has a representation of twenty international voluntary agencies working for relief in the stricken countries. In 1948, as in the year of its formation, T.I.C.E.R. will work with Unesco in order to aid in the coordination of voluntary efforts, while fully recognising the autonomy of co-operating groups. Member States are being asked to maintain close liaison with this body so as to ensure the

maximum achievement in this world-wide campaign for reconstruction.

The General Conference at Mexico decided that Unesco would immediately take on certain short-term emergency commitments, designed to afford early relief to the nations whose educational, scientific and cultural institutions have suffered badly from the effects of total war. Among the projects envisaged in this connection is the immediate purchase, as far as funds will allow, of books, educational material and scientific equipment. Unesco's eighteen-man Executive Board will take on the added responsibility of advising in the allocation of such supplies and material among devastated countries. Other assistance will take the form of suggestions to teachers, library and museum authorities, sponsors of youth camps and others in an effort to solve some of the educational and cultural problems arising from the war.

"The Book of Needs"

A report based on surveys made by Unesco field workers, and statements from governmental and inter-governmental sources was presented to the Conference. This report, which is now on sale under the title of "The Book of Needs," covers fifteen European and Asiatic countries and indicates the type of assistance and the areas meriting the highest priority. After examining this Report, the Delegates again urged the need for immediate action on behalf of educational reconstruction. The cost of this publication was borne by Unesco as part of the publicity to attract contributions of money and material as well as to enable the provision of professional training for the countries whose educational and cultural machinery has been neglected during the past eight years.

Unesco will explore the possibility of launching an appeal for funds to assist these countries in building up their media of mass communications. In addition, the counsel of international financial experts will be sought to advise on the feasibility of creating an "international loan" whereby countries may obtain foreign currency needed for cultural reconstruction.

The basis of the scheme is that countries requiring assistance from the hard currency areas in the task of rebuilding their shattered educational and cultural institutions will provide facilities in their own "soft" currency for professional and cultural visitors from the hard currency areas. This exchange

will further international understanding between the countries co-operating in the scheme.

The study of the multiple problems arising in the task of educating the post-war child will be developed during 1948 and a suitable plan of action to combat these difficulties will be drawn up in collaboration with the various national and international organisations concerned. Experts in various countries will be contacted for information and suggestions and a survey made of the most significant experiments already carried out. These background reports and statistics will be analysed and used as the basis for further action.

As in 1947, Unesco will aid youth camps and conferences which seek to develop international understanding by serving the common interests of their members and providing a more fruitful community life.

The publication of the *Library Bulletin*, which has world-wide circulation to libraries, museums, universities and other cultural institutions, and which is equally available to private organisations and the general public, will also continue as part of the publicity given to this sphere of the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation programme.

Books for Devastated Areas

National Book Exchange and Distribution Centres will be established and maintained by Unesco as part of the drive to overcome inadequate distribution of cultural, educational and scientific literature between countries. Unesco will also assist these centres in negotiating for the reduction or elimination of import duties and the reduction of transport costs for books and other educational material. Member States are asked to take the lead in the reduction of such tariffs and haulage charges and to co-operate in the setting up of their own Centres with all possible speed.

The General Conference recommended that while careful selection should be made of all books and periodicals passing through such centres, censorship in any form would be undesirable.

Reconstruction and rehabilitation of the educational, scientific and cultural institutions of the war-devastated countries is a gigantic task. Unesco's carefully gauged and well integrated programme was acclaimed by delegates of forty nations who attended the Conference as a practical measure towards forging the bonds of peace and understanding between the nations of the world.

40 MEMBER STATES OF UNESCO

Australia	Denmark	Italy	Poland
Austria	Dominican Rep.	Lebanon	Saudi Arabia
Belgium	Ecuador	Liberia	Switzerland
Brazil	Egypt	Luxembourg	Syria
Bolivia	El Salvador	Mexico	Turkey
Canada	France	Netherlands	U. of Sth Africa
China	Greece	New Zealand	United Kingdom
Colombia	Haiti	Norway	U.S. of America
Cuba	Hungary	Peru	Uruguay
Czechoslovakia	India	Philippines	Venezuela

States which have signed but not yet ratified the constitution are:

Argentina	Honduras	Nicaragua
Chile	Iran	Panama
Guatemala	Iraq	Yugoslavia

Book Coupon Scheme to Be Studied in 1948

By Edward J. Carter.

AS Unesco's work develops, it becomes increasingly evident that no programme can work in isolation from the others. This is particularly true of the work and plans of the Libraries programme. Libraries are essentially services to education, science and culture and are among the important channels of communication through which the mind of man is stimulated and refreshed. In terms of Unesco's own Charter, libraries can be an immense force for the "development of international understanding and world peace."

Public Library Development

The conference gave special emphasis to the responsibilities of Unesco in the development of public libraries, to enable all peoples to have an equal chance to develop their educational, scientific and cultural life. One of Unesco's tasks is to bring workers from diverse countries together for discussion and study of each others' ideas, techniques and problems.

The Unesco Bureau for the Exchange of Persons will help the Library programme by awarding a number of fellowships to public librarians from "reconstruction area" countries to enable them to study in other countries where the finest examples of public library work can be seen.

Reconstruction

Almost every part of Unesco's work, and certainly every part of the Libraries programme has reference to post-war reconstruction. The problem of reconstruction is everlastingly present, and no good library is ever free from the need to construct and reconstruct its programmes and collections. For Unesco, libraries reconstruction is mainly a problem of creating or re-creating new and better communications between libraries internationally and between libraries and all existing sources of publications. The reconstruction work which was started in 1947 will be continued and developed during the present year.

As its main libraries reconstruction agency Unesco has established an "International Clearing House for Publications," an intelligence centre where an extensive filing system records the publications which particular libraries want and the duplicates they have for disposal by gift, sale or exchange. Already, more than 6,000 libraries are co-operating and many hundreds of exchanges have been effected through the clearing house and advice has also been given on the disposal of book gifts. The clearing house works in close liaison with the American Book Center in Washington, and undertook the disposal of the books from the Inter-Allied Book Centre in London. A Unesco Bulletin for libraries is published monthly as a means of channeling Clearing House information round the world and enabling libraries to establish their own contacts. The Bulletin, enthusiastically received during 1947, will continue to be published during 1948.

Inter-library exchange is an old established means of maintaining stocks, and there is a growing need for national exchange and distribution centres for publications. The General Conference has recommended that all Member States establish such centres and has instructed the Secretariat to press for the abolition or reduction of import duties, and the reduction of transport costs and excessive book prices, all of which militate against the free flow of publications.

Owing to the disturbed economic state of the world at the present time, it is practically impossible for countries with "soft currencies" to purchase books from "hard currency" countries.

Although Unesco cannot reform the economic system of the world, a realistic proposal has been made for a system of purchase by "book coupons" which will enable some of the outstanding difficulties to be circumvented. Briefly, the essence of the scheme is that Unesco or some other agency shall issue internationally valid coupons to enable "soft currency" countries to buy books in their own currency from the "hard currency" areas. As

the next step towards the achievement of the scheme it is proposed to convene a small committee of experts who understand the complexities of book distribution and international finance, to answer outstanding problems, and it is hoped that the scheme will be operating before the end of the year.

Bibliography and Documentation

Bibliographical and documentation work, though perhaps little understood outside the realm of the specialists who have to use these services, is, in fact, at the base of all library activity. The public librarian cannot decide what books to buy, or the scientist select the most important material that has been published on his subject, without an intricate chain of bibliographical services. This includes short and simple book lists for the popular reader, elaborate specialised bibliographies for workers in higher studies and huge national bibliographical enterprises, such as national union catalogues and complete national bibliographies.

At the simpler and more popular end of Unesco's bibliographical work, every nation is being urged to issue regular short lists of its best current publications, paying special attention to those which contribute to Unesco's aim to promote international understanding and world peace. The General Conference has also urged all Member States to publish complete national bibliographies and to establish national union catalogues, which show in one centre the holdings of all the principal libraries in the country. These tasks involve the building up of effective contacts with librarians, documentalists and archivists throughout the world, largely through the International Federation of Documentation, the International Federation of Library Associations and a projected International Council of Professional Archivists.

A world-wide survey of bibliographical services as a means of detecting overlaps and gaps and deficiencies will be undertaken jointly with the Library of Congress in Washington during 1948. This project will probably be concentrated on a detailed study of the bibliographical and documentation needs in one field of Unesco activity—such as Fundamental Education.

Science Abstracting

Another big single project under the bibliographical head will be worked out in co-operation with the Natural Sciences section of Unesco.—A large-scale attack on problems of natural science abstracting. Without carefully prepared abstracts, or summaries of current literature, it is impossible to keep pace with scientific work throughout the world. A series of expert committees and meetings will be held during the year, leading, it may be hoped, towards the extension and improvement, not only of abstracting services as the central subject of discussion, but of all the related services of indexing and publications distribution.

One final section of the libraries programme is being worked out in close co-operation with the Mass Communications staff; this is to explore ways of encouraging the inexpensive production of books and periodicals. In recent years publishers in many countries have contributed to education, science and culture with great imagination by developing the production and distribution of good inexpensive books. In an effort to stimulate this enterprise, Unesco will suggest new books which should be written and published in cheap editions, and will help the negotiation of agreements so that existing good books can be re-published cheaply, translated into many languages. This is a big programme. It is a start only of an enterprise which extends indefinitely; but the start is bold and will be successful if it receives the enthusiastic support of the mass of the people of the world, who almost all, are directly or indirectly dependent on the printed word for their spiritual and material welfare.



Third Session of the General Conference of Unesco will be held in Beirut, at the invitation of the Lebanese Government. Photograph shows Menseigneur Jean Maroun, of the Lebanese delegation, and Mr. Joseph Aboukater, Lebanese Minister to Mexico leaving a Session.

Unesco Programme To Stress Exchange Between Museums

During 1948 the principal task of the Museums programme will be to promote the exchange of information on museums, and of museum personnel throughout the world. Emphasis is thus laid on exchanges because it is by that means that the immense amount of damage done to museums everywhere by the war can most speedily be made good.

In many war-devastated countries, museum systems were entirely destroyed, and it is a primary duty of Unesco to help in their reconstruction. To resume the flow of ideas, interrupted in all countries by the war, is vital if museums are to play their part in developing education, science and culture.

The possibility of establishing international foundations, supported by member governments, as a means of encouraging co-operation between museums will be studied by Unesco; international conferences, like the one to be held by the International Council of Museums next June, will be aided, and plans for international exhibitions will be stimulated and encouraged.

The work of the Museums Programme is not limited to periodical conference meetings or exhibitions; it must, above all, furnish a permanent service which will arrange for persons connected with museums to visit museums in foreign countries, and to meet foreign museum experts so that they may exchange ideas and experiences. This permanent service will be able to supply, on request, guidance and information based on the most up-to-date museum practice wherever it may be found.

In conclusion, it may be said that although a great deal has already been done to develop the use of museums in the cause of education, science and culture, yet the greater part of the task is still before us, involving much new and exciting experimental work, but also entailing much routine surveying of present conditions throughout the world.



Thousands of visitors to the General Conference saw the exhibitions at the Escuela Normal de Maestros and through them learned how Unesco assists in the development of Library, Museum and Educational systems. Two Mexican visitors, pictured here, study one of the panels of the Museums' exhibit arranged as part of the "Unesco Month" programme.

Highlights of Unesco Projects for New Year

(Continued from Page 1)

the work of the Executive Board, Public Information, Personnel, and other activities not directly concerned with executing projects within the programme.

Reconstruction

Unesco hopes to put into operation in 1948 a novel international scheme for Cultural Rehabilitation, based on a new method of securing funds on an international scale. If this scheme is deemed feasible, Unesco will urge a system whereby "soft currency" countries may obtain "hard currency" and pay for it by meeting the living expenses of visiting teachers, students and technicians from these countries.

Unesco will also encourage the establishment of a National Exchange Centre in war-devastated and book surplus countries to facilitate the international exchange and dissemination of books, and will seek to eliminate or reduce import duties on literature dealing with science, education and culture.

Communication

Unesco's Communication Programme, which includes Exchange of Persons, Mass Communication, Libraries and Copyright has been assigned a high priority for 1948.

A resolution proposed by the United States delegates was adopted by the Conference to encourage the free flow of information by seeking to reduce the barriers existent in the world today. A second resolution, sponsored by the United Kingdom delegation, was also approved, calling for the creation of an Int'l. Ideas Bureau.

In the field of broadcasting, the General Conference agreed that Unesco will co-operate in the proposed United Nations world radio network; if it is established. If this network is not set up, however, Unesco will study the creation of a network of its own.

The Mexican delegation favoured the creation of a World University of the Air which would broadcast the best lectures from leading world universities over all national networks.

During 1948 Unesco will place special emphasis on a Book Coupon Scheme. Here, too, Unesco has outlined a plan to assist the "soft currency" countries. It is unfortunately true, that since the last war, most "soft currency" nations have been almost unable to buy books and periodicals of other nations. Unesco's Book Coupon Scheme is an effort to eliminate this currency exchange problem by substituting special coupons redeemable in local monies.

Education

EDUCATION occupies an important place in Unesco's 1948 programme. At the Mexico City Conference delegates agreed that it is the duty of all member states to guarantee a basic minimum of education to all their citizens that is free and universal compulsory primary schooling. To aid Member States in such campaigns, the Conference authorized the use of a world board of Fundamental Education experts. In addition Unesco will aid and advise a limited number of "pilot projects".

Fundamental Education, however,

in the field of education. A broad programme has been outlined for 1948 of education to improve international understanding.

Three Seminars on education, similar to those at Sèvres, France, last year, will be held in different parts of the world during 1948. In co-operation with the United Nations and its other Specialised Agencies, Unesco will undertake an educational campaign of teaching about the UN, its aims and activities.

Cultural Interchange

In the field of Arts and Letters, Unesco will continue to support by technical advice the creation of an International Theatre Institute, independent of Unesco. Unesco will also undertake preliminary enquiries for the establishment of an International Music Institute.

The Director-General has been instructed to draw up a list of high-quality colour reproductions designed to illustrate the most important phases and movements in art. This catalogue will be published and distributed throughout member states to promote the interchange of cultures. In 1946, the United Nations requested Unesco to prepare a plan for the translation of the classics. Unesco expects to complete and present such a plan to the Economic and Social Council by June 1, 1948.

A number of eminent philosophers attended the Mexico Conference. As a result of their deliberations the Conference agreed upon a series of round-table discussions dealing with certain philosophical concepts to be held in conjunction with the Amsterdam International Congress of Philosophy. In order to link the efforts of philosophers and humanists with the work of Unesco, the organisation will encourage the establishment of an International Council of Associations in the field of Philosophy and the Humanities.

Unesco's Museum specialists will prepare a plan for the international exchange of contemporary works of art through organised exchanges of exhibitions and collections accompanied by appropriate catalogues.

Social and Human Relations

Searching enquiries into the tensions affecting international understanding will be carried out by Unesco in 1948 in collaboration with leading social scientists everywhere. The purpose of such enquiries is to prepare first of all, a comprehensive analysis of the forces which influence understanding and respect among peoples of different culture patterns. Secondly, the project envisages a programme of action to overcome and eliminate tensions negatively affecting mutual understanding.

Natural Sciences

Unesco specialists in the NATURAL SCIENCES were very active during 1947. The three Field Science Co-operation Offices already in existence in the Middle East, the Far East and Latin America will be maintained and an additional office in South Asia will be established in 1948 as undertakings of the highest priority within the Natural Sciences programme.

This year will also see the establishment of the International Institute of the Hylean Amazon. The Brazilian Government and the countries bordering on the vast Amazon Basin are taking special interest in the Institute, which will study ecological, ethnological and agricultural questions as well as educational and linguistic problems, affecting the Amazon region.

It became evident during the Mexico Conference that, amidst the troubled problems before the world today, Unesco offers one of the few meeting places where both men and nations may find agreement on vital international questions.

This feeling was manifest at Mexico City where an almost unanimous effort was made by national delegations to avoid controversial political issues. Delegates agreed that Unesco—in the space only of its first year of life—had gained ground towards becoming a truly universal organ.

TRANSLATION OF CLASSICS TO BE PROMOTED BY UNESCO

By Prof. Jean-Jacques Mayoux

IF it is true that "it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed," in what way can philosophy and the vast studies dealing with the cultural past of mankind contribute to such a peace?

Let us, in this respect, examine the Philosophy and Humanities programme of Unesco, by dividing it into two categories: the empirical and the theoretical.

"UNESCO MONTH" ATTRACTS THOUSANDS

(Continued from page 1.)

Early in the Conference, Dr. Julian Huxley, Director-General, pointed out the difficulties under which Unesco would have to work and the obstacles against which it would have to struggle. He declared:

"Unesco cannot operate with full effectiveness in the presence of fascism, imperialism, intolerance, witch-hunting, oppressive exploitation, corruption, authoritarian suppression of freedom or exaggerated nationalism . . ."

From November 10 to November 28, in sub-commissions and working parties—as many as six convening simultaneously in morning, afternoon and even night sessions—the 1948 programme took form. At the same time, problems of administration, of budget, external relations and procedure were studied and resolved.

Nineteen plenary sessions were held up to December 3, the last five of which were almost continuous. Delegates from all member states heard and approved the programme for 1948 in its final form.

Letters and telegrams of support were received from people all over the world in all walks of life.

Lectures, musical and artistic presentations and receptions highlighted the colourful Unesco Month Programme, held concurrently with the Conference. A series of seven lectures was delivered on Mexican education, science, plastic art, music, biology and literature at the "Palacio de Bellas Artes".

During the Conference, two Unesco exhibits (each divided into two sections) were on display in the school—one exhibit on public libraries and museums, the other on Fundamental Education and on educational reconstruction—and were viewed by thousands of visitors.

Other important meetings were held in conjunction with the Conference which itself served—in the view of both delegates and observers—as a successful experiment in international co-operation. A landmark for the organisation's work, concluding Unesco's first year of life.

WORLD COPYRIGHT LAW PLANNED

When Unesco's Director-General Dr Julian Huxley said: "Copyright matters are a primary responsibility of Unesco because of its interest in the free flow of information throughout the world and the protection of the literary, scientific and artistic works upon which cultural interchange depends," he was stating with greater precision what Unesco had already affirmed during the initial stages of the Preparatory Commission in London.

The various groups of laws protecting copyright had hitherto been considered merely from the relatively unfavourable aspect of the obstacles which their entirely anarchical condition was constantly raising against world cultural interchange.

In the future, this will no longer be the case. The programme undertaken in pursuance of a decision by the Mexico City Conference will make a study of copyright problems with the object of harmonising the various national laws on the subject and will prepare the draft of a Universal Copyright Convention.

The first task of this programme for 1948 is to make a critical survey of comparative law, having regard to all the laws at present existing and the methods by which these laws are given practical effect. Due regard will be paid to all the interests involved, e.g., free flow of information, the rights of authors and publishers or workers in general as well as the public.

This considerable survey is being undertaken under the direction of the French expert, M. François Hepp, Doctor of Law and organiser of the Provisional Committee of Copyright Experts, which met at Unesco House in Paris during September, 1947.

On the practical side, it is a fact that intellectual life and the minds of men are both conditioned by habit and surroundings. Because of the every nature of their academic work and the universal character of their interests, philosophers, humanists and social science specialists depend on international exchanges. These, until now, have been almost entirely lacking. The fact is that philosophers and humanists are not organised on an international scale, or at least not effectively.

In an endeavour to remedy this, Unesco has proposed the re-grouping of the existing organisations in order to establish an International Council of Philosophy and Humanistic Studies similar to the International Council of Scientific Unions. This International Council it is hoped, will stimulate the movement of ideas and the dissemination of knowledge between nations.

Among the many duties which the Association will undertake on an international scale are the preparation of bibliographies; various systems of card indexing; analytical summaries and abstract surveys; clearing house services for the exchange of articles between philosophical reviews and, eventually, bulletins and year books containing scientific information.

Translation of Great Books

In this same field of Cultural Interchange, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations has charged Unesco with a difficult and important undertaking, that of preparing, submitting and ultimately putting into execution a plan for the general translation of the classics, including great contemporary books not only of literature but of philosophy and of social and natural science as well.

This project will have the following two objectives:

a) Unknown or insufficiently known classics are to be translated into a number of major languages in order to enrich the cultural heritage of the world and to give particular encouragement to all nations whose cultural importance may have seemed insignificant.

b) A limited number of Great Books, selected for their universal value and their representative and human qualities, are to be translated into as many languages as possible.

Regional Centres and Culture Understanding

Realising that it is essential for Unesco's purposes to understand and appreciate all cultural differences, the Organisation, during 1948, is to consider the possibility of setting up regional centres of cultural co-operation. A start in this direction will be made this year when a survey will be carried out in the Middle East.

On the theoretical side, Unesco, and in particular the Philosophy and Humanities programme will encourage a critical study of human values on an international scale. It must avoid the danger of civilisation destroying itself through apparent conflicts of ideology, which in reality, may be no more than a confusion of words.

In 1948, Unesco will undertake two groups of surveys:

1) an enquiry into the influence on current ideological controversies concerning the fundamental concepts of democracy, justice and liberty.

2) an enquiry into the ideas held by a country, or by a group within a country, of its own culture and the relations of that culture with others, individually or as a whole. Here the object is to ascertain the gaps in existing relations and to work out measures to integrate each culture in the whole of world civilisation.

These undertakings, and in fact the work of Unesco as a whole, will succeed only in proportion to the active participation stimulated, particularly amongst youth.



His Excellency the President of Mexico, Lic. Miguel Alemán (left) and Lic. Manuel Gual Vidal, Mexican Minister of Education and President of the Second Session of Unesco's General Conference.

Social Scientists Study International Tensions

THE major project in the Social Sciences programme for 1948 is that on Tensions affecting International Understanding. The Unesco Conference indicated three main lines along which efforts should be directed.

The first step towards international understanding, it decided, is to make it possible for nations to understand one another better. It accordingly provided for "Enquiries into the distinctive character of the various national cultures, ideals, and legal systems, with the aim of stimulating the sympathy and res-

By

Dr. Arvid Brodersen

pect of nations for each other's ideals and aspirations and the appreciation of national problems."

As a counterpart to this it also instructed the Director-General to promote "Enquiries into the conceptions which the people of one nation entertain of their own and of other nations."

These two groups of enquiries aim at discovering, as it were, the present state of international understanding in the world. The problem is how this understanding can be made better. To this end the 1948 programme provides for "Enquiries into modern techniques which have been developed in education, political science, philosophy and psychology for changing mental attitudes and for revealing the processes and forces involved when human minds are in conflict." This general study is to be supplemented by a specific piece of work bearing directly upon this central question: "An enquiry into the influences throughout life which predispose towards international understanding on the one hand and aggressive nationalism on the other."

Finally, it is recognised that two particular factors are of special importance in regard to tensions affecting international understanding: technological change and population movements. A Source Book is to be prepared showing what studies are under way on these subjects in the Member States.

Two further points laid down by the Conference for the conduct of the "Tensions" project are of special interest. To the utmost extent possible the services of universities, research centres, National Commissions, international organisations, are to be enlisted in carrying out this project. At the same time, the Director-General of Unesco is instructed to "study methods whereby the findings of the investigations may be popularised."

International Collaboration As a Problem in Social Science

Social scientists everywhere are largely preoccupied with national problems these days. Reconstruction and social development after the war naturally have a first claim on

their time and energy. But the post-war situation poses new international problems too. The peoples of the world will have to think and live and work together in a community of international co-operation if they are to be spared a new and final catastrophe. Therefore Unesco will try to call to the attention of social scientists everywhere the importance of dealing with the problems of international collaboration which can be investigated in various fields of study.

In the present world, the peoples have laid a basis for working and living together, in the great international organisations and institutions of the United Nations. But they are far from complete and perfect yet; they are living organisms which need proper care, nourishment and guidance to gain the strength and skills required of them in the world of to-day. It is vitally important for scientific specialists in all social fields to study and observe the day-to-day problems of this great community of the peoples. Here and there, valuable work is already being done. Unesco will seek to encourage such work and in some cases to initiate special studies itself.

International Standards in Political Science

National divergences in research techniques and concepts, in approach and emphasis, are an important problem at this stage, when the social sciences everywhere must be developed and brought together into an international force fit to deal with the great issues of our times. The problem can be described as one of creating a unity in diversity, an internationally integrated social science with standardised working tools, terms, concepts and methods; at the same time leaving full freedom for the expression of the national genius in social research.

In 1948, Unesco will initiate a comparative study of political science as presented in representative samples of recent research materials from various countries (scientific publications and high-level textbooks). A main reason for choosing political science as the first subject of study is the fundamental importance of that discipline for the understanding of international problems. The project is therefore ancillary to the enquiries on international collaboration and on tensions. The term "political science" as used here may be described broadly as the systematic study of politics and political behaviour, particularly the exercise of and struggle for political power in central or local government. Some typical fields of study are, for instance: parties; party systems and other political groups; representative bodies (parliaments, etc.); political public opinion; leadership and political personnel; political doctrines and ideologies; government and public administration. The findings of this enquiry are to be presented in a publication as a Report To The General Conference.

"Moral Guide of World"

Says Mexican President In Tribute to Unesco

At the inaugural meeting on the 6th November, 1947 of the Second Session of Unesco's General Conference in Mexico City, His Excellency Miguel Alemán, President of the United Mexican States welcomed delegates and observers to his country.

Describing Unesco as "the moral guide of the peoples of the world" President Alemán stressed the importance of the work already accomplished by Unesco and stated the Organisation's principal task as "the creation of a mind for peace that shall be like a second nature in all men".

President Alemán stated that through science, education and culture Unesco's purpose could be achieved and the peoples of the earth live together in mutual understanding and harmony.

"Right education", he said, "is basic for the continuous development of culture and for the healthy progress of science. We have always felt the need of giving education the highest moral function. This need was expressed by Simón Bolívar—the most authorised spokesman of our peoples—when he outlined before the Congress of Angostura, the constitutional assembly of the nations he had liberated, his ideas as to how free peoples should organise themselves".

"Simón Bolívar said 'Popular education should be the primary interest and concern of the Congress; morality and enlightenment are the foundation poles of a Republic; morality and enlightenment are our prime needs'".

"Unesco corresponds in the international field and for the entire world, to what Bolívar desired for the peoples he made independent", stated President Alemán. "Therefore, in these lands of Bolívar's America, the purposes of Unesco find the most favorable environment, are most warmly welcome, have the greatest assurance of being understood and awaken glowing enthusiasm".

Dr. Gual Vidal

Stresses Education Role In Building Peace

In his inaugural address as President of the Second Session of the General Conference, H. E. Licenciado Manuel Gual Vidal, Mexican Minister of Public Education, set the general tone of the Conference when he emphasised the role Unesco can play in building a lasting and secure peace, through the active support of the peoples and nations of the world.

The Minister of Education declared: "We fully recognise the world-wide significance of the exceptional honour conferred on our country, on Hispano-America and on the New World in general by this Conference, staged in the temple erected by Mexico to carry on that most honourable of human vocations: that of the Teacher, whose noble work is the best means of training men morally fitted to live together in peace, harmony and brotherhood".

"The Mexican nation has been stirred to the heart by Unesco's work", he said. "It has mobilised its teachers, its men of science and of letters; it has brought its best resources into play. Mexico has learnt from the historical significance of the aims and functions of the Organisation that, we, the Member States, have the moral duty of formulating, through the proper constitutional channels, international educational agreements, and of setting up schools at all levels to carry Unesco's educational principles to the heart of the teaching systems of the world."

"When these efforts have borne practical results", concluded Dr Vidal, "they will serve as a model, a basis for an international educational plan which will be a constant source of peace among peoples".

Arts and Letters Programme for 1948

EACH branch of Arts and Letters has before it projects which constitute valuable contributions to the Arts. The programme is a direct attempt to stimulate the arts and to further the major Unesco aim of promoting understanding between peoples. It entails much work; it demands co-operation, energy and judgement.

It has long been apparent that the exchange of articles between library periodicals has never reached a sufficient proportion or volume to achieve important results in the exchange of cultures. For one reason or another, and particularly since 1939, periodicals have lacked exact information regarding the literary scene in other countries. Editors have not known where to seek articles or how to contact writers. The need was felt for some system of assistance by which a literary review in some mid-west town of the United States, for example, or a struggling review in a devastated country could enjoy the possibility of publishing articles by foreign contributors. In the same way the great reviews of the European capitals have desired to print the works of writers in other countries.

It is the aim of the International Literary Pool to effect this exchange, and to help literary periodicals in their attempts to keep their readers informed of international literary and cultural life. During 1947 the Secretariat conducted preliminary enquiries as to how this project might be accomplished, and how a Pool, a turntable of this nature, might best serve its purpose.

That such a Pool was necessary soon became apparent. Requests for information and for articles were received from sources in many different parts of the world. To take a typical example, the Pool was able to place the French review "la Nef" in contact with the "Revista de America," which is published in Bogotá.

But it must be emphasised that Unesco has no desire to create a monopoly and no wish to act as a substitute for a literary agency. It sees its work above all as one of liaison, as providing a means for establishing contact at a time when communications are excessively difficult.

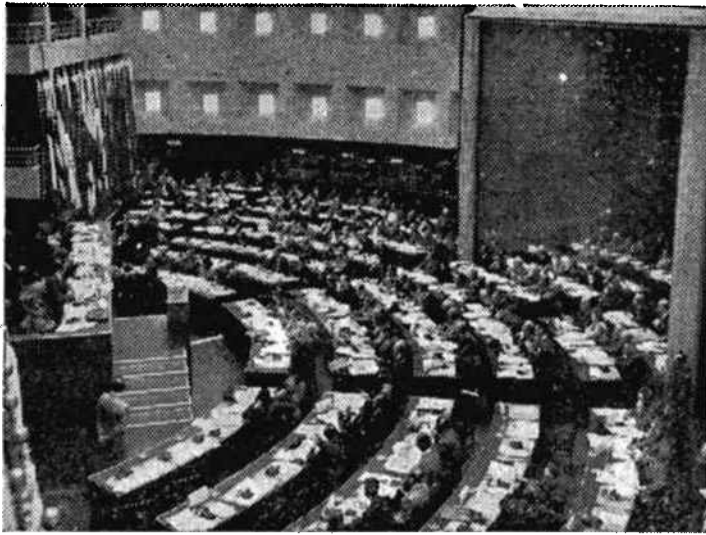
A well advanced project is the International Theatre Institute. The setting up of this Institute was agreed to at a meeting of experts held through the direct agency of Unesco in July, 1947. It is to hold its first Congress this year, when it is hoped that the draft charter will be ratified.

During the Congress and the early stages of the Institute, the Secretariat will be provided by Unesco. It is designed to promote international exchange in the world of the theatre, to facilitate the movement of theatrical troupes, scripts, ideas and all kinds of theatrical information.

FINE ART REPRODUCTIONS TO BE ENCOURAGED

Though some alterations and additions may prove necessary, the categories marked for attention during 1948 indicate the breadth of the project. They concern Pre-historic art, Persian art, art of the Italian Renaissance and the development of European painting between 1870 and 1914. The aim of the Arts and Letters Programme is to compile a detailed catalogue of those paintings which have been reproduced in colour, together with recommendations for additional reproductions. This catalogue will be discussed with experts in colour reproduction, art education and the history of art, who are to meet in Paris this summer at the same time as the Conference of the International Council of Museums. To complement these lists, to bring them alive as it were, an exhibition will be held consisting of the best colour prints available to illustrate the techniques of colour printing and their role in art appreciation and education.

Though these projects are naturally of paramount importance—



Above: Draped flag of the Mexican Republic, surmounted by the country's national emblem, forms a dramatic backdrop to the speaker's rostrum in the main conference hall of the Escuela Nacional de Maestros where the General Conference of Unesco held its Second Session. Upper left: Another view of the principal conference hall, pictured during a plenary session. Left: the President of Mexico welcomes delegates to the Second Session of the General Conference of Unesco at the inaugural ceremony in the Palacio de Bellas Artes, Mexico City.

If much has already been accomplished in literature and the theatre, only the spade work has been undertaken in the Visual Arts. In a sense so much could be attempted that the major problem facing Unesco has been to limit the choice of projects to those which could be effectively carried out at the present time. It was felt by the Conference that the most fruitful opportunity for action lay in the field of reproductions.

During the last few years much technical progress has been made in art reproduction methods and it seemed essential to encourage the raising of standards and the improvement of distribution facilities as a means of assisting art education and stimulating cultural exchange. Any work of this nature inevitably would be considerable, and the Conference accordingly felt that attention should be devoted in the first place to important and specific periods and phases of art.

they are tasks specifically set by the Conference—the Arts and Letters Programme will also include its continuous activities. These consist of research and documentation, concerning all phases of the Arts and art education, which must be built up over a number of years. They will not only enable Unesco to meet enquiries from member states and the general public, but equip the Organisation to undertake such tasks of a long or short term nature as the General Conference may set for it.

Attention of World Fixed on Unesco

"All men of goodwill who have the heavy task of seeking, instructing and informing, have their attention focussed on our work. Entire peoples passionately follow our discussions. We must not deceive this great hope of a world profoundly desirous of peace, the problems of which can be resolved only by passing from a purely material approach to an international and human approach. Let us unite in our efforts to give people reasons to believe in a future more closely conforming to their aspirations and conforming also to the ideal of our Charter."

(Extract from address of M. Jacques MARITAIN, chief of the French Delegation delivered at inaugural meeting of Second Session of the General Conference at the Palacio de Bellas Artes, Mexico City on November 6, 1947.)

New York Office of Unesco

The New York office of Unesco has recently been moved to the United Nations Building in Manhattan.

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PRESS REVIEW

The Second Session of Unesco's General Conference received world-wide coverage in the press: from New Zealand to Norway, from Belgium to Brazil, editorialists have shown themselves sensitive to the fact that the world is interested in the work of this Specialised Agency of the United Nations.

We re-print below extracts from a very small selection of the clippings Unesco has received, taken from newspapers printed in widely separated cultural areas of the globe:

"LE FIGARO" (France) of 30 December:

"Unesco's session at Mexico City represents a turning point in its existence. The delegates showed clearly their determination to pass from the necessary phase of plans, enquiries and programmes to that of realisation and action.

The repercussions of the meeting in Mexico City were so great in all the Latin American countries that it became apparent that a meeting in the Near East would be useful to spread in the Arab world the ideas of solidarity and mutual understanding which are the essential condition of peace."

...M. Paul Rivet.

"EL UNIVERSAL" (Mexico) 10 November.

In an editorial entitled "Languages in Unesco", this paper writes:

"It would be an anomaly if the language of Cervantes were excluded, not only in Mexico, but in the many distant countries where it is spoken, and only those of Shakespeare and Molière retained in the work of this important organisation. Since the countries speaking our language total nearly half of the Member States of the United Nation Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation, the right of Spanish to be classed along with English and French as a widely spoken language is beyond dispute. And this right, it must be emphasised, is not confined to the present meeting. It is valid for all future meetings of Unesco, and the delegates of the nations who recognise this right must never cease to claim it."

"MANCHESTER GUARDIAN" (England) 12 December.

An editorial entitled "Mexico City" reads in part as follows: "Most of the good work of Unesco is unspectacular and done in remote parts of the world. There is no better publicity than a big conference.

"It would be far better if Unesco's friends thought less for a while about war and peace and took as their task to press on in the practical service of education and science as ends in themselves. On

the scientific side there is already a sound tradition of international co-operation... For its own intrinsic merit it deserves generous financial support, and the General Conference had the good sense to provide it.

"CORRIERE DI MILANO" (Italy) 21 December.

Guido De Ruggiero writes: "The work of the Second General Conference of Unesco has come to an end. During this month much was discussed and in the midst of a number of rather Utopian and abstract plans which were formulated and approved, several concrete proposals have come to light which will constitute a useful working programme for the year 1948. Among these which will interest Italians particularly are those which will seek to stimulate the international exchange of persons, books and scientific material. New study grants will be allocated and concrete facilities introduced for the exchange of professors and students on the basis of a "clearing" system which will obviate the necessity of currency exchange. A plan has also been formulated for the exchange of books with the creation of "book coupons" to be guaranteed by Unesco, thus assuring an int'l. circulation of books.

"CIN" (Czechoslovakia) 5 December.

Dr. R. Vanicek in an article "Neglected Unesco" writes:

"Since politics have undoubtedly had a greater impact on the organisation of the world than science and culture, the last session of the General Assembly of United Nations and the Conference of Foreign Ministers in London had much more publicity than the work of Unesco, and its General Conference. This should not be the case since a peace organisation such as UN with all its political and economic activities cannot do without an educational institution like Unesco.

"By co-operation with prominent scientists all over the world a stage of world development could be achieved where politics would be subordinated to knowledge and not vice versa as we have experienced it so far to the great harm of all mankind.

"CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR" (USA) 6 December.

"So Unesco has packed its bags... figuratively with as many good things as old Saint Nicholas himself might have taken aboard for a peace-hungry world nearing the Christmas festival. The good effects of these gifts may not be felt until the new year is well under way, but the packages can be opened now for viewing."

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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