

different countries to acquire a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the United Nations; and (2) to have this group participate in the United Nations guided tours unit. In the 1955-56 programme the internes, each from a different member country, received lectures on the constitutional and functional aspects of United Nations work, prepared essays and working papers, attended seminars, were assigned departmental duties and spent part of their time as guides. This programme worked out very successfully and is to be continued during 1957.

A project of little financial importance but of considerable human interest is the United Nations International School, developed to afford educational facilities for the children of United Nations staff at Headquarters in New York. It was organized in 1949 as an extension of the international nursery school founded in 1947 at Lake Success by members of the Secretariat. The governing body, the Board of Trustees, is elected by the Association for the United Nations International School, and is representative of the many different cultural groups in the United Nations. This International School has been incorporated by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York, and has obtained from it a permanent charter for both primary and secondary education. The International School's objectives are: (1) to ensure the harmonious development of the child in relation to his age and environment, to his national cultural characteristics, as well as to the wider community of the world; (2) to provide instruction of such a kind that the child may, with a minimum of difficulty and loss of time, transfer to a school in his own or in another country; (3) to establish a programme in keeping with the spirit of the United Nations—that is, one making no distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion, and one laying the foundations of a truly international education, combining the best from the different school systems of the world; (4) to contribute to the intelligent and comprehensive adjustment of the child to American life in which he will take part for a number of years. Children of 34 nationalities and speaking 19 languages, attend the school which has a staff of six nationalities speaking ten different languages.

The need for modernizing the Palais des Nations building (the former Headquarters of the League of Nations) in Geneva had been recognized for some time. During the eleventh session, the Swiss Federal Council offered to lend to the United Nations, free of interest, the major portion (i.e., \$900,000 of a total of \$1.21 million) of the estimated amount needed to finance the modernizing programme. The General Assembly accepted this offer and will include in the budget estimates for the years 1957-1966 a sum of \$121,000 to finance the modernizing programme and to repay the loan from the Swiss Federal Council. The work as planned includes improvements to several conference rooms, the installation of simultaneous translation equipment, the modernization of elevators and improvement of the restaurant and assembly hall.

The Working Capital Fund of the United Nations was increased from \$20 million to \$22 million for 1957. This Fund is assessed against members to provide the Secretariat with the necessary cash to meet regular expenditures during the early months of each year pending receipt of the annual budgetary assessments from the members. Because many contributing states