

(B)

NATURAL SCIENCES

Canadian authorities concerned with the natural sciences commend UNESCO for its reorganization of scientific liaison. But, as one Canadian expert observed, "the awful danger of the isolation of the scientist from the world of common men has been brilliantly illuminated....."and much remains to be done in this field.

1. Scientific Co-operation

- (a) Co-ordination of Work of National Scientific Research Institutions - The National Research Council of Canada provided UNESCO with complete documentation concerning its constitution functions, facilities and activities.
- (b) A Canadian Committee on Science Abstracting was constituted and a report submitted to UNESCO in April, 1952. Unfortunately, there are no journals of abstracts in Canada, and very little progress has been made on the development and improvement of scientific documentation. It was suggested that UNESCO might assemble national catalogues of scientific personnel.
- (c) Survey on the Safe and Expeditious Travel of Delicate Physical Standards - In reply to UNESCO's inquiry, the Canadian authorities stated that no special arrangements were necessary in Canada, but the National Research Council offered to participate in this project if its help was desired from an international point of view.

2. Contributions to Research

- (a) The Arid Zone Programme - The Geographic Branch of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys agreed to serve as the Canadian clearing centre and to participate in the panels of experts. The Universities of Saskatchewan and Manitoba co-operated by completing questionnaires on plant ecological research and information was submitted concerning projects on aridity in the prairie provinces of Canada.
- (b) Programme of Research on the Brain - UNESCO questionnaires were completed by eight brain research centres and subsequently three Canadian specialists were selected for the UNESCO panel of experts on this subject.

3. Teaching and Dissemination of Science

- (a) The Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, the Chemical Institute of Canada and the Engineering Institute of Canada sponsor a Canadian committee on counselling and engineering and sciences. This committee disseminates information on the natural sciences and works toward the improvement of science teaching in Canada.
- (b) The Scientific Liaison Section of the National Research Council of Canada is constantly experimenting with new methods of conveying scientific information. One example of this endeavour during 1953 was the film "Canada's Atom Goes to Work", describing progress on