



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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THE ROLE OF UNESCO

An address by Leonard W. Brockington, Chairman of the Canadian Delegation to the Ninth Session of the UNESCO General Conference, at New Delhi, India, November 10, 1956.

With a sense of honour and pleasure I speak to you in the name of the delegation from Canada. To my land throughout the years have come millions of men and women of many peoples. They came, seeking new horizons of hope and happiness for themselves and their children. Amongst our citizens are those who once came from almost every nation represented in this room. They and their sons and daughters, by their skills, their arts, their faith, their character and their honest labour, have added new strength and beauty to the fabric of our free Canadian citizenship whose privileges and duties they proudly share. If we Canadians can make a contribution to the work of UNESCO we do not forget what we owe to many peoples.

As brother-men, therefore, we salute all nations gathered in this place and as Canadians we pay tribute to those who are in very truth our Canadian motherlands.

It is also my pleasant duty to join our Canadian voices in the chorus of gratitude and admiration which hails the splendour of India's preparation for our welcome and our deliberations. We indeed rejoice to be amongst a people so gentle and so courteous. This I know - when the time comes for us to depart, we shall all cherish the hope that some day we may return. May I say also that it is a high privilege to see the workings of this laboratory of liberty and to witness in this great land a new freedom being forged and so valiant and, let us pray, so successful a determination to bring to every human life in this teeming sub-continent a new opportunity for fulfilment and enrichment and a better share of the fruits of the earth and the rewards of man's labour.

We also wish to thank the Director-General, the officers and counsellors of UNESCO for their dedicated labours - never forgetting those hundreds of men and women whose names are unknown to us. In distant and sometimes dangerous places they are