

sibility of establishing a special fund to assist in the publication of works of high scientific or intellectual value but of limited audience.

The work of UNESCO in the field of copyright was reviewed by the General Conference and approval was given to investigations leading to the eventual drafting of a universal convention on copyright.

With regard to cultural co-operation, new proposals were adopted instructing the Director-General to create a service of cultural liaison for the Middle East and to prepare model clauses for inclusion in cultural conventions between member states.

COMMUNICATIONS

At Beirut the General Conference included, in the chapter headed "Communications", an outline of UNESCO's work in encouraging the exchange of persons, meeting technical needs in radio, press and films, removing obstacles to the free flow of information and in producing themes for press, radio and films. A total appropriation of \$650,000 was approved for these activities.

At the Second General Conference, emphasis in the programme for the exchange of persons was laid on the clearing house function of the Secretariat, although the sum of \$62,000 was voted to be used directly for the establishment of scholarships. The Director-General was instructed to secure information on fellowships and scholarships already offered in member states for study abroad. He was also instructed to evaluate existing fellowship programmes and to convey information about them to states and private agencies which might be interested. Where he found gaps he was directed to take steps to encourage appropriate bodies to fill them and if these bodies did not respond, the use of UNESCO funds to meet the need was approved.

The policy was laid down that the main emphasis should be on assisting persons from war-devastated countries and that the choice should fall on mature persons who would derive the greatest benefit from further study. Co-operation was urged with other United Nations bodies, and with member states, to prevent overlapping.

The Mexico City programme was reaffirmed at the Third Session with the addition of a proposal that a small committee of experts be established to discuss the administration of fellowships and related questions. The establishment of new fellowships by member states and particularly the provision of 60 "Canada-UNESCO Fellowships" by the Canadian Council for Reconstruction through UNESCO was

noted with gratitude by the General Conference.

With respect to the study of the principal needs of war-devastated and under-developed countries in press, radio and films, the General Conference instructed the Secretariat to take steps to carry out the recommendations of surveys conducted by UNESCO in 1947 and 1948. A United States proposal that the work of field survey teams be co-ordinated with the activities of the projects division was adopted by the Conference. Approval was also given to a French proposal that, in carrying out this work, the Director-General should note that the surveys have a two-fold purpose: (a) to assist in the restoration and development of the means of mass communication, and (b) to publish objective information on press, radio and films throughout the world in order to remove obstacles to the free flow of information and to provide press, radio and film organizations with a work of reference which would also be of value to certain sociological studies.

At Beirut the activities of UNESCO in the removal of obstacles to the free flow of information were discussed at length and the programme in this field considerably clarified. On the proposal of the United States, the Director-General was instructed to offer to the United Nations the services of UNESCO in matters concerning freedom of information and, in consultation with the United Nations, to obtain a clear definition of UNESCO's work in promoting freedom of information. The Director-General was also instructed to continue the analysis, initiated in Mexico City, of obstacles to the free movement of persons and of educational, scientific and cultural materials, and to submit recommendations to member states on measures to reduce these obstacles. Operation of the book coupon scheme, designed to permit persons in soft currency countries to buy books and periodicals from hard currency countries, was also approved by the Conference.

An Austrian proposal to issue UNESCO postage stamps in order to lower and unify postal charges on correspondence between teachers and pupils of schools in different countries was referred by the General Conference to the Director-General for investigation in co-operation with the Universal Postal Union.

The work of the "Projects Division" of the mass communication department came under serious criticism in the sub-commission on mass communications, and proposals were made by various delegations to cut the division's budget drastically. However, the General Conference agreed that a small projects division be maintained to collect and distribute infor-