

with what has been advocated by Canadian delegations in previous sessions. The programme will endeavour to steer activities into specific fields and to act as a catalyst for international co-operation where it is needed in the carrying out of large-scale programmes.

Social Sciences

As the amount of the budget set aside for the programme in the Social Sciences is proportionately small and because the programme as it stands is well organized, proceedings in this field were, on the whole, conducted smoothly and speedily. There were, however, attempts by Soviet-bloc delegations to criticize the programme as unsatisfactory and to have it oriented towards a study of such questions as colonialism, peaceful co-existence and disarmament. On the other hand, many delegations paid tribute to the work done by Unesco and regretted the insufficiency of financial resources for this part of the programme. As approved by the conference, this includes: aid to international co-operation of experts; improved documentation and statistical work; the promotion of certain fundamental research projects on the process of urbanization, automation and the peaceful uses of atomic energy in their psycho-social effect.

It was pointed out that, as the role of education is increasing in scope, it is imperative that closer co-operation should exist between the Social Sciences and Education Departments of Unesco. In the regional field, the accent will be on strengthening activities in Africa, but established regional centres in Rio de Janeiro and New Delhi will continue to receive help.

Cultural Activities

One of the items in the programme of cultural activities which became a feature of the session was the plan for the preservation of the Nubian monuments. In 1959, the Governments of the United Arab Republic and the Sudan requested Unesco's assistance in obtaining financial, scientific and technical aid for the preservation of artistic and historical treasures in that part of Egyptian and Sudanese Nubia which will be inundated by the lake formed by the construction of the Aswan High Dam. In accordance with these requests, the organization launched in March 1960 a campaign to obtain assistance from member states. In return for contributions, the U.A.R. Government is offering rights to undertake excavations and to acquire some of the artistic treasures not only from the area that will become progressively submerged in the course of 1961 to 1969 but also some from its national store of antiquities. Large photographs, hung in the halls of the Conference Building, acquainted the delegations with the ageless beauty of the temples of Abu Simbel and of the sanctuaries on the island of Philae whose safeguarding entails, in the latter case, the creation of an artificial lake and, in the former, the erection of huge dams at a cost estimated at approximately \$50 million. The conference approved the sponsorship given to this campaign by Unesco and set up a special committee to help collect and utilize contributions in funds, equipment and technicians. Mr. Jean Thomas whose retirement as an Assistant Director-General became effective at the end of 1960 was appointed as Chairman of the Committee.

The conference adopted unanimously an international instrument in the form of a recommendation which stresses the role of museums in the cultural