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*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
à l'ambassadeur en France*

*Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Ambassador in France*

TELEGRAM 448

Ottawa, September 14, 1949

SECRET

Following for Watkins, Head of Canadian Delegation, UNESCO, from Heeney, Begins:

Please delete the general instructions from the Commentary which Jay is taking along with him and substitute the following paragraphs which have been approved by the Minister:

2. Canada's reputation abroad is due, in part, to its usually realistic and pragmatic approach to the problems of international relations. Our constant preoccupation has been to concentrate our attention on those functions of international organizations which give promise of immediate helpful results.

3. This established Canadian practice has particular importance in relation to UNESCO activities and it should be a first duty of the Canadian Delegation at the coming Conference to urge that UNESCO:

(a) avoid dispersion of the Organization's energies and resources over too many projects and activities;

(b) take every means to achieve high standards of administrative efficiency and economy.

4. The Delegation should, therefore, use their best endeavours to have omitted from the present program of UNESO (or to put in low priority which would, in fact, mean deletion) projects not likely to achieve immediately useful results. It is not possible for us to put forward for your guidance a specific scheme of priorities for the items of the UNESCO program. The Delegation may, however, derive some benefit from a critical analysis of such schemes as may have been worked out by the United States and the United Kingdom Delegations.

5. The forthcoming session of UNESCO is to be a "short business session". You should on this ground resist the inclusion of new projects in the program by taking the position that consideration of any new proposal should be deferred to the next regular session in the spring.

6. The second main objective of the Canadian Delegation should be to press vigorously for the utmost efficiency and economy in the administration of UNESCO. The administrative and financial instructions based on a study of the UNESCO budget by the Department of Finance, should prove useful in this regard. The Delegation should not expressly refer to the possibility of Canada withdrawing its support from UNESCO. When an occasion arises, however, the Delegation should warn the Conference that unless there is a greater degree of "realism" in the UNESCO program and a marked improvement in the efficiency of the Organiza-