

### **ELECTIONS**

One of the most important items of business before the Conference was the election of a successor to Dr. Julian Huxley, Director-General. On November 26 the Executive Board proposed that Dr. Jaime Torres Bodet, Foreign Minister of Mexico and former Minister of Education, should be elected to serve for a six year term. The nomination of Dr. Torres Bodet was confirmed by the General Conference by a vote of 30-3 and Dr. Torres Bodet was immediately invited to come to Beirut. On December 10 he took the oath of office as Director-General.

Elections to the Executive Board of UNESCO were held on December 1. The three year terms of six of the eighteen members of the Board ended at the third session. Five members--Dr. Lewis Verniers of Belgium, Mr. Victor Doré of Canada, Shafik Gherbal Bey of Egypt, Sir Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan of India and Professor Alexandre Photiades of Greece--were elected for second terms of office, while Count Stefano Jacini of Italy was named to succeed Dr. Jan Opocensky of Czechoslovakia. A seventh election to the Board was made necessary at the end of the Conference when Dr. Benjamin Carrion of Ecuador resigned. His seat was filled by Dr. Guillermo Nanetti of Colombia.

Sir Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was later elected Chairman of the Board replacing Mr.

Ronald Walker of Australia, while Dr. C. Parra Perez of Venezuela and Mr. Roger Seydoux of France became vice-chairmen.

### **SITE OF NEXT CONFERENCE**

The General Conference decided that its Fourth Session should be a short business meeting at Paris to review programme activities, and administrative and financial questions. It was agreed that subsequent sessions should be held in the Spring and note was taken of an Italian invitation to hold the Fifth Session at Florence in 1950.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Canadian Delegation to the Third General Conference of UNESCO considered that the organization displayed a greater maturity in its conduct and decisions at Beirut than at previous conferences. As a result of careful review of the actions of the executive board and of the secretariat in 1948 and critical examination of the programme proposals brought before the conference, a workable programme of activities was adopted by the General Conference. Members of the delegation who had attended previous sessions noted improvement particularly in the administrative practices of the organization. It was the view of the delegation that more effective work would be done by UNESCO in the next year as a result of the proceedings of the third session.