

International relations have been strengthened in several ways. American museums have gained representation in European councils through a place on the executive committee of the International Museums Office. Inter-American museum relations have been furthered by a mission to South America and the subsequent appearance of a book in English on the museums of that continent, and also through representation of museums in two new international groups—an advisory committee of the Pan American Union and the national council of the new Inter-American Institute of Intellectual Cooperation.

Two developments in Great Britain, though nominally unrelated to museum affairs in other countries, have contributed to general advancement. The first was the financing of the Museums Association in 1929 and the consequent opening of permanent headquarters in London. This move was assisted by a grant of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust—which foundation has since shown its further interest through gifts to museums for reorganizations. The second was the publication of the final report of the Royal Commission on National Museums and Art Galleries. This document, in two volumes appearing, respectively, in 1929 and 1930, has done much to stimulate thought throughout the world.

Museum fortunes are in the ascendancy. The achievements of each period bulk large when they are near at hand, but they soon blend into the background against which new achievements stand in relief. The years 1929 and 1930 were important, but they will quickly slip into their appointed places. Happily they were full of works which will bring forth greater works in the years to come.

