

Regional Libraries.—In the early 1930's, with the assistance of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, several experiments were undertaken with a view to providing more adequate library service to smaller communities and rural districts. These experiments were undertaken in the belief that the county or similar district, rather than the isolated city or town, is the proper unit of library work and administration. The Fraser Valley experiment in British Columbia, the first to be undertaken, has become a permanent regional library, and two other similar libraries have been established in the Province; in Prince Edward Island it has become a permanent provincial library system. Nova Scotia, in 1938, established the Regional Libraries Commission, which employed a full-time director to assist interested areas of the Province in organization. A small regional library was established in New Brunswick in 1937. In Ontario a number of county library schemes have been established in the southwestern part of the Province where co-operation on a county or township basis has been developing. In 1946, the Province of Saskatchewan passed legislation providing for the establishment of regional libraries, and a full-time librarian was appointed to supervise their organization in the Province.

Section 5.—Canada and UNESCO*

In the United Nations Charter, drafted at San Francisco in the spring of 1945, the nations undertook to promote (Article 55) "international cultural and educational co-operation", and (Article 56) "to take joint and separate action in co-operation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55". Article 57 provided that "specialized agencies", established by intergovernmental agreement in cultural, educational and related fields could be brought into relationship with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, by agreements approved by the General Assembly.

With a view to establishment of a "specialized agency" in the field of educational and cultural relations the British Government, and the French Government in association with it, invited the nations to be represented at a conference in London, England, beginning Nov. 1, 1945. Forty-four of the United Nations arranged for representation. The Canadian Government sent a delegation of six persons. The Conference had before it, when it met, a draft constitution for a United Nations Educational and Cultural Organization which had been prepared by the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education with the assistance of the United States Department of State, together with a draft submitted independently by the French Government which was based on its experience with the League of Nations Organization for International Intellectual Co-operation. By Nov. 16, agreement had been reached, by the representatives of the 44 nations, on a revised draft of a charter for an Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,* to be presented to their Governments for formal approval. In the process of revision the word "Scientific" had been added to the proposed name, and the Organization became known as UNESCO. A Preparatory Commission was established at the same time.

In the course of the ensuing 12 months the Governments of 27 countries formally undertook to adhere to the constitution as drafted (Canada, in August, 1946), and the Preparatory Commission organized the First Conference to be held in Paris, France, during November and December, 1946. The Preparatory Commission carried on its work at London until late September, then moved to Paris,

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