



Dr. Julian Huxley (right) chats with Lebanese delegates. Dr. Charles Malik (extreme left) and Mons. Maroun (second from left) during interval of Special Session of General Conference last month.

Beirut Prepares to Receive Unesco Conference

PREPARATIONS are under way for the opening in Beirut, Lebanon, of the Third Session of Unesco's General Conference on November 17.

Following the decision of the Extraordinary Session of the Conference in Paris on September 15 to maintain the original plan, adopted in Mexico City last year, Unesco is carrying on its ground work for the forthcoming discussions in Beirut.

Material is already being turned out in Arabic, which will be one of the working languages, in addition to English and French. At least one special issue of the Unesco Courier will also be published in Arabic at the time of the Conference.

In Beirut, the three halls for plenary meetings and the meetings of commissions are now completed, and the entire premises will be fitted up early this month.

In its one-day discussions, the

Extraordinary Session, which was under the chairmanship of Dr. Francisco del Rio y Canedo, Mexican Ambassador to France, voted to "maintain the decision of the Mexico Conference to hold the Third Ordinary Session of the General Conference at Beirut in November unless prevented by grave obstacles." The voting was 34 in favour, three against (New Zealand, Poland and Czechoslovakia), with one abstention (Hungary). Six countries, Bolivia, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Uruguay and Saudi Arabia) were not represented.

Another resolution had been submitted by the Executive Board as an alternative if the Beirut choice was to be reversed. It suggested the convening of the Third Conference in November in Geneva, or the convening of the Session in Paris in December and the submission of a proposal that the Conference adjourn to Beirut at a later date.

In the debate that took place, the prevailing view of the delegates was that a change in the original decision would cause considerable moral prejudice to the position of Unesco in the world, and more especially so in the Middle East. But were the Third Conference to meet in Beirut, an excellent opportunity would thus be available to Unesco to make itself better known in that part of the world, and even to play a conciliatory role in the present delicate conjuncture.

Commenting on the view of some delegates that there were no political implications in the issue under review, the New Zealand representative, Dr. W.H. Sutch, said that if this were the case there would have been no need for the Extraordinary Session, and one had to face the fact that there was a political element in the decision.

Tensions No Obstacle

The Indian delegate, Sir Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, rejected the idea that the state of tension prevailing in the Middle East should prevent Unesco from holding its Third Conference there. There was, he said, no place on earth where there was no tension.

"It is argued that the Middle East today is a hot-bed of intrigues, suspicion, misunderstanding and even physical hostilities. But is it not our duty to go to a place like that to proclaim our ideal of humanity?"

"Whatever decision we may take will be regarded as political today. We have nothing to do with politics. If we are to avoid going to places where there is political tension, where is such a place in the world today?"

"Beirut," he added, "may perhaps be the meeting-ground of the intellectual Arabs and Jews and the General Conference may itself contribute to the easing of the tension."

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National Commissions in Lebanon

A meeting of the representatives of twenty-eight National Commissions and of persons concerned with the setting up of National Commissions in the other Member States of Unesco will be held on 15 and 16 November, 1948, immediately before the opening of the Third Session of the General Conference at Beirut.

Included in the Agenda for this meeting are the following subjects for discussion—the role of National Commissions and National Co-operating Bodies in relation to their Governments and to the Secretariat of Unesco; the effectiveness of National Commissions' participation in the 1948 programme of Unesco; co-operation between Commissions and the possibility of direct exchanges of visits and publications between Commissions, and the review of the action taken by the Secretariat to carry out the Resolutions of the Second Session of the General Conference on National Commissions.

A further meeting of the representatives will be held during the closing days of the Conference to enable them to discuss the responsibility of National Commissions in relation to the 1949 Programme of Unesco adopted by the Third Session.

LATIN AMERICANS CO-ORDINATE SCIENTIFIC WORK

AT the ceremony on September 10, in the Great Hall of Montevideo University, which brought to a close the first Scientific Co-operation Conference convened by Unesco in Latin America, a prominent Uruguayan scientist stated, amid applause from the government and university dignitaries present:

"This is one of the most important moments in the history of Latin American science."

That exclamation was a tribute to the efforts of some of the most distinguished representatives of science in Latin America who had come together to draw up plans for the best ways Unesco could help scientific progress in their countries.

The scientists reaffirmed the great usefulness of the Unesco Field Science Co-operation Office in that region of the world and agreed on the suitability of transferring the Office from Rio de Janeiro, where it had been temporarily set up in 1947, to Montevideo, Uruguay.

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Executive Board Meets in Istanbul

Istanbul, Turkey will be the seat of the next Unesco Executive Board meeting to be held on November 11 and 12.

One of the purposes of this meeting is to arouse interest among the people of Turkey and adjacent areas in the work and aims of the Organization and the forthcoming General Conference opening in Beirut on November 17.

Scientists At Fontainebleau Study Nature Preservation

AT Fontainebleau, in the very heart of one of the loveliest forests in France, the "Conference for the Establishment of the International Union for Protection of Nature" will be held from 30 September to 7 October 1948, under the co-sponsorship of the French Government, and Unesco.

Since the beginning of the century, much consideration has been given to the International Protection of Nature; under Unesco's sponsorship, practical proposals are being drawn up and will be given final shape at the Conference.

The spiritual value of the beauties of nature, which must be preserved for future generations, has been admirably described by G.M. Trevelyan in the following words:

"By the side of religion, by the side of science, by the side of poetry and art, stands natural beauty, not as a rival to these, but as the common inspirer and nourisher of them all, and with a secret of her own besides . . . It alone makes a common appeal to the sectaries of all our different schools of poetry and art, ancient and modern, and to many more besides these. It is the highest common denominator in the spiritual life of today."

And Bernard de Voto, writing in "Fortune" on the same theme, says:

"Our civilization excludes steadily increasing numbers of Americans (and men

throughout the world) from first-hand knowledge of nature...streams, plants, forests, animals, plants, for the effect of storm...and yet their need of it can never be extinguished..."

In the words of Henry G. Maurice, Secretary of the Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the [British] Empire, man "living in most unnatural conditions in crowded cities, has been pillaging the world not only to supply himself with the necessities of a natural existence, but for the creation of the means for and amenities of a wholly artificial existence".

This way of life leads to reckless exploitation of the gifts of nature. A campaign must therefore be launched against the gradual destruction of the beauty, wealth and spiritual values which this nature lavishes on the human race.

Two International Conventions for the Protection of Nature are already in force: the London Convention on African Nature Protection (1933), and the Convention on Nature Protection and Wild Life Preservation in the Western Hemisphere (1942). These precedents are a strong foundation for future work, and the efforts and achievements of all communities which have given attention to the problem will serve as a guide for the Fontainebleau Conference.

At the Unesco General Conference in Beirut next month, the Director-General of the Organization will propose that Unesco convene in the same place as, and in co-ordination with, the United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Natural Resources (UNSCUOR—scheduled for 16 May—3 June 1949 in the U.S.A.) an International Technical Conference on the Protection of Nature, from 3 to 11 June 1949.

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Cheap Radio Receivers

In Illiteracy Battle

The possibility of producing simplified radio receivers on a large scale which would be distributed directly through governments at the manufacturer's selling price and at a cost far below current market prices, was seriously considered at a recent meeting in Paris last August of Unesco's Commission on Technical Needs of Press, Radio and Films.

The proposal, one of the most important and far-reaching in the field of educational radio, was strongly recommended by the Commission as a practical means of combating illiteracy in the world today.

The radio experts voiced their conviction that consideration must be given to the millions of people who cannot read or write and whose standards of living render the possession of a radio receiver an impossibility under present conditions.

Unesco will seek the collaboration of radio manufacturers to carry out the necessary research in the development, for example, of low-cost valves and components, and in the use of printed circuits calculated to give satisfactory performance under tropical conditions.

Although it is as yet too early to state the definite price of such receivers, the Commission had in mind that the selling price level of the five recommended types of receivers should be of the order of \$4.00 to \$10 and considered that there is a market for several millions of receivers which should make such a project practical.

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Literary Pool Links World Cultural Reviews

It is somewhat disappointing to think of the disproportion between the constant improvement in the facilities for conquering space offered by modern life and the failure to surmount the barriers to thought presented by differences of language.

We can hear the wireless words spoken at the other end of the world; we can pass in a few hours from Europe or America to China, and admire new countries and works of art. And yet, if we do not know the language, we remain almost as unfamiliar with the real life of a country as if we had never passed its borders.

What more insoluble mystery is there for a Frenchman than a book printed in Chinese or Swedish, or one in Dutch for an Egyptian or an Indian? How many fundamental works consist of nothing more than incomprehensible signs for people living only a few miles from the place where they were written?

Intellectual Exchange Through Contemporary Periodicals

And if this is true of the masterpieces of the past, with names and characteristics of which we are at least familiar by hearsay, how much truer is it of contemporary thought, which nevertheless already contains the embryo of the future?

This great problem has not been overlooked by Unesco, and while the Philosophy and Humanistic Studies Division has concentrated on finding the best means of translating the masterpieces of the past, the Arts and Letters Division has undertaken to bring living civilizations into touch with one another, by concentrating on the form in which contemporary thought most readily finds



expression—the review.

That is how the International Literary Pool was conceived. Its principal purpose is to establish an active two-way flow between reviews in all countries and to serve as an international source of information and mutual understanding. In order to achieve this aim, the Literary Pool endeavours to offer reviews in different countries articles which have already been published in others reviews and which may help them to inform their readers about artistic or literary movements in countries of which little or nothing is known.

It was first necessary to obtain an accurate list of the literary reviews, or those reviews which had a literary section, in each country. In many countries almost all the reviews which were published before the war have ceased, or changed their character. These lists also have to be constantly kept up-to-date, as one of the characteristic features of our time—and not the least regrettable—is the uncertain fate of reviews.

Scheme Enthusiastically Welcomed by Reviews In Many Countries

When the lists had been obtained, Unesco wrote to each review, asking it to take part in the project. Over 300 were approached and 160 have replied. The scheme was enthusiastically welcomed by 140, who, in their first reply, also indicated the countries with which contact in the literary sphere had proved most difficult, and mentioned the general subjects and the countries which interested them most.

In order to understand the interest displayed by the reviews, the circumstances of literary life throughout the world and the difficulties of arranging exchanges must be borne in mind.

People are sometimes inclined to think that intellectual contacts between countries are easy; that is not by any means the case. Ever-growing barriers have been built up by the war and by customs restrictions. Furthermore, the interest in the literature of lesser-known countries—apparent for some 50 years—has gradually decreased.

These difficulties, which are

almost insuperable for the reviews themselves, may not be so for an international organization.

Reviews have been "paired off" according to their character and their readers. Literary reviews offer many diverse nuances in content and approach. Philosophic, technical and medical periodicals appeal to a well-defined audience. The appeal of literary reviews, on the other hand, ranges from avant-garde readers to the man in the street, and covers a wide field from the short story and the essay to criticism or poetry.

In suggesting the first articles, the Literary Pool took account of the space available in the reviews, since long articles were for all practical purposes, unusable in certain countries which had been particularly hard-hit by the war.

The intellectual and practical independence of almost all literary or artistic reviews is well known. What is therefore required, first and foremost, is to offer them articles which do not represent a particular form of propaganda, but show what critics, artists and writers think of the special problems of their own country, and of those concerning some part of the world or mankind as a whole.

The Pool endeavours chiefly to concentrate on those countries whose languages are less familiar:

For example, an article by Rabindranath Tagore on the place of music in education and culture, originally published by the Indian review "Visva Bharati", was offered to the Ecuador review "Letras del Ecuador" which recently published it. Another Indian review, "United Asia", reproduced a fine poem on Gandhi's death by the Brazilian writer, Cecilia Meireles. This poem was also published in the Lebanese review "Les Cahiers de l'Est" of Beirut.

One of the principal Egyptian reviews in Arabic, "El Kitab", is publishing in its October issue a long article on the literary unity of Europe, which originally appeared in the French review "La Table Ronde", and has already been accepted in Italy by the review "Rassegna d'Italia". A French review has published a short story by the Dutch writer, Crollius which had appeared in the Dutch magazine "Apollo". The editors of Turkish and Norwegian reviews have been sent American and Indian poems.

Since April, some 60 articles have been accepted by reviews of different types in various countries.

Pool Is Not A Literary Agency

The aim of Unesco is not to act as a literary agency, but rather to encourage the cross-fertilization of ideas between the main cultural areas of the world and thus to make it possible later, for reviews to carry out exchanges directly.

In some instances, articles are submitted already translated and ready for printing, such as articles in Chinese and Arabic intended for the rest of the world, articles in Dutch or Polish for Latin America, etc., etc. Reviews which have published articles from magazines in another country have already shown a desire to establish direct contact with foreign reviews, in order to consider the possibility of regular exchanges. Others have asked for and received lists of foreign reviews similar to their own.

The problem of copyright, which so often prevents exchanges, is solved, whenever possible, in accordance with international commercial agreement. Where that is not possible because of currency or other difficulties, reviews and writers have given evidence of sincere understanding; they have authorized the translation and reproduction of articles without payment, in order that their thought, their culture and hence their country may establish spiritual links with their countries.

The International Literary Pool hopes in the coming months, with the assistance of other departments and bureaux in Unesco, to extend its system for exchanging articles to other fields which have not so far been developed, such as films, philosophy and all forms of expression of thought which are a feature of periodicals in every country.



Brussels Meeting Extends Copyright Convention

By
François HEPP
Head of the Copyright
Division.

Note: On the eve of his departure for Buenos Aires, where he is to represent Unesco at the International Congress of Authors' Societies to be held between 5 and 15 October, M. François Hepp has kindly recorded for COURIER readers some of the results of the important Diplomatic Conference for the revision of the Berne Convention which met in Brussels this summer, at which he was present as a Unesco observer.

UNESCO'S interest in the work of the Brussels Conference was dictated by the high importance which this Organization attaches to unification of Copyright as a means of dissipating many international misunderstandings arising from insufficient knowledge among peoples. The Berne Convention is the first, and an enduring, monument of International Copyright, and a Conference for its revision could not fail to be, in Unesco's eyes, an event of the first importance.

From the Brussels conference, at which there were 35 Member countries and observers from 18 non-members, the Berne Convention emerged considerably strengthened, and with a greater measure of unity.

The practical results obtained may be summed up as follows: Inclusion of photographic, cinematic, and in certain conditions, "applied works of art," among the categories protected;

agreement on the period after the death of an author during which the "moral rights" may be exercised;

important provisions regarding press publications (including news-reels) gramophone recordings, cinema, and particularly broadcasting and television;

acceptance of the "continuing participating right" (droit de suite) in respect of resales of works of art.

Finally there are three measures of major importance:

1. acceptance of the principal that authors' rights be directly protected by the instrument of the Convention without previous amendment of national legislation;

2. unanimous acceptance of fifty years as the period during which an author's work continues to be protected after his death;

3. agreement on the long sought principle that any difference between Member countries regarding the interpretation of the Convention's provisions be referred to the International Court of Justice.

In addition it was decided that the text of the Convention be henceforth drafted in two languages, French (formerly the sole language) and English, though the French text shall be authoritative in cases of dispute.

Furthermore all Member States may require the Berne Office to publish an "authorized" text in their several languages.

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Beirut Prepares Conference

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The Australian delegate, Col. W. R. Hodgson, said that the elements of conflagration existed when the Mexico decision was taken and things had not radically changed since.

"We are a cultural body," he said, "and should not aspire to handling political questions. Having embarked on one course, we should steer by that course firmly and consistently... and go to Beirut."

Pole Favors Geneva

The holding of the Conference at Geneva was advocated by the Polish Delegate M. Henryk Birecki, who recalled that when the decision was taken at Mexico City to go to Beirut, the United Nations General Assembly was then discussing the fate of Palestine. He pointed out that delegates who voted for Beirut at Mexico City were unaware of the U.N. decision regarding Palestine and could not foresee that there would be States which would not apply a decision taken by the United Nations. The necessity for the Conference to be held this year and the fear of a decision not to meet at Beirut being interpreted as a demonstration against the peoples living in that region would be reconciled, he considered, by having the Conference in a traditionally neutral country.

The Lebanese delegate, Dr. Charles Malik admitted that the issue was a political one. But "although it is a political question, Unesco must be above politics.

"There is an English saying that you cannot prevent birds from flying over your head, but you can certainly prevent them from building their nests in your hair. Thus only by being above Jew and Arab can Unesco, in the first place serve its own purpose, and in the second place help... to serve as much as possible Jew and Arab alike."

Amendment Voted

After the adoption of the resolution to hold the Third Ordinary Session of the General Conference in Beirut, the Extraordinary Session unanimously voted an amendment suggested by the Executive Board to modify the rules of procedure so that:

"In the event of grave obstacles developing in the course of the year which, in the opinion of the Executive Board, render it impossible to hold the General Conference at the place fixed at the previous Session, the Executive Board may, after consultation with Member States and if a majority of them concur, convene the meeting elsewhere."

It was pointed out by the Chairman of the Executive Board that the Board regarded itself bound by the decision taken by the Extraordinary Session to call the Third Conference in Beirut and that the Board did not consider the above resolution as implying any reservations or any arrière-pensée such as might give rise to misunderstandings.

The Session then adjourned until the Third Ordinary Conference in Beirut, in November.

Tiny Lebanon Offers Great Cultural Wealth

THE choice of the Lebanon as the seat of Unesco's Third General Conference is a specially interesting one at a time when a veritable intellectual renaissance is evident in the seven Arab countries of the Middle and Near East.

Since ancient times the Lebanon has been a centre of international exchange. Archaeologists and ancient historians teach us that the first international relations on a large scale—the exchange of works of art, commercial and cultural exchanges were peacefully established by the seamen and merchants of Byblos, Tyre, Sidon, Beryte, etc.

These men were bold navigators who explored the whole of the ancient world and set up 600 trading posts from the Gulf of Guinea to Scotland and from Gibraltar to the Indies. Their most certain title to a place in history is their invention of the alphabet of 20 consonants and 6 vowels, which has remained unchanged since then and which we use today. The first inscription in this alphabet is on the tomb of Ah'ram, King of Byblos in the Lebanon.

Close Arab Ties

It is interesting to note that even then the Lebanese were most closely linked with the countries which are today Arab: Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Cyrenaica, Carthage and Morocco.

Later the School of Law of Beryte, where Ulpian of Tyre, Papinian and Justinian were trained, and which was as important as Rome itself in the creation of Roman law, was for long the intellectual beacon of the East.

In modern times the first Arab printing press was set up at Choueir in the Lebanon by Abdullah Zakher; there, too, were produced the first Arab dictionary, the first Arabic daily paper and play, and the first grammar of Arabic syntax. The literary revival which took place in the Lebanon in the 19th Century spread so swiftly to Egypt and Syria—indeed in all directions—that it was directly responsible for the major cultural renaissance to which we owe the political independence of the majority of the Arab lands today.

Humanistic Revival

It is safe to forecast that the presence of those countries will be increasingly felt in international assemblies. From the cultural, scientific and educational point of view, it was important, therefore—indeed necessary—for Unesco to make direct contact with the Arab world.

Today there are 250,000,000 men, Arab in civilization, language and customs, who seek to revive the humanistic values which flowered among them some centuries back, when Europe was still sunk in the darkness of the Middle Ages. At that time the Arabs were the first to translate and annotate the philosophers of Greece; they had invented algebra and had given an impetus to geometry, astronomy, medicine and architecture which served as the starting point of modern science.

Nerve Centers

In the old world the Arab countries lie along the nearest marches of the non-European continents. They are found at the most sensitive geographical nerve centres: Gibraltar, Suez, the Straits; on the turntable and meeting place of Europe, Africa and Asia. Nearly half their coasts are washed by the Mediterranean and they have a considerable coast-line on the Atlantic and the Indian Ocean.

Unesco, which seeks to encourage scientific, intellectual and artistic expression, and a rich cultural interchange among peoples, underlines by this meeting its interest in the culture of the Arabs, just as Unesco's conference in Mexico last year marked

the importance of Latin American culture.

Much will be asked of the Arab world because it has much to give in a field whose spiritual climate is that of ardour and of faith. That is the most rewarding path in these Eastern countries where so many mystics and religions have been born. The Lebanon will give itself to this task without reserve.

By

Camille ABOUSSOUAN,

Managing Editor, "Cahier de l'Est" (Beirut),

Dr. Julian Huxley's visit to the Lebanon this year gave him a clear idea of the intensity and fervour predominant in this country. He made contact with the principal cultural and governmental figures of the country and was able to observe that hundreds of Lebanese intellectuals are eagerly working for the One World ideal through culture, edu-

the city of Beirut. The commitments entered into for buildings and other preparations for the Conference are in the neighbourhood of £3,000,000. A thousand workmen have been labouring for months on the construction of premises which will include a huge conference hall seating 500 delegates, 200 secretaries and journalists and 600 visitors. Two large halls are being prepared for commissions, equipped for simultaneous interpretation.

The Unesco Month will include eight lectures by prominent international figures, theatrical, cultural and artistic exhibitions, excursions to historic sites of the Middle East, exhibitions and showing of a hundred-odd scientific films. Arrangements will be made for three official receptions, the Government being the host at two and the City of Beirut at the third.

That the Conference will be a success cannot be doubted; firstly, because it is in line with the spirit of Unesco directed as that is towards the mutual cross fer-



View of Beirut shore line

tilization of cultures and greater knowledge between the nations.

Beirut, the capital of the Lebanon, and an intellectual centre of the Middle East, with its two universities, its Academie des Beaux Arts, its large secondary schools, its 125 reviews or periodicals for a population of 300,000 inhabitants, is an ideal place for a cultural and intellectual meeting.

The Lebanon has selected as the site for Unesco's Third Annual Conference an area overlooking the sea and open to the mountains to the southwest of

Hungary and Iran Become Member States

Hungary and Iran have now become full members of Unesco. The Governments of these two countries have deposited their instruments of acceptance of the Organization's Constitution with the British Foreign Office in London.

Argentine and Iraq have accepted Unesco's Constitution but have not yet deposited their instruments of ratification.

The admission of Hungary and Iran brings to forty-two the number of Member States of Unesco. They are:

Afghanistan, Austria, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ecuador, France, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Iran, Italy, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, El Salvador, Saudi Arabia, Syria, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Iran Extend Its Educational Programme

by Dr. A.H. MALEKI,

Delegate of Iran at the Universities Conference, Utrecht.

[The article printed below is the partial text of an address given by Dr. A.H. Maleki at the Utrecht Universities Conference, called by Unesco and the Netherlands Government early in August.]

IRAN possesses a culture and a history going back for thousands of years. Evidence has been found, dating from 30 centuries B.C., of a civilization which extended to the fields of science, art and architecture.

Iranian culture was profoundly influenced by the coming of Islam, but at the same time it spread to all the Islamic territories. Iranian writers and scholars, such as Avicenna and others, provided Islamic civilization with its scientific and cultural basis.

The Iranian language was represented at different times in our history by celebrated philosophers and writers, whose fame became world-wide and whose works were translated into French, German and English. As instances, we might mention works of Khayyam, Hafiz and Nezami.

These men often dealt with pedagogic problems, and devoted important works to the education of young people. Eight hundred years ago Sahdi, the famous philosopher and author, completed a work on pedagogic methods. He wrote: "Men are all members of the same body; when one member is wounded, the whole body suffers. He who gives no thought to the relief of human suffering is unworthy of the name of man."

That idea was the soil from which education has sprung in our country. The university, in the modern sense of the term, only came into being in our country in 1934. But it has existed before that. Universities and large schools, the cultural institutions of Iran, enjoyed immense prestige in the Middle Ages. They taught pedagogy, philosophy, logic, astronomy, medicine, literature, mathematics and the natural sciences. In the Middle Ages it was the science and education emanating from these institutions which led the peoples out of darkness into light.

Iran suffered severely from the war. She placed her forces at the disposal of the Allies, and thereby earned the title of the "Bridge of Victory". After the war Iran felt the need of opening fresh universities, chiefly for the training of teachers and doctors.

Thus, when political order had been re-established in the country in 1947, the Government of Iran caused a new University to be opened at Tabriz.

The University of Tabriz has

only two faculties: letters and medicine. It is hoped before long to create, in addition, the other faculties which are normally included in a university. This institution is temporarily housed in buildings which were not designed for that purpose, but provision has now been made for the construction of special buildings on a site having an area of 200,000 square metres. The administration of the new university is on the same lines as that of the University of Teheran. Le Shahan, the Shah of Iran, has authorized a grant of 10 million rials (350,000 dollars) for the construction of a hospital attached to the faculty of medicine, where students will be able to engage in practical work.

The foundation of the University of Tabriz has been applauded by the whole nation, which regards it as a new and important centre for the diffusion of science and culture. Azerbaijan has always, from the most ancient times, been the religious and scientific centre of Iran.

It was Zarathustra, one of the ancient prophets of Iran, who kindled in the very heart of Azerbaijan the sacred fire from which science and philosophy were diffused throughout the whole country. This philosophy declared: "Darkness and light are in perpetual conflict with each other; but, in the end, light will triumph; truth will expel falsity; science will illuminate ignorance."

It is this philosophy which inspires our methods of teaching, and we trust that, with the aid of great cultural organizations, and especially with the support of Unesco, our young university will attain its full development, and will succeed in fully accomplishing its educational mission; it will thus become an efficient member of the world-wide organization of Universities.

Unesco Issues List Of Middle East Scientific Works

A "List of Scientific Works Published in the Middle East" has recently been issued by the Unesco Field Science Co-operation Office in Cairo, Egypt.

The Middle East Field Science Co-operation Office upon finding that in many cases scientists in one part of the region were ignorant of what was being published elsewhere in the region, decided to collate this information and make it available to scientific workers and students in the Arabic world.

It is hoped that the "List of Scientific Works Published in the Middle East" will not only be of considerable value to scientists in the region but will also stimulate interest in other parts of the world in the work being carried out by men of science in the Middle East.

Argentina Sends Books for French and Italian Schools

Italian schools are to receive 17,000 exercise books and notebooks, and French schools some 2,000 books in Spanish from Argentina. These consignments have been donated by two commercial firms of Argentina, following a campaign conducted in that country by the Latin-American delegation of the International Union for Child Welfare.

The Union, which launched its appeal to aid schools in war-devastated countries, used Unesco's "Book of Needs" as a source of information on educational requirements in those areas. The exercise books and notebooks, which are a gift from the firm of Angel Estrada y Cia, Buenos Aires, are being sent direct to the Italian Ministry of Education in Rome.

RISSALAT EL UNESCO

Arabic Edition of "Courier" Published this month

The Unesco Courier will be published this month in Arabic.

A special edition of this newspaper, bearing the title "Rissalat El Unesco", will be published at Beirut in the second half of October in honour of the Third Session of the General Conference. M. Wajdi Mallat, Lebanese man of letters and now a member of the Bureau of Public Information of Unesco, has been charged with the preparation of this special number.

The form of the Arabic "Courier" will be similar to that of the French, English and Spanish editions. Besides statements and studies on Unesco's principles, programme and achievements, it

will contain articles specially written for this particular edition and signed by some of the most eminent scholars of the Arab world and the East.

The main purpose of these articles is, on the one hand, to make the Arab peoples and countries acquainted with Unesco, and, on the other hand, to show the important part to be played by the Arab civilization in world culture and in Unesco's work.

Some of the articles will be published in the November issue of the French, English and Spanish editions, and is hoped that they will help to strengthen understanding and cultural co-operation between the Orient and the Western World.

رِيسَالَاتُ الْيُونِسْكُو

UNESCO SUMS UP 1947-1948 Press, Radio, Film Needs

IN 1947 and 1948 Unesco carried out surveys in a number of countries to discover their technical needs with regard to the press, radio and film.

Following the spirit of the Organization's Constitution the first two sessions of the General Conference of Unesco held that, to ensure "full and equal opportunities for education for all, the unrestricted pursuit of objective truth, and the free exchange of ideas and knowledge", Unesco should lend its assistance to "all means of mass communication".

In 1947, surveys were carried out in 12 war-devastated countries, and in 1948 in 6 war-devastated countries and 11 countries in which the technical means of mass communication are perhaps not yet sufficiently developed (*).

By the term "technical needs" Unesco implies:

- (a) Inadequate supplies of raw materials (such as newsprint, raw film stock);
- (b) Shortage of equipment itself;
- (c) Inadequacy of professional training.

Fifteen experts on mass communication, invited in their personal capacity, constituted the Commission, which met in August this year to consider the reports prepared by the Unesco Secretariat on the press, radio and film situation in the seventeen countries covered by the survey.

As in 1947, the experts found that "if the full capacity of industry were utilized, production throughout the world could, with the possible exception of newsprint, be sufficient to meet the essential requirements of the countries considered" and that it was "the shortage of foreign currency which prevented the acquisition of adequate quantities of raw materials and the equipment necessary for the press, radio and films".

In its general recommendations the Commission stressed the vital importance of cultural and information needs in the defence of peace. It gave special emphasis to the problem of newsprint, and asked Unesco to draw the attention of Governments to the importance of expanding the production of raw materials and the equipment necessary for the development of the press, radio and

* In 1947, the following countries were surveyed: Belgium, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Greece, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Poland and Yugoslavia. In 1948, the survey was extended to the following 17 countries: Austria, Burma, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Italy, Malayan Union, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Singapore, Uruguay and Venezuela.

film, and to give such requirements a high priority.

The Commission emphasized the value of developing co-operation between Unesco and the various Specialized Agencies and Economic Commissions of the United Nations for the assistance of the different countries covered by the 1947 and 1948 surveys. The Commission requested Unesco to extend such surveys gradually to cover the whole world and to keep them up to date, so that in a few years

time a complete picture of the production and development possibilities of all the means of mass communication could be obtained. It also requested that the various plans for assisting countries where the press, radio and film are still undeveloped be put into effect.

In 1947, the three Sub-Commissions—Press and News Agencies, Radio and Film—had tried in some cases to calculate the needs of the surveyed countries, and to give a precise indication of the measure of assistance that should be carried out.

In view of the existing world economic situation, and aware of the financial obstacles to the implementation of such projects, the members of the second Commission on Technical Needs this year indicated to the Unesco Secretariat measures easier to apply with limited financial resources. The experts did not this time try to state the essential needs of the countries in question in terms of quantities and prices, but emphasized particularly the educative function of the press, radio and film, especially in a number of countries where illiteracy is still extremely common, and indicated a whole series of measures which the Unesco Secretariat might consider with a view to promoting effectively, even if not with material assistance, the development of the press, radio and film.

The main points in the recommendations of each of the three Sub-Commissions will be found elsewhere on this page.

In conclusion, it may be of interest to mention that the various reports on the Press and News Agencies, Radio and Film were prepared by sending specialists to each of the countries covered by the survey; those specialists were able to consult not only the official services but also experts in all branches of mass communication, and thus for the first time assembled a complete body of material which was entirely approved by the experts and governmental representatives of the countries concerned.

By
Philippe DESJARDINS
Head of Technical needs
Division.



Radio transmitters, like one shown above need rebuilding in war-devastated Europe.

MORE NEWSPRINT URGED BY PRESS COMMISSION

THE Conclusions and Recommendations of the Commission on matters dealing with news agencies and the press differed in some respects from those formulated by their predecessors in 1947. This was because some of the countries surveyed this year were not sufficiently developed to provide adequate and stable press organizations. In some cases, the effects of the war were still evident. Furthermore, the press being dependent upon the written word and a number of the nations under review having a high rate of illiteracy, the problems of assistance to the press were found, in some cases, to be more of an educational character than strictly one of reconstruction or expansion.

News Agencies

The position of news agencies was found to be more fluid than that of the press itself and generally differed between individual nations. It was seen that the importance of these agencies in the transmission of foreign news could only be considered as an integral part of the Press organization in any one given country. It was recommended that, in view of changing circumstances, regular revision of the factual reports prepared by the Secretariat should be carried out. In addition, the importance of training journalists who were likely to become editors in news agencies was outlined, since this work had a considerable bearing upon the character and scope of news and information of an international nature.

Newsprint

One of the most important subjects dealt with by the Commission was that of the raw material for the press, the supply of newsprint. It was recommended to Unesco that the only practical method of increasing the supply was by the restoration to full production of existing newsprint mills which are either idle, operating at reduced rates, or producing other grades of paper.

Research and efforts to develop newsprint production should be stimulated by Unesco in conjunction with other international organizations already active in this field. There were also recommendations to the effect that Unesco should use its influence to point out the importance of newsprint and paper for other reading materials. These should not be considered as an ordinary commodity, but one of great social importance in providing intellectual food for thought.

The provision of equipment to print in many vernacular languages was found to be a technical need in Asiatic countries. It was suggested that small, cheap, flat bed presses would be of greater utility in many countries for the small circulation press than modern high speed equipment.

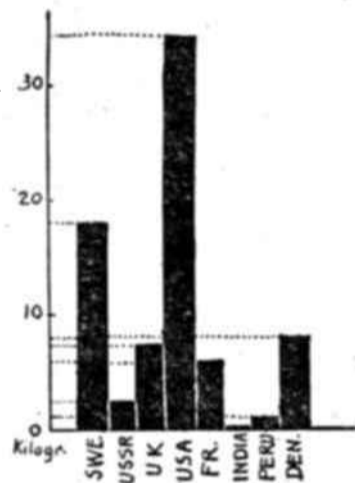
Training of Journalists

The education and professional training of journalists was considered by the Commission as an important factor towards a more

responsible press playing a greater part in removing barriers to international understanding.

The Commission advised Unesco to assist the schools of journalism in preparing their programmes based on the experience of older and well-established institutions. It was suggested that, not only by this training, but also in arranging for interchanges of working journalists between nations, a more international outlook might be fostered among those writing, editing and selecting information and news.

The Commission underlined the recommendation that Unesco should establish an International Institute of the Press and Information which would help to carry out many of the ideas and recommendations resulting from the Technical Needs Survey. Finally, it was felt essential that the three media of Press, Radio and Film should be considered together, since in areas with a high rate of illiteracy, it might be more effective and cheaper to use audio-visual means for the mass communication of ideas and information, than an immediate expansion of the press facilities.



Diagrams show inequality of newsprint consumption (in kilograms) annually per capita of population.

Below: the 28 countries surveyed in 1947-49. Above: world comparison. U.S.A. and Sweden, for example, consume 34.20 and 18.00 kilos per capita respectively, while India only 0.15 kilos per annum.



Cheaper Film For Education

THE Recommendations of the Commission on the subject of Films stressed the importance of the educational film. It was found that in the 17 countries surveyed in 1948 there was little production or use of such films, which could have such value in areas where a high rate of illiteracy and little development of radio facilities exist.

A general proposal was put forward that Unesco should cooperate with governments to set up regional film boards, which would provide a wider and cheaper means for the production, distribution and display of educational films within each area. Proposals were made that the reciprocal exchange of film should be undertaken, and in order to make this possible, detailed information and catalogue of educational films would have to be established.

It was further recommended that Unesco should foster the distribution of evaluated films by asking nations to accept a convention facilitating exchanges by every means, particularly the elimination of import duties.

It was suggested that in order to use educational films to their fullest extent, especially for purposes of fundamental education the use of mobile units should be encouraged. Such units could reach large audiences in outlying districts, particularly in those where no cinema nor electricity exist at present.

An important series of recommendations dealt with training to provide a larger cadre of those

News Agencies

[Following is part of conclusions of Technical Needs Commission last August on question of news agencies]

AUSTRIA, Hungary, Italy each has a national agency dealing almost exclusively with collection of domestic news and through correspondents and agreements with other agencies provides a foreign news Service.

In Central and South America, position is reversed. Only in Venezuela and Uruguay do small independent agencies exist. In Peru an agency exists, but serves only one newspaper, and is also closely connected with a foreign news agency. The U.S.A. agencies are predominant in all the countries. Only in Mexico is there some competition from European news services. The press of Honduras, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Ecuador is almost entirely dependent upon international agencies for foreign news. In Haiti there is no regular news service.

In the Far Eastern countries, previously dominated by a British agency, there is a tendency, with growing independence, to set up national agencies.

Burma has already set up an independent agency, and same may shortly be true in both India and Pakistan.

Imms Wanted tional Aims

who would produce and use educational films. Without such training an increase in the number of films to less advanced countries would be valueless. It was urged that there should be seminars for audio-visual educators in different regions in 1949, so that the best use might be made of educational films.

In addition, a recommendation was made that Unesco should approach governments and if possible provide the means for scholarships and travel so that more technicians and students should be able to study production and developments in educational film work.

A first volume covering twelve countries surveyed in 1947 was published last year and proved highly successful both for its informational value and as a guide to reconstruction activities.

A further recommendation proposes that Unesco should ask each country with production facilities to make a full length film in 1949 destined for audiences of children, and telling one of their own children's favourite stories or nursery tales. These films would be distributed all over the world, and combine an excellent theme for a basis of international understanding at an early age with a simple and inexpensive method.



REPORT OF THE COMMISSION
ON TECHNICAL NEEDS IN

PRESS FILM RADIO

FOLLOWING SURVEYS IN
SEVENTEEN COUNTRIES

★ ★

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANISATION
PARIS 1948

Technical Needs Book II Published

A book containing the results of the 1948 on-the-spot field surveys on press, film and radio in 17 Countries of Europe, Asia and Latin America has just been published by Unesco.

The volume, (cover page reproduced above) second of its kind, includes important recommendations of the Technical Needs Commission following a detailed study of the Unesco field workers' reports at a meeting in Paris last August.

MASS SCHOOLING, TECHNICAL TRAINING STRESSED BY RADIO EXPERTS

IN 1948, unlike last year. Unesco's enquiry into technical needs in radio covered countries not directly hit by the war.

Because of this fact and because these surveys will be extended in the next years to other regions of the world not directly affected by the war, the Radio Sub-commission on Technical Needs, which met in Paris last August to study the reports of Unesco's field workers, formulated conclusions and recommendations aimed at eliminating the most outstanding general problems of the radio industry.

Thus the commission did not limit itself merely to a list of the radio needs of the countries surveyed but concentrated on such problems as the use of radio in schools, and in mass education and the development of professional radio personnel.

This year's radio surveys showed that the situation in the European war-hit countries (Austria, Italy, Hungary) is substantially the same as those considered in 1947; the position is particularly serious in the war-devastated nations of Asia (Burma, Federation of Malaya).

Except in Uruguay and Mexico, the radio picture in countries which did not suffer directly from the war—whether in Asia or in Central and South America—is not very satisfactory. Uruguay and Mexico, however, have satisfactory equipment and high-grade staff and might provide useful professional training centres for the staff of broadcasting organizations in certain Latin American countries.

Both in Asia and America, the experts had to consider one problem of exceptional seriousness—the problem of illiteracy—which in some cases concerns 85 % of the population.

Education by Radio

For this reason, the radio commission considered the use of school broadcasting and mass

establishments specializing in the professional training of news and programme personnel. In addition many countries are suffering from a shortage of specialized staff, alike on the technical and on the programme and news sides".

Considering the composite picture presented by the two Unesco surveys of 1947 and 1948, the radio commission emphatically confirmed last year's recommendations for the training of technical personnel and radio journalists by the use of finishing instructional courses and the training of programme personnel by instructors brought in from other countries as well as the organization of practical courses and professional training centres.

In addition, the commission this year urged the creation of special courses on broadcasting techniques and the inclusion of radio courses in the curricula of existing schools.

These courses would include work on news broadcasts, in schools of journalism; producing and broadcasting of radio plays, in Conservatories; the art of broadcasting, in secondary schools and universities; and "broadcasting as a social factor", in schools of political and social science".

Publications Urged

In order to facilitate the organization and development of educational broadcasting, and publicize the need for professional training, the Radio commission suggested that Unesco undertake the publication of two books:

1) A WORK ON SCHOOL BROADCASTING AND EDUCATIONAL BROADCASTING, INTENDED CHIEFLY FOR THE USE OF GOVERNMENTS AND BROADCASTING ORGANIZATIONS.

2) A WORK ON THE PROBLEMS OF PROFESSIONAL TRAINING FOR RADIO PERSONNEL.

The commission also recommended that Unesco sponsor the publication of technical, historical and sociological by Unesco broadcasting.

Radio Summer University

The radio experts also called for the organization by Unesco each year, on a regional basis, of Unesco summer universities for the study of broadcast art and information. The summer university would be open primarily to news and programme staff of broadcasting organizations.

SURVEY SHOWS RADIO

DEFICIENCIES

Unesco's 1948 field surveys in radio covering 3 European, 9 Latin American and 5 Asiatic countries showed that the organization of broadcasting in these three regions and the equipment available are very different. Their needs may be summed up briefly as follows:

RADIO ORGANIZATION

EUROPE.— In Austria and Italy, broadcasting monopolies have been granted to private companies over which the State exercises direct supervision. In Hungary, radio is a State monopoly. All three countries broadcast advertising programmes. Revenue derived from this covers only a part of expenses. Bulk of radio budget in all 3 countries comes from compulsory annual licence fees receiving sets.

LATIN AMERICA.— Advertising permitted in all these countries makes up majority of financial resources of radio organizations. The considerable time taken up by advertising inevitably reduces that devoted to cultural programmes.

In Haiti and Honduras there are only private stations.

In Ecuador, State has part-time use of "La Voz de los Andes" (privately owned missionary station). In Cuba and Venezuela the official broadcasting organization has only low-powered equipment. Peruvian State network is rather more important. In Mexico, the Government and University of Mexico own 8 transmitters between them, but power of the official network is considerably lower than that of a single one of major private stations.

Only Uruguay has a powerful and well-equipped official broadcasting system.

SOUTH EAST ASIA.— All broadcasting stations belong to government. No advertising accepted. Annual license fee for receiving sets.

In Burma, Federation of Malaya, India and Pakistan the respective governments have available a radio network which already enables them to make educational and cultural broadcasts, particularly necessary in countries where illiteracy rate is high. The position will be still further improved in the future, when their schemes of expansion have materialized. Government broadcasts are also designed for the information of rural populace, but latter own only a small number of receiving sets.



RECEIVING SETS

See chart on right

EUROPE.— Austria is one of best equipped countries in Europe as regards receiving sets and has one set per seven inhabitants (this is the same as for France and Norway). Hungary is less well equipped: one set per 20 inhabitants. Local industry cannot meet country's needs, which is the more regrettable as authorities are making a considerable effort in school broadcasting. Italy has one receiving set per 23 inhabitants.

LATIN AMERICA.— Proportion of receivers in each country is related to magnitude of their transmitting equipment. Thus Uruguay and Cuba have one receiver per 7 inhabitants, Venezuela one per 28, Mexico one set per 32 inhabitants, Honduras one per 61, Peru one set per 65, Ecuador one per 111, Dominican Republic one per 164, and Haiti one per 1,000.

Except for Uruguay, where there is a small local output of receivers, quite inadequate for the country's needs, there is no radio industry capable of manufacturing sets in any of the countries surveyed. However, Mexico is considering establishment of such an industry.

SOUTH EAST ASIA.— In Burma, there is one receiving set per 3,400 inhabitants; in India one per 1,490; Federation of Malaya one per 207; Pakistan one per 920.

With the exception of India, where output is still low, none of these countries manufactures receiving sets and it may be said that for the general population in all these countries radio

remains a luxury, as the selling price of sets is far beyond their reach.

TRANSMITTERS AND EQUIPMENT

EUROPE.— The most powerful Austrian transmitter was destroyed in 1945, but country hopes to have its pre-war network reconstructed by next July. Austrian radio industry comparatively undeveloped and lacks foreign exchange for necessary purchases abroad.

Eighty percent of Hungarian equipment was destroyed, but a great effort has been made and country has already re-formed its pre-war network. By end of 1949, Italy will have reconstructed its 1940 network and proposes to improve it thereafter to cover whole of its territory satisfactorily. Italy has a considerable radio industry, but the high cost price makes export impossible.

LATIN AMERICA.—Both private and official stations, generally speaking, are inadequately equipped to meet needs of their countries, as their populations are often widely dispersed. Transmitting licenses granted in response to local needs have not been issued according to any coherent plan.

Honduras and especially Haiti are the two countries where this lack is most readily perceptible. Uruguay is only one of nine countries surveyed by Unesco this year where there are manufacturing possibilities permitting further improvements in an already satisfactory network.

SOUTHEAST ASIA.—Requirements in broadcasting equipment in this part of world are enormous, particularly in case of Pakistan and Burma. Even India, which owns a network of an overall power of 350 kilowatts, which it is developing according to a very well thought out plan, has in fact only one kilowatt per million inhabitants, whereas Mexico, for instance, has 50 kilowatts per million inhabitants. An even more striking comparison perhaps is that India has only one kilowatt power approximately per 10,000 square kilometres, whereas Mexico has six kilowatts for the same area.

None of the countries surveyed manufactures transmitters or spare parts. Principal difficulty in purchasing needed equipment in the U.S.A. is lack of dollars.



FILM & RADIO

education by radio of vital importance for all countries and especially so for those with large illiterate populations.

It urged Unesco to request governments as well as national and international organizations to step up radio education by devoting a fixed portion of their usual broadcasting time to school broadcasts.

It specifically requested that a maximum number of schools be equipped with receiving sets and that at least one receiving set be provided for community listening in each village where illiteracy is high. The use of mobile radio equipments, providing temporary service, was also urged along with mobile cinema programmes, as an effective means of mass education.

The radio experts also suggested that the Radio Division of Unesco should co-operate in an over-all joint study of the means of combating illiteracy by the use of radio.

Professional Training

Turning to the problem of professional radio training in the countries surveyed this year, the sub-commission concluded that "the question of professional training is even more acute than in 1947".

"In the great majority of the countries covered by the 1948 survey", it said, "there are no

COUNTRY	No. of Receiving Sets	No. of Receivers Per 1,000 Popul.	MANUFACTURING POSSIBILITIES
EUROPE			
AUSTRIA	967,787	138	Industry undeveloped before war. In addition, present difficulties: lack of foreign currency for raw materials.
BELGIUM	950,000	115	Important industry. Production capacity: 250,000 sets per year.
CZECHOSLOV.	1,850,000	145	Several nationalized factories ("Tesla"); a few private factories; 1947 total production: 150,000-200,000 sets.
DENMARK	1,127,677	272	Industry sufficient for needs of country. In 1946: 100,000 sets per year. Export: 5,000 sets.
FRANCE	5,850,254	140	Large industry. 1946 production: 2,000,000 sets. Export: 15-20 %.
GREECE	46,000	5	No local industry.
HUNGARY	468,000	50	Some industry but until 1947 production low compared to imports.
ITALY	1,976,118	43	Important industry. 300,000 sets in 1947 (capable producing 700,000 sets).
LUXEMBOURG	41,214	145	One factory produced (1946) 4,000 sets. About half exported.
NETHERLANDS	1,490,121	155	Large industry. Almost entire production for export: 300,000 sets per year.
NORWAY	450,000	145	Fairly important industry: 120,000 sets (1946); production inadequate for needs of country.
POLAND	583,056	24	All pre-war factories completely destroyed. In 1947 industry not re-established.
YUGOSLAVIA	220,256	15	No industry. 1947 five-year-plan provided for its establishment.
LATIN AMERICA			
CUBA	700,000	138	None of these countries except Uruguay has a local industry for manufacture of receiving sets. (In Mexico there are assembly-shops and two American factories are reported ready for mass-production).
DOMIN. REP.	29,800	14	
ECUADOR	30,000	10	
HAITI	3,500	1	
HONDURAS	20,000	16	
MEXICO	700,000	31	
PERU	150,000	15	
URUGUAY	300,000	131	
VENEZUELA	150,000	131	
ASIA			
BURMA	5,000	0.3	No local industry.
CHINA	800,000	1.7	In 1947 industry practically non-existent. A few assembly-shops. Difficulties in obtaining even spare parts.
INDIA	230,025	0.7	Industry quite recent. Production planned: 300,000 sets per year. (Insufficient for country's needs.)
MALAY	28,000	1	No local industry.
PAKISTAN	75,000	1	No industry. Construction of a factory planned.
PHILIPPINES	18,220	0.9	No local industry.

Forty Agreements Signed With Non-Governmental Bodies

FROM the very beginning of its existence, Unesco has been aware of the essential part which the voluntary international bodies working in the fields of education, science and culture can play in carrying out its aims.

Formal agreements between Unesco and two international voluntary organizations, the World Federation of United Nations Association (WFUNA) and the International Council of Museums (ICOM) have been recently signed in Paris.

On 7 and 8 October an Interim Committee representing some 70 international non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council will meet at Unesco House to study the ways by which these voluntary international bodies can best contribute to the work of the United Nations and their Specialized Agencies.

The Executive Board's Committee on Relationships with Non-Governmental Organizations meets on 11 October to review the present co-operative arrangements of Unesco with voluntary organizations and to consider how their resources could be, in the future, most fully employed for Unesco's objectives.

In more than one instance in the past Unesco has been in the fortunate position of being able to benefit from an existing international network built up by long years of voluntary efforts. This is the case of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU), the chief non-governmental body in the field of Natural Sciences, established in 1919. By a formal agreement with ICSU in December 1946, ICSU became one of Unesco's chief instruments of scientific co-operation and exchange on a world scale.

Through an agreement with the International Studies Conference, in force since June 1947, the Department of Social Sciences benefits by the contacts in many countries of this international organization.

However, the bulk of non-governmental organizations co-operate with Unesco under "consultative arrangements". These arrangements include certain basic privileges granted by Unesco to the international voluntary bodies satisfying certain criteria as to the aims, structure, international character and representativeness of the organizations concerned.

Facilities offered by Unesco to organizations approved for consultative arrangements include in particular: invitation to the General Conference and to other meetings convened by Unesco; receiving of relevant documents and publications; a right to submit written statements concerning matters of common interest.

At present, 69 international non-governmental bodies have been approved for this type of arrangement. They include youth, women's and relief organizations, professional bodies of teachers, lawyers and artists, and specialized scientific societies.

A considerable number of the organizations enjoying "consultative arrangements" contributed during the present year towards the execution of Unesco's Pro-

gramme by carrying out, at the request of Unesco and against payment made on a contractual basis, surveys, investigations, bibliographies or various studies.

This form of particularly fruitful co-operation—which is so far an exclusive feature of Unesco's policy towards non-governmental

By
Vladimir HERCIK

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organizations—was approved by the Mexico City General Conference. As a result, 40 contracts of this nature have been concluded, for a total amount of more than \$100,000, enabling Unesco to use the experience and competence of international non-governmental bodies for a common purpose.

In several instances, Unesco has requested these organizations to hold international congresses with a programme mutually agreed upon, thus taking advantage of the facilities which well established international bodies have in certain fields.

There is a third type of co-oper-

ative arrangement provided in Unesco's policy towards international non-governmental organizations. "Advisory Committees" aim at grouping non-governmental organizations having similar objectives or working in the same field, such as TICER, grouping 28 independent international organizations working in the field of Educational Reconstruction. A second Advisory Committee grouping major international University Organizations is on the point of being constituted.

The chapter of Unesco's co-operation with non-governmental organizations is at its very beginning. The framework provided by the Constitution and the directives adopted by the Mexico City Conference, offer, however, a solid basis for associating with Unesco's venture invaluable resources of competence, experience and goodwill accumulated in numerous non-governmental organizations. Unesco is well aware that these organizations, representing the actual "producers" and "consumers" of education, science and culture constitute an element which is essential for the success of the Organization.

Latin American Science Coordination



(Continued from Page 1)

An opinion which is to-day widely held throughout the scientific world, even outside Latin America, is that on the day Latin American scientists and technicians pool their knowledge, a fresh era of progress will begin for that quarter of the world.

Some thirty scientists from eleven South American countries outlined such a programme for co-ordination in the five days of the conference.

"I shall give only one example of the importance of the problem

Dr Nestor Bernardo Cacciapuoti, a young Italian nuclear physicist, was the Unesco representative and general secretary at the Conference in Uruguay. He has recently been appointed Field Science Officer in Latin America and will leave Paris early next month to establish the Office in Montevideo.

we have to solve which is of practical and scientific interest," said Dr. Eduardo Cruz Coke, Professor of Physiological Chemistry at the University of Santiago, Chile, who was specially invited to attend the conference convened by Unesco and the Government of Uruguay.

"In South America, on which the world is becoming increasingly dependent for its food supplies, we see vast stretches of arable land being irreparably impoverished by erosion and lack of proper care. It is the result of inadequate knowledge of the nature of the land in America; we can acquire such knowledge only if we are able to co-ordinate our experiments and supplement research carried out in one of our countries by the results obtained in others."

As early as 1946, Unesco proposed that, as a general solution to the problem of scientific co-ordination, a Field Science Co-operation Office should be established in Latin America. Such an Office was set up in Rio de Janeiro the following year.

The South American experts brought together by Unesco on September 6 (under the honorary chairmanship of Professor Bernardo Houssay, eminent Argentinian scientist and 1943 Nobel Prize winner) approved Unesco's project

for extending the activities of the *Oficina Científica de Cooperación en América Latina*, and advised Unesco on the best ways the Office would aid scientists in Latin America. The recommendations on this subject transmitted to Unesco, constitute one of the most remarkable programme for scientific co-ordination in South America so far proposed.

One of the tasks which the experts would like Unesco to undertake, with the support of the governments concerned, is the organization of two SYMPOSIA, one devoted to "the study of physiological conditions in high altitudes" and the other (in co-operation with FAO) to "Physics, Chemistry and Biology of Latin American Soil."

These two subjects for study and discussion, which Unesco is asked to suggest to meetings of scientists convened by the Office in Montevideo, are not only of undoubted scientific interest but also of considerable social importance. Many South Americans live in the mountains or on very high plateaux. A problem of adaptation thus arises—for the indigenous population no less than for the descendants of Europeans—with numerous social repercussions which demand thorough consideration.

It was also decided that, in the initial period, the main task of the Montevideo Office should be in the field of bibliography—to organize a bibliographic information service, distribute microfilms, publish a South American scientific year-book, etc.

The final recommendations of the Montevideo Conference cover no less than 15 pages of typescript. In them, Unesco and the Governments of South America are asked to develop to the maximum exchanges of students and teachers between the various countries of Latin America and between those countries and the other great cultural centres of the world. The experts also stressed the need for increasing the number of scientists and technicians in Latin America and recommended the establishment of "National Funds for scientific research in South America."



J. BUTTIKOFER Photo.
(By Permission Pro-Natura magazine.)

Nature Preservation Study

(Continued from Page 1)

In view of this proposal, advantage will be taken of the Fontainebleau meeting to set up a Regional Study Group (Commission) for Europe and Africa by means of a Technical Symposium to crystallize views on a number of topics which will come before the projected International Technical Conference of 1949. It is hoped too that the agenda for this Technical Conference will be drafted at Fontainebleau.

Nevertheless, the main object of the Conference is to draft and adopt the final constitution of the Provisional International Union for the Protection of Nature.

In a paper written specially in preparation for the Fontainebleau Conference, and issued last month by the Unesco Secretariat for the French Government, Dr. Harold J. Coolidge Jr., of the National Research Council, Washington, D.C., writes:

"Unesco's function has been defined as that of 'mobilizing the forces of education, science and culture for the ultimate establishment of a free and peaceful world community'. Such a community will depend on the health and vitality of the individuals who compose it. Such a goal can best be achieved not

only by the prevention of disease, but also through education and scientific research directed at creating a fuller understanding of the vital relationships between soil and water and plant and animal life. In other words, making mankind aware of the relationship of living things with each other and with their environment, or the science of ecology" (1).

(1) Readers interested in further material on this subject are requested to write to the Unesco Department of Natural Sciences for documents in the series NS/UIPN/1,2,3, etc. Two recent books: "Our Plundered Planet" by Fairfield Osborn, and "Road to Survival" by William Vogt—offer the English reading public stimulating presentations of the importance of this problem.

\$ 7.500 For Humanities World Council

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is to make a grant of \$7,500 to help the Preparatory Commission for the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies in the early stages of its work.

The grant, Dr. Julian Huxley, Unesco's Director-General, explained, was being made in accordance with the usual practice of Unesco of supporting a promising infant.

Delegates from five international, non-governmental bodies met in September at Unesco House, Paris, to approve a provisional Constitution and set up a Preparatory Commission for the Council.

Members of the Preparatory Commission hope to be able to call the first session of the General Assembly of the Council in January 1949 in Brussels. They expect that through the different international organizations which will take part in the Council a significant step forward will be made in intellectual cooperation throughout the world. The Council will facilitate in many ways the growth of contacts between scholars of different countries and will provide, for Unesco, a working counterpart in the field of philosophy, humanistic and related studies, to the International Council of Scientific Unions.

Brussels Copyright Meeting

(Continued from Page 2)

Lastly a permanent inter-governmental Committee of twelve Members has been appointed to assist the Berne Office in its task of informing Members and making preparations for future revising conferences.

As can be seen, important decisions were taken, and there will be notable changes in the contractual relations of the Member States of the Union when the instruments of ratification have been deposited with the Swiss Federal Government.

Although no account can be given of the unofficial contacts and the instructive exchange of views which took place between delegations and observers, it can be said that they were lively and important and undoubtedly contain the germ of satisfactory future action towards a united system of protection of literary, artistic and scientific property throughout the world.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

The UNESCO COURIER is published monthly in English, French and Spanish by the Public Information Bureau of Unesco.

6-month subscription: 2 s. 6 d. or \$0.50 or Fr. frs. 100.
Please write to the Unesco agent indicated below for your country, or directly to Unesco House, 19 Avenue Kléber, Paris-16e, France.

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World Political Science Association Planned

The first international conference of political scientists called by Unesco took place in Paris from September 13 to 16.

The conference agreed on the establishment of an International Political Science Association, and a Preparatory Committee was set up to draft the constitution of the Association. Late in 1949 or early in 1950, it is hoped to hold a representative meeting of national political science groups and other interested bodies in order to determine the structure, functions and activities of the International Political Science Association.

IMPROVEMENT OF TEXTBOOKS SOUGHT IN MEMBER STATES

THE teaching of history depends largely upon the textbooks used in the schools; and upon that teaching rests, to a large degree, our conception as to the character of nations and national policies." This statement was written in 1917 by James T. Shotwell, a noted American historian. Although the radio newspaper and motion picture are powerful sources of information and shapers of attitudes, it still contains much truth to-day. However, not only history textbooks, but also geography, literature, language, science, mathematics and other textbooks and teaching materials affect the understanding and attitudes of youth concerning other nations, peace and war.

Understandings and attitudes formed in childhood persist into adulthood, and the opinions and attitudes of most literate adults have been conditioned by the textbooks and teaching materials they studied in school.

This fact was recognized by the First Session of the General Conference of Unesco when it approved a nine point programme for the improvement of textbooks and teaching materials as aids in developing international understanding. This programme was continued by the Second Session of the General Conference meeting in Mexico City in 1947, and the Secretariat of Unesco is in the process of putting it into effect.

Enquiry Sent To Member States

The first step in the improvement of textbooks and teaching materials as aids to peace is to discover what has already been done and what is being done to achieve this end. Consequently, the Secretariat has been assembling and studying the materials on textbook improvement produced in various parts of the world.

An enquiry has been sent to Member States to discover what is being done at the present time and what is planned for the future. In addition to informational material, lists are being prepared of individuals and groups interested in the improvement of textbooks and teaching materials. These resources will enable Unesco to serve as a clearing house in this field.

Another aspect of Unesco's programme is the preparation of principles and criteria and a model plan for the analysis and improvement of textbooks and teaching materials. The model plan, including the principles and criteria, is now in draft form and will be submitted to Member States in the near future. It will be accompanied by a recommendation that Member States study the treatment of agencies of international co-operation in their own textbooks. At a later time these reports will be studied at Unesco House and a summary report will be prepared.

Handbook Planned On Improved Textbooks

The Unesco Secretariat is also seeking to extend bilateral and regional agreements and enterprises. Information on such agreements and enterprises is being assembled and studied and recommendations for future action will be made on the basis of past experience.

The Secretariat plans to bring together its findings and recom-

mendations to form a handbook for the improvement of textbooks and teaching materials. A preliminary summary of past achievements in textbook improvement was prepared and mimeographed in 1946 under title of Looking at the World Through Textbooks. This report was revised in 1947 and published in French by the Services Français d'Information under the title Les livres de classe et la découverte du monde.

Unesco is not working on all aspects of the improvement of textbooks and teaching materials but is restricting its activities to their improvement as aids to international understanding and peace. Its aim is to report on what has been and is being done, to make recommendations, to provide limited assistance on request, and, above all, to provide an opportunity for those interested in the improvement of textbooks and teaching materials in various parts of the world to work together in a common cause.

Truth and justice in the content of textbooks and teaching materials will contribute to a more wholesome and effective local and national citizenship as well as to the development of the understandings, attitudes, and skills necessary to world citizenship and to peace.

New Zealand Offers Fellowships

The New Zealand Government has set aside a sum of £15,000 to finance a fellowship scheme to provide study opportunities in New Zealand for an initial group of five Far Eastern students.

The first grants being made available include two in China and one each to the Philippines, Malay and Burma.

In approving the scheme, the New Zealand Minister of Education declared that the needs of these Far Eastern countries "for the kinds of training and experience available in New Zealand are more urgent than those of the war-devastated countries of Europe". It was pointed out, however, that the programme will be extended to other Eastern countries and eventually to European nations.

The governments of the countries to which the fellowships are being offered are being informed about the facilities which New Zealand can offer. Final selection of the candidates will be made by the Fellowships Committee set up by the New Zealand National Commission for Unesco.

Fields of study suggested for the first five candidates include: agriculture, rural life and education, Maori education, education in the Island Territories, social services, mining, engineering, teacher training and the technical aspects of broadcasting.

At the conclusion of the fellowship, each student will be expected to return to his home country to put his training and experience to use in reconstruction work. The grants will be generally of six months' duration and will allow for £450 including travel expenses within New Zealand.

RUTH BENEDICT'S Last Message On...

CULTURAL

CONTINUITY IN CIVILIZED WORLD

A Lecture Delivered At the Prague Seminar

[Ruth Benedict, world-renowned social anthropologist, was one of the participants at the Unesco-sponsored Seminar on Childhood Education, held in Pödebrady, Czechoslovakia from July 21 to August 25. Shortly after her return to the United States, Ruth Benedict suddenly died on September 17th. Her books "Patterns of Culture" and "The Races of Mankind" have been read and discussed in many countries.

We publish below the partial text of one of the last talks by Ruth Benedict, delivered at the Pödebrady Seminar this summer. Readers wishing to receive the full text of this stimulating lecture can do so by writing to the Education Department of Unesco for document Sem.III/Lec./10.

WHEN Unesco drew up its programme of work it stressed the need for "an enquiry into the distinctive character of the various national cultures and ideals, with the aim of stimulating the sympathy and respect of nations for each other's ideals and aspirations and the appreciation of national problems. One focus of such an enquiry would be the study of ways by which the young are trained to become responsible participants in the national culture".

Unesco has in this statement of policy stated its belief that recognition of cultural differences among civilized nations can promote international co-operation. Usually, in most nations, the attitude has been quite different. Usually people who hope for world co-operation are the very ones who minimize fundamental differences among the nations; they emphasize the similarity of human virtues and motives, no matter what the differences in cultural practice and behaviour.

Those who oppose international co-operation, on the other hand, blame the chaos of the world on the presence of these differences between one nation and another. They stress that other nations must accept the virtues and practices with which they are familiar in their own culture before it will be possible to make a peaceful world. This is an attitude which is centuries old. It has not made for world peace.

Now Unesco proposes that social scientists should take the lead in promoting a new and different attitude, studying national differences even down into such fundamental things as the way we bring up our children.

Unesco is saying, in effect, that it is part of wisdom to recognize that human communities are not all alike, and is suggesting that we cultivate psychologically healthy attitudes also among the nations and that by greater study and understanding of national differences we could promote a more co-operative world.

No Nation Can Live To Itself Alone

This programme of Unesco's is especially necessary in the world today. No nation any longer lives by itself alone. In the modern world it is absolutely necessary that each nation take some attitude about other modes of life than its own.

Any study of national differences is a study of comparative cultures. This is the special field of social anthropology, and it is necessary to stress a few of the principal conclusions which have been derived from such study.

The way of life among people, the virtues they exhibit and the aggressiveness they show is learned in their experience in that social order; it is not racial; it is not instinctive. In the sense that human beings everywhere are born with a set of instincts which account for their aggressions and their cruelties.

The cultural patterns which men in all societies invent for themselves and transmit down the generations have in each community a considerable degree of consistency within themselves. These patterns of learned behaviour have to be taught anew to each generation. No matter how distinctively French France seems over several centuries, or how Dutch Holland seems, with each new generation the personnel of France and Holland changes completely. One generation dies and another is born. In the way in which parents handle their babies, in the way in which older children treat younger children, in the way in which teachers reward and punish their pupils, emotions are selected and cultivated in them which fit them to be members of their own community and nation.

Cultural study of national differences is just beginning to be accepted. The members of this

seminar have therefore an opportunity to contribute to the research which is necessary, and it is well to say a few words about methods of training for such work.

Comparative study of human culture was not possible before the development of certain climates of opinion, and no student of the subject can do excellent work who finds this climate of opinion personally distasteful.

Students of comparative cultures have usually been trained by acquainting them with a wide range of the diversities of possible social institutions which are traditional in various parts of the world and then sending them to fairly small simple communities very different from their own. These are often pre-literate tribes.

Because the social arrangements and motivations of these communities are entirely unfamiliar to the student, he has to observe and record every detail of their lives in order to understand them. The "cultural surprise" he experiences gives him an education in patterns of culture which it is hard to give in any other way.

Genetic Study of National Character

This Unesco seminar is devoted to the study of childhood education, and Dr. Chen's study group has as its subject "Childhood Education in Different Nations". In line with Unesco's programme, seminar members are interpreting their assignment, not merely as the child's school education, but as his home and community experiences as well, "the ways in which the young are trained to become responsible participants in their national culture".

It is hoped that some of the delegates to this seminar will be stimulated by the discussions here, to go back to their countries to record observations and interviews, and thus contribute to mutual knowledge among nations of the world.

Genetic study of different cultures is precisely the study of how each generation is conditioned "to become responsible participants", in the way of life which is traditional in the community into which it is born. The technical development of such study is possible today because of knowledge that has been acquired in several sister sciences, all of which are involved in such genetic studies: (a) the study of the physical maturation of the child; (b) medical studies in the field of psychosomatics; (c) psychiatry.

Training The Young As Responsible Participants In National Cultures

Aided by the development of these related sciences, the time is ripe for the study of the "ways in which the young are trained to become responsible participants in national cultures". It is only necessary to collect the observations and record the attitudes upon which understanding can be based.

Thus when all European nations have made systematic records of observations of child life and have gathered data from parents and from educators can adequate understanding be obtained of the ways in which children in different areas of Europe are fitted "to become responsible participants" in national life.

If we are to accept the different ideals and alternative social arrangements of the nations of the world, those of us who are professionally concerned with childhood education have a task which extends far beyond problems of curriculum revision. We need the clear-sightedness and the tolerance which will help us to appreciate the different kinds of strengths which different nations could contribute to the world in which we desire to live.



The late Ruth Benedict



AN EDUCATIONAL WEAPON : The Museum

THE stimulating and suggestive article by Mr. H.E. Williams, concerning the Unesco exhibit now in the main hall of Unesco House, Paris, emphasizes not only the value of such exhibits to the public generally, but also the educational value to those who may participate in their preparation.

There remains however one further question which Mr. Williams does not discuss in his article, and that is the means by which such exhibits can most effectively and most efficiently be presented to a wide public.

The value of such educational exhibits depends not only upon their attractiveness and the educational message which they present visually, but equally upon their presentation in such a place and in such a manner to make their appeal to the widest public possible.

Museums, organized as they are as popular educational institutions, designed to reach through their exhibits and educational programme masses of people both young and old, are

amongst the most effective media for communicating educational information.

I doubt whether it is generally appreciated that there are very few population centres throughout the world, where museums are playing an active part in educational life, in which the combined annual attendance at the museums does not exceed the population of the city in which they are located.

By
CHAUNCEY J. HAMLIN
President, International Council of Museums.

Further, most museums, accustomed as they are to presenting exhibitions have, through their experience, competence to attract large numbers of visitors.

The International Council of Museums was organized to provide a suitable organization to further international co-operation among museums, and to be the co-ordinating and representative international body furthering museums interests.

The museums of the world, as custodians of much of the cultural heritage of mankind, and as dynamic educational institutions, stand ready through this Council to place their resources and professional talent at the disposal of Unesco in helping to further Unesco's fundamental objectives of promoting international understanding and co-operation.

In this connection this Council has already taken action through the adoption of Resolutions,

(Mr. Chauncey J. Hamlin, of Buffalo, New York, U.S.A., is President of The International Council of Museums. Mr. Hamlin has recently retired from the presidency of the Buffalo Museum of Science, after serving in this capacity for 28 years. He was a former President of the American Association of Museums, and is a Trustee of the American Museum of Natural History, New York.)

offering its co-operation in the preparation and circulation of such exhibits.

To this end we shall indeed be happy to collaborate in any way that Unesco may desire, and we take this opportunity of congratulating Unesco upon the very fine exhibit now appearing in Unesco House. We hope that ways and means can be found whereby the same, or replicas, or similar exhibits, can be circulated to museums throughout the world, utilizing, as far as possible, the facilities of those museums through the medium of this organization.

“ONE IN THE EYE!”

Exhibits “Bring Home” Unesco Message

RECENT visitors to Unesco House have expressed keen admiration for the Exhibition now installed in the spacious Main Hall. Through a series of large illustrated panels, and a few symbolic models, it outlines the motives which animate Unesco, reveals its relationship to UN and the Specialized Agencies, and activities in Unesco's programme.

Even its best friends often find it difficult to describe, in plain language, Unesco's role and procedures, and this Exhibition proves once more that well-conceived

By
W.E. WILLIAMS

charts, diagrams, and photographs, assembled in a coherent and progressive pattern, can illuminate a theme which is resistant to verbal clarification.

Whenever I see an Exhibition which, like this one, tells a story so graphically, I call to mind the exhortation dinned into me, as a boy, by my boxing-instructor. “Always remember”, he used to say, “that one in the eye is worth three on the ear!”

Many visitors from Member States, admiring the lay-out, and (even more) the beautiful colour-effects of this display, have declared that replicas of it, sent on tour among the nations, could do much to familiarize people with the work of Unesco. That, no doubt, is true, but I hope myself that this attractive visualization will not become a mere stereotype of its kind.

What we want is not a standard Unesco Exhibition but an assortment of such displays, each one expressing afresh the basic aims and methods of the organization. Unesco is always, and rightly, endeavouring to scotch the delusion that it is a universal provider, and constantly reminding the world that its purpose is to stimulate appropriate activities and attitudes in the Member States.

The Exhibition which is now permanently installed in Unesco House, then, will achieve a ma-

W.E. Williams, C.B.E., has been engaged during the last few months in setting up the new Projects Division and “Ideas Bureau” at Unesco House. He created the Army Bureau of Current Affairs for the British Forces during the war and is Chief Editor of Penguin Books.

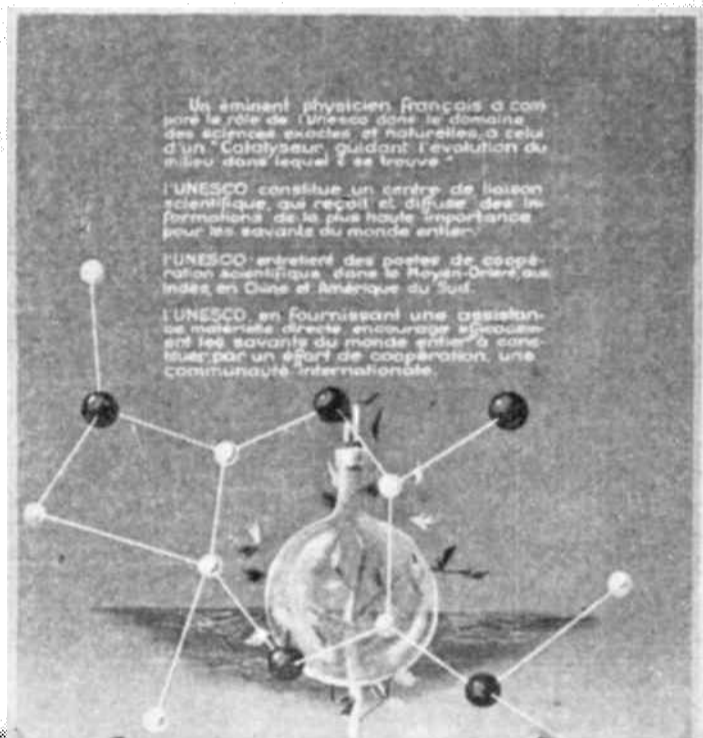
our strategy—with the winners given a place of honour in that World's Fair of Culture which is being mooted in Unesco nowadays.

Exhibitions of this highly-skilled professional kind have an evident publicity value, but I should like to see them supplemented, in every school, community centre and similar strategic spot, by a totally different kind of display—by unpretentious, a amateur, home-made jobs, planned, and put together as a group activity.

There is no more effective method of “bringing home” Unesco to a group of people than to set them, under well-informed guidance, the exercise of building a Unesco exhibition for themselves, partly by making their own maps, charts and diagrams and partly by ransacking albums, family archives, books and periodicals for illustrative material. The results of these adventures in initiative can be very good to look at but, apart from their success as a finished product, they represent a process of the highest educational value.

As a G.H.Q. job the Exhibition at Unesco House is appropriate to its setting and a most attractive show-piece. But the most dynamic kind of visual aid is the kind which communities invent for themselves.

SCIENCE



Editorial Offices : Unesco, 19, Avenue Kléber, Paris (16e).
Editor : S.M. KOFFLER. Director : H. KAPLAN.

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IMPRIMERIE DU “NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE”. 21, Rue de Berri, Paris (8e).

Photos on this page are reproduced from panels of Unesco exhibit in Great Hall of Unesco House, Paris.



for victory if it incites Member States to design and produce their own Exhibitions of Unesco. Why not, indeed, a competition among them to see which can devise—not the biggest, necessarily, nor the costliest, but the most revealing display of our objectives and