

to a minor key and the delegates approached their tasks in a more constructive frame of mind. That is not to suggest that political considerations did not obtrude themselves on other occasions when we were dealing with education, cultural activities, mass communications, and peaceful uses of atomic energy—to mention a few of the subjects. It would be rather naive to think that political considerations would not play a part. But by and large many people, men and women from 79 countries, made a constructive contribution to the thinking on problems as wide as humanity, and in effect the UNESCO conference became a great parliament of mankind dedicated to advance on the social and humanitarian frontiers of the world.

So much for the general atmosphere. I need not tell a meeting of this kind what UNESCO stands for, although it is amazing to find out how little conception many people throughout the country have of its function and purpose.

For the purpose of convenience the UNESCO program is divided into eight subject areas, to each of which is allocated a share of the total budget amounting annually to between \$11 million and \$11.5 million, or something under \$23 million for the two-year period.

The subject areas, with their share of the budget, are:

	Share of budget
Education	20 per cent
Major Projects	5 “ “
Natural Sciences	11 “ “
Social Sciences	9 “ “
Cultural Activities	15 “ “
Mass Communications	15 “ “
Exchange of Persons	8 “ “
Documents and Publications ..	15 “ “

The major projects include, first, a project to extend primary education in Latin America; and secondly, research on the arid zones of the world. A third major project, and one which can have far-reaching effects in terms of years, is mutual appreciation of eastern and western cultural values.

The primary education project seems to be starting at a very low level, and it is, but I think we are all convinced today that no nation can advance independently of its neighbours, and the situation in Latin America is that even among the most advanced nations only 70 per cent of the children of school age have the opportunity of going to school. In many of the other nations only some 40 per cent to 50 per cent of the children of school age have the opportunity of going to school. One of the reasons is that they have no teachers and no schools, nor the money to finance them. This project of extending primary education in Latin America concerns itself with a

special effort to train teachers and to provide the facilities for them to get at least an elementary education.

The second major project—the arid zone project, as it is called—is also vitally important in the kind of world in which we are living, particularly when we remember that 25 per cent of this globe is desert. One of the particularly interesting discussions that took place there, under the leadership of Sir Charles Darwin, a scientist and member of the British delegation, and, of course, a descendant of the famous Charles Darwin, concerned itself with the project to convert salt water into fresh water so that it could be used for irrigation purposes. This gives some insight into one of the projects which UNESCO is studying.

Associated with this arid zone project is the question of how to adapt a way of life to the arid zones and how to deal effectively with the nomadic people who live in those zones.

The next areas of interest are the natural sciences, the social sciences, cultural activities, mass communications, exchange of persons, documents and publications.

A study of these subject areas will indicate that the dividing line between each of them is sometimes rather hard to define. I think one of the reasons why there is so much confusion and misunderstanding, and so much repetition in discussions in UNESCO, is that insufficient time has been spent in trying to establish definite demarcation lines, if it can be done at all. For this reason some of the sessions of the UNESCO conference are somewhat confusing and repetitious, because the same kind of topic may well be discussed under the heading of education, social sciences, and under cultural activities; and when one remembers that all proceedings are translated simultaneously into four official languages it can be understood how confusion and misunderstanding may grow apace. At this point I must pay a tribute to the translators; and those of you who have daughters ambitious to travel could do worse than explore the possibility of the profession of translator. Most of the proceedings of the sessions are translated by girls, and in the main they do a very fine job.

At each general conference of UNESCO a budget for the next fiscal period of two years is prepared and voted upon. As a rule the Director General of UNESCO and his staff have spent months in preparing this budget, laying it out in detail; they then submit it for discussion. This year they followed the usual procedure and submitted a budget for \$21,600,000: then, without warning or any discussion with the Director General or his