

THE
League of Nations
AND
Intellectual Co-operation

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**Information Section,
League of Nations Secretariat,
GENEVA.**

NOTE

This pamphlet is one of a short series issued by the Information Section of the Secretariat of the League of Nations on various aspects of League work. It should not be regarded as an official statement engaging the responsibility of the League; for official purposes, reference should be made to the official proceedings of the League of Nations.

Other pamphlets deal with the constitution and organisation of the League, the Permanent Court of International Justice, the financial reconstruction of Austria, political activities, financial and economic work, the financial administration of the League and allocation of expenses, disarmament, health, mandates, transit, minorities, the administration of Danzig and the Saar, and humanitarian activities.

December, 1923.

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WORK OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION

ORIGIN AND CONSTITUTION.

The League of Nations from the beginning has devoted serious attention to the question of international intellectual co-operation. "If the League concerns itself with improving the exchange of material products", said M. LÉON BOURGEOIS, "it should surely also study the methods of accelerating the exchange of ideas between nations. Without a spirit of mutual understanding between nations the League cannot live."

From the point of view of intellectual work, properly so called, there had been hitherto only disconnected attempts at international collaboration, though the results obtained were by no means negligible. Undoubtedly organisations like the International Academic Union, the International Research Council, and the Federation of International Associations had done much to improve international contacts, and in various spheres, such as medicine and biology, international relations had for a long time been the order of the day. Certain Governments also, before the war, had taken fruitful initiative in matters of education, often with the co-operation of private enterprise, but the general results were not adequate and the absence of a general plan of international intellectual co-operation involved delay, and sometimes confusion, in the progress of science. Post-war conditions accentuated the difficulties, and brought new problems.

The First Assembly of the League of Nations (December 1920) recommended that the Council should associate itself as closely as possible with all steps aiming at an international organisation of intellectual work.

M. Léon Bourgeois, who was asked by his colleagues on the Council to consider how practical effect might be given to this recommendation, indicated in his report of September, 1921, some of the principal problems to be studied. He pointed out in particular, the advantages of a more active interchange of students and professors, which would be greatly helped by more general and more systematic mutual recognition of the degrees and diplomas conferred in different countries, and a more frequent exchange of Chairs between the professors of various nationalities. He attached still greater importance to the advantages which would accrue from a more rapid and accurate communication of all work undertaken simultaneously in various parts of the world in the field of scientific research.

M. Bourgeois, on the same occasion, laid stress on a principle to which the League of Nations has consistently adhered, namely: "To avoid interfering with the way each country expresses its own national genius, and, instead, to afford each the opportunity of developing vigorously and abundantly by drawing freely upon the common fund of knowledge, methods and discoveries."

To avoid the risk of being accused of interference, with which the League would be taxed if it put forward on its own account a scheme for organising intellectual activity internationally, M. Bourgeois proposed the appointment of a Committee of not more than twelve members "composed of the persons best qualified to deal with matters of education and science."

It was suggested that this Committee should study the means of simplifying, strengthening and extending the international intellectual relations that already existed. "It is to Universities, to scholars and to academicians," said M. Bourgeois, "that we must go for information upon the extent of these ties and what their schools, laboratories and associations require immediately in order to provide freer access and a more general mingling of the great intellectual currents of the world."

This was the basis of action adopted by the Second Assembly of the League as the result of a report presented by the Rapporteur

of the Fifth Committee, namely Professor GILBERT MURRAY, of the University of Oxford and a Delegate of South Africa.

"The Committee," declared the Rapporteur, "realises the great importance of the organisation of intellectual work; it knows that the future of the League of Nations depends upon the formation of a universal conscience. This can only be created and developed if the scholars, the thinkers and the writers in all countries maintain close mutual contact and spread from one country to another the ideas which can ensure peace among the peoples, and if the efforts already made in this direction receive encouragement."

The Council of the League adopted this report, and invited the following distinguished Committee to meet at Geneva on August 1st, 1922:

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| M. D. N. BANNERJEA, | Professor of Political Economy at the University of Calcutta. |
| M. H. BERGSON, | Honorary Professor of Philosophy at the 'Collège de France', Member of the 'Académie française', Member of the 'Académie des Sciences morales et politiques'. |
| Mlle. BONNEVIE, | Professor of Zoology at Christiania University, Norwegian Delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations. |
| M. A. DE CASTRO, | Professor of Clinical Medicine and Director of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Rio de Janeiro. |
| Mme. CURIE-SKLODOWSKA, | Professor of Physics at the University of Paris, Honorary Professor of the University of Warsaw, Member of the 'Académie de Médecine' at Paris, of the Polish Academy at Cracow and of the Scientific Society at Warsaw. |

- M. J. DESTRÉE,** Former Minister for Sciences and Arts, Member of the 'Académie belge de langue française et de littérature'.
- M. A. EINSTEIN,** Professor of Physics at the Universities of Berlin and Leyden, Member of the Berlin Academy of Science.
- MR. G. E. HALE,** Director of the Mount Wilson Observatory, Member of the Executive Committee of the International Research Council, Honorary President of the National Research Council of the United States.
- MR. G. A. MURRAY,** Professor of Greek Philology at Oxford University, Member of the Council of the British Academy, Delegate of South Africa to the Assembly of the League of Nations
- M. G. DE REYNOLD,** Professor of French Literature at the University of Berne.
- M. F. RUFFINI,** Professor of Ecclesiastical Law at the University of Turin, former Minister of Public Education, President of the Union of the League of Nations Associations, President of the Royal Academy of Turin.
- M. L. DE TORRES QUEVEDO,** Director of the Madrid Electro-Mechanical Laboratory, Member of the Royal Academy of Science, Madrid, Member of the Committee for the Extension of Scientific Studies, Inspector-General of the Road Engineering Corps.

All accepted the Council's invitation with the exception of Professor Einstein, who was prevented from attending owing to his absence on a scientific mission in Japan. Professor Einstein subsequently resigned and was replaced by M. H. A. LORENTZ, Professor of Theoretical Physics at Leyden University, Member of the Amsterdam Academy of Science.

Mr. G. E. Hale was also obliged to resign after the session on account of ill-health; he was replaced by Mr. R. A. MILLIKAN, Director of the Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics at the California Institute of Technology, Member of the International Research Council.

THE COMMITTEE'S PROGRAMME OF WORK.

The Committee, having appointed M. BERGSON as Chairman, and Professor Gilbert MURRAY as Vice-Chairman, at once had to consider some 50 proposals and recommendations submitted by its members, by Governments, international or national associations, academies, etc.

The Committee selected certain of these proposals for immediate examination, either because of their urgency or because they appeared more realisable in the near future, and, after five days of discussion, prepared the following programme of work, which was presented to and accepted by the Third Assembly:

- I. Institution of a general enquiry into the conditions of intellectual life.
- II. Examination of the problem of assistance to nations whose intellectual life is especially endangered.
- III. Study of questions of intellectual property and appointment of a sub-committee for this purpose.
- IV. Study of University co-operation and appointment of a sub-committee.
- V. Study of bibliographical questions and appointment of a sub-committee.

ENQUIRY INTO THE PRESENT CONDITIONS OF INTELLECTUAL LIFE.

The Committee was deeply impressed by the information it had received from various quarters on the conditions of intellectual work and workers, which in certain countries were such that the progress of civilisation itself was threatened. It decided to conduct a general enquiry for the purpose of ascertaining the extent of the evils from which intellectual activity and intellectual workers in different professions were suffering and of collecting suggestions for possible remedies.

With the authorisation of the Assembly and of the Council, a questionnaire was sent to the Governments asking them for information on the following points:

1. Administrative organisations taking part in the direction of intellectual life (higher education, science, literature, the fine arts, publication); financial resources of these organisations since 1913.
2. Laws, proposed laws, and principal decrees and circulars; relating to higher education, science, literature, the fine arts and intellectual life in general published since 1913.
3. Statistical data relating to higher education and the output of printed matter and to the salaries and wages of intellectual workers since 1913.
4. Principal scientific literary and artistic institutions (libraries, museums, laboratories, observatories, etc.); scholarships, prizes and foundations for the encouragement of intellectual work.
5. Adherence to international conventions relating to intellectual work or to education.
6. Intellectual relations with other countries.

The replies of the Governments, and those of academies, universities, learned societies, etc., to similar questionnaires, together with the personal investigations undertaken by certain members of the Committee, constitute an ample documentation, which

gives a highly instructive picture of the conditions of intellectual life after the close of the world war.

The first series of reports, which the Committee has decided to publish, includes a certain number of general reports on intellectual life in Albania, Austria, Brazil, Greece, Hungary, India, Lithuania, Luxemburg; a monograph on a particular profession, the musical profession, written by M. William MARTIN, the International Labour Office's delegate on the Committee; and a certain number of monographs dealing with problems of intellectual life, either in general, or from a national point of view. Examples are the monographs of M. Julien LUCHAIRE, one of the Committee's experts, on intellectual life in France:

- I. "The Teaching of Modern Languages, Literature, and Civilisation."
- II. "The Crisis of Pure Science."
- III. "The Preservation and Diffusion of Artistic Taste."
- IV. "Universities and Social Life."
- V. "French Intellectual Propaganda."

Special reports of this kind have also been published regarding intellectual life in Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia, Switzerland, United States.

The Committee makes clear that its only purpose in publishing these documents is to draw attention to the problems of organisation and international assistance raised by each of the subjects treated. It does not claim to deal exhaustively with these subjects, but only to emphasise their importance and so to pave the way for fresh suggestions on the part of those interested.

It hopes, however, that the work will have more than a purely documentary value, important though that may be. As the attention of the League of Nations, the Governments, the intellectual workers and public opinion has been drawn to the different aspects of the crisis in intellectual life and to the various possibilities of mitigating its effects, the Committee feels entitled to hope that certain of the suggestions will be acted upon and will help to remove some of the evils and dangers described.

ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES WHOSE INTELLECTUAL LIFE
IS ESPECIALLY ENDANGERED.

Although the enquiry seems to show that the crisis is general (*e.g.* as regards the lowering of the standard of life of intellectual workers and the neglect of disinterested studies on the part of young people), it is none the less true that certain countries are particularly endangered; in the countries whose rate of exchange has fallen very low, students are condemned to intellectual isolation and often to material poverty, and the universities, libraries and laboratories are unable to obtain foreign publications and other books, instruments, etc., which are indispensable for their work.

At the Committee's first session, its attention was drawn particularly to the plight of intellectual life in Austria.

At the invitation of the Council, the Committee appointed an Austrian correspondent, Professor A. DOPSCH, to keep it informed of the needs of intellectual life in that country and an appeal on behalf of the intellectual workers in Austria, signed in the name of the League of Nations by M. BERGSON, Chairman, and M. de REYNOLD, Rapporteur of the Committee, was addressed on November 4th, 1922, to the learned institutions and societies of all countries.

This appeal invited the universities, academies and learned societies of the whole world to send their publications to the Austrian universities, academies and learned societies, and to organise systems of exchange with them. It also suggested that agreements should be concluded with the Central Purchasing Organisation for Associations of Intellectual Workers (the "*Zegam*") for the supply of material requirements (such as clothing, articles of primary necessity, etc.). It further invited the universities, academies and learned societies to organise exchanges of professors and lecturers with similar institutions in Austria and it suggested that men of science should either visit Austria themselves or endeavour by means of personal intercourse to break down the wall of intellectual isolation with which that unfortunate country was surrounded. In order to relieve the unhappy condition of Austrian professors, scientists, writers and artists, it urged that they and their families should be assisted to spend their

holidays abroad, and that certain immediately available funds or foundations should be placed at the disposal of Austrian scientists and students, to enable them to continue their researches and studies.

A certain number of institutions have responded to this appeal. Books have been sent from America, England, India, etc. and gifts made by the Japanese universities have made it possible to award two scholarships to Austrian students.

But the Committee has not dealt only with the case of Austria. Not to mention Russia, nearly all the nations of Eastern Europe between the Baltic and the Ægean Sea are either new nations needing assistance or nations whose intellectual life has been disorganised by the war.

At the invitation of the Council of the League, the Committee, in agreement with certain of these countries, has selected appropriate local institutions to transmit to it the more urgent requests of scholars and scientific institutions, particularly regarding the exchange of books and other necessary material.

In addition to Austria, the following countries, at the beginning of 1923, took steps to avail themselves of the organisations for intellectual assistance thus created by the Committee: Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Esthonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Roumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

Requests received from these countries are forwarded by the Secretariat of the Committee either to the members of the Committee, who take the necessary steps in their respective countries to see that they are complied with, or to institutions such as the Universities Library for Central Europe in London, the Institute of International Education of the Carnegie Foundation in New York, the European Centre of the same Foundation in Paris, the *Junta Para Ampliacion de Estudios* in Madrid, and the *Office de Renseignements scientifiques* at the Sorbonne in Paris.

The Committee has been able in this way, for instance, to obtain certain publications for the Polish Academy, the Budapest Observatory, the School of Mines at Sopron, etc., and exchanges have been organised between the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in London and institutions at Athens, Dorpat, Vienna, etc.

CREATION OF NATIONAL COMMITTEES FOR INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION.

This first rudimentary organisation for international intellectual assistance has rapidly developed and in certain countries has taken the shape of "National Committees for Intellectual Co-operation".

Such committees first came into existence in Austria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Esthonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Roumania and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. They are not all constituted in the same way. In Austria the National Committee is composed of representatives of the principal scientific institutions and associations; in Poland the "Mianowski Fund" (a foundation for the encouragement of scientific work) formed a "League of Nations Committee"; in Roumania a similar committee was set up on the initiative of the Roumanian Academy; in Lithuania it was the University of Kovno which took the initiative.

The Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, with the full approval of the Council and the Assembly, decided to encourage the constitution of similar National Committees in all countries. As a result of this decision, committees have been set up or are being formed in Belgium, France, Norway, Holland and Switzerland. These National Committees will afford the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation the most valuable assistance, as they will act as official correspondents with intellectual workers in the various countries and will enable the Committee to co-ordinate and to extend its activities not only in the matter of intellectual co-operation but in any work it may see fit to undertake.

The Committee has decided to get into touch with the representatives of the National Committees which have already been constituted in Central and Eastern Europe. These representatives were invited to the session of the Committee, held at Paris in December 1923.

The Committee also decided to request the Central Office of the Russian Academic Union, whose seat is at Prague, to appoint or to constitute itself a Committee of Intellectual Co-operation for Russian *émigrés*, who would thus also get the benefit of international co-operation in this domain. A Russian savant will be

nominated as the corresponding member or expert of the League Committee. The Russian Academic Union of Prague has been asked to furnish a detailed report on the way in which Russian students are distributed among foreign Universities and secondary schools. This will enable the Committee to ascertain whether it would be possible to distribute them more equitably, since there are at present many institutes of higher education who have no Russian students and could easily accommodate some of them.

CO-OPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL INTELLECTUAL ORGANISATIONS

In addition to enlisting the support of the National Committees on Intellectual Co-operation, the Committee, fully recognising the value of previous efforts made in the sphere of intellectual co-operation and desiring to work in close association with existing international organisations, has invited to its plenary sessions, or to any meetings of its Sub-Committees, representatives of the two great inter-academic associations, namely, the International Academic Union, and the International Research Council; of the International Confederation of Intellectual Workers founded at Paris on April 5th, 1923; of the International Students' Associations; and, for bibliographical questions, of the International Bibliographical Institute at Brussels.

The Committee's object is not so much to introduce innovations as to help existing organisations so far as possible to co-ordinate their efforts, to exchange ideas with them and, with their collaboration, to draw up a plan of action for the advancement of intellectual work and for the protection of the interests of intellectual workers.

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY.

With regard to the protection of intellectual property, the Committee and the Sub-Committee appointed for that purpose have chiefly directed their efforts towards the protection of scientific property and the right of the scientist to his invention — a right which no legislation as yet recognises. Professor RUFFINI, the

Rapporteur for this question, has framed a draft international convention. In his opinion, scientific discovery should rank with artistic creation and technical invention, both of which are protected, the former by copyright and the latter by patents. As an international union exists for the protection of literary and artistic property, and another for the protection of industrial property, an international union for the protection of scientific property should also be established.

The Committee considers that, if this scheme were adopted, it would remove a gross injustice, for, while the invention of a new rubber heel is protected and may bring a fortune to the patentee, the scientist who discovers a scientific law, or the property of a body — a discovery which may have incalculable results not only for the progress of industry, but for humanity in general — is protected by no law and may end his life in poverty without being able to claim the smallest share of the benefits reaped by those who are enriched by his invention.

This is not only a grave injustice, but also, in view of the present crisis, a serious danger, for the enquiry undertaken by the Committee shows that there is a tendency among the rising generation to abandon disinterested research and to take up more lucrative careers. The Committee believes that the redress of an injustice to which scientists have for centuries been subjected might have a beneficial effect upon public opinion and upon the younger generation of students.

The prestige of scientific work would be increased by the protection of scientific discovery, just as legislation regarding copyright has done much to increase the prestige of the profession of letters or art.

The Fourth Assembly approved the principle of M. Ruffini's scheme, and decided to submit it to all the Governments, requesting them to communicate any observations they might desire to make to the Secretariat of the League of Nations. The Committee on Intellectual Co-operation may ultimately prepare a final draft Convention based on these observations, to be placed on the agenda of the Assembly of 1924 and subsequently submitted to all the States for signature and ratification.

The Committee does not propose to confine its endeavours to the question of the protection of scientific property; it is equally interested in the recognition and protection of intellectual property of all kinds, artistic, literary or scientific. Moreover, after hearing M. GALLIÉ, the representative of the International Confederation of Intellectual Workers, at its session in July and August, 1923, the Committee, on the proposal of M. DESTRÉE, decided to examine the following problems:

Copyright: National and international regulations concerning the right of the inventor to his work as regards publication, insertion, reproduction and translation.

Continuous Rights (droit de suite) reserving for artists a certain percentage of the proceeds of the continued sale of their works, and a *moral right* entitling them to object to alteration or mutilation of their work.

Extension of copyright, so as to create a kind of State copyright, after the expiry of the ordinary copyright, the proceeds from which should go to support certain national or international scientific institutes or other organisations.

Protection of University degrees and professional diplomas (engineers, lawyers, architects, etc.) acquired by a course of studies.

INTER-UNIVERSITY CO-OPERATION.

A certain number of schemes designed to further and to organise co-operation between Universities and University professors and students throughout the world have been referred to the Committee.

The Committee was obliged to postpone consideration of the majority of them, either because they were not feasible in present circumstances, or because the funds at its disposal were too limited.

Among these schemes were proposals for an International University Congress and an International University more or less closely connected with the League of Nations.

The Committee was obliged to confine itself to the recommendation of less ambitious schemes, which were approved by the Assembly of 1923.

The first of these is the formation of an International University Information Office, to be attached to the Section of the Secretariat of the League of Nations which carries out the secretarial work of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation. This office will communicate to the competent authorities, for their information, and more especially to national offices for University information which already exist in certain countries, the recommendations made by the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

It will publish in a periodical bulletin any information it receives, principally from the national offices, as to the extent to which courses of study, degrees and diplomas are given international recognition, as to the curricula of different Universities, especially international vacation courses and courses of study on contemporary nations, and the teaching of modern languages, literatures and civilisations (subjects to which the Committee attaches great importance as being likely to promote better understanding between nations) ¹.

The office will co-operate with the delegates of the International Students' Associations on the promotion of the interchange of students, subject to the approval of their Universities.

It will also deal with the extension of the interchange of professors.

With the help of this international office, limited though its

¹ The Committee, which was requested by the Third Assembly to consider the question of an international auxiliary language, was of the opinion that it should concern itself primarily with encouraging the study of modern languages and foreign literature, since its task was to establish *intellectual and moral* contact between men and women of different nationalities. Without contesting the practical advantages that might ensue from the general adoption of an artificial auxiliary language, such as for instance, Esperanto, the Committee did not feel able to recommend any such language to the attention of the Assembly of the League.

funds may be, it will be possible to collect and distribute international documentation concerning university life for the purpose of extending inter-university relations in all countries.

CO-ORDINATION OF BIBLIOGRAPHICAL WORK AND INTERNATIONAL INTERCHANGE OF PUBLICATIONS.

In order to establish relations between scientists of various countries and to facilitate their researches, the Committee obtained the approval of the Fourth Assembly (1923) to the following programme:

(a) Immediate publication of an *Index Bibliographicus* giving a systematic table of all the bibliographical institutions and periodicals already in existence throughout the world.

(b) Organisation of co-operation between the libraries or groups of libraries which have been formed in the different countries with a view to the systematic classification of their contents, making them more easily accessible, and completing the foreign sections by means of interchanges.

(c) Utilisation of the records and work of the International Bibliographical Institute at Brussels.

(d) Preparation of technical conferences to co-ordinate the work of analytical bibliography (abstracts) edited in the different countries with reference to certain specified sciences (physics, classical philology, social sciences). Mme. CURIE, a member of the Committee, had complained of the incompleteness of the existing collections, and also of duplication, which was especially regrettable at a time when the intellectual world lacked workers and the financial means to cover the cost of publication.

(e) A conference of experts to prepare a revision of the International Conventions of 1886 relative to the exchange of publications of every kind, books, periodicals, catalogues, papers, theses, as certain Governments, among them the British and French, have, as a result of the enquiry undertaken by the Committee, declared that they could not adhere to the Conventions of 1886 in their present form.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN ARCHÆOLOGICAL RESEARCH.

At the first session of the Committee, M. BERGSON drew attention to the question of archæological research. He pointed out that, in spite of the zeal shown by many nations in discovering and preserving monuments of antiquity, numerous documents of the highest value still remained buried in the earth or inaccessible to the world of science and letters, or were kept in conditions that rendered them liable to destruction. International co-operation in these matters therefore seemed necessary and desirable. Such co-operation in fact already existed between certain nations, but hitherto no international rules had been established for regulating the whole matter from the point of view of a just distribution of the work, expenses and benefits involved. It might, therefore, be possible to work for an international understanding on the following matters:

1. The framing of a list of archæological sites not yet explored.
2. A general plan of research.
3. An agreement on methods of research.
4. International rules for preserving and establishing rights of property in archæological monuments.

The Committee adopted the conclusions of a report on this question by M. RUFFINI, whom it had asked to study the subject, as he was the author of the Italian Law for the Protection of Archæological Monuments and Research.

In accordance with its principle of co-operating with international scientific organisations, the Committee first of all decided to submit to the International Academic Union the strictly technical questions involved: namely, the framing of a list of archæological sites not yet explored; general plan of research; publications of the results of research work; preservation of archæological discoveries.

Regarding legal questions, such as national and international agreements on conditions of archæological research or the preservation and rights of proprietorship in archæological monuments,

the Committee agreed with the suggestion of the Rapporteur that distinction should be made between mandated territories and countries of higher civilisation.

It was considered that for mandated territories the Permanent Mandates Commission, which advises the Council of the League on the way in which the mandates are exercised by the Mandatory Powers, might also be entrusted with watching the way in which certain rules for archæological work and the preservation of antiquities are observed, just as it watches over the observance of sanitary and educational rules. The Committee on Intellectual Co-operation therefore decided to ask the Council of the League to transmit to the Mandates Commission a draft set of rules drawn up in May 1922 by a special Committee of the International Academic Union concerning archæological work in mandated territories. The Council agreed to this request, and the Mandates Commission will consider the question at its next session.

In highly civilised countries, facilities to foreigners for archæological research and rules to be followed in preserving or establishing property rights in archæological discoveries are matters for national legislation, and depend on the international conventions they may choose to conclude.

M. Ruffini's report, which was adopted by the Committee, suggests also that agreements should be negotiated between States Members of the League and other countries, such as the United States, to prevent the smuggling of works of art and antiquities — a traffic which is highly injurious to methodical, and consequently, fruitful scientific research.

The report finally suggests that the Italian Government, which, with the Greek Government, is principally concerned, should take the initiative in drawing up a draft scheme for international co-operation in preserving archæological monuments and settling questions of ownership.

FUTURE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE.

There could be no better proof of the importance which the League attaches to the Committee's work than the discussions which took place during the Assembly of 1923 — both in Committee and in plenary session — on the necessity of making the Committee more representative, not only of the various intellectual methods, but also of the different national cultures. All the national cultures not represented demanded representation on the Committee, either by an increase in membership, or by the introduction of a system of rotation.

The scope of the work of the Committee may appear to be limited, considering the small credits placed at its disposal by the Assembly (100,000 francs, which must also cover the expenses of the International University Information Office); but the high qualifications of its members give it prestige, and it is probable that during the coming months its work will be greatly facilitated and supplemented by the National Committees, which are to be formed in all countries. The Assembly of 1923 requested the Council to ask the Governments of the States Members of the League to lend their moral and financial support to these National Committees, and to authorise the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to receive funds from any institution or private person interested in the work.

Governments or private initiative might also, as the Committee suggested, create funds to assist international exchanges of professors, or organise centres of study and work for artists from various countries. With regard to the latter suggestion, the Assembly authorised the Committee to consider an offer made by the Municipality of Capri (Italy), which proposes to place the Charterhouse in that town at the disposal of artists.

The Committee will also, at the request of the Assembly, examine the best method of organising international assistance for the reconstitution of the libraries and scientific collections destroyed by the earthquake in Japan.

CONCLUSION.

Such, in its general outline, is the work already accomplished by the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation. The field of its activities is continually extending as the result of the great changes which, during and after the war, have taken place in Europe. The task to be accomplished is great. Nevertheless the Committee is pursuing its work with confidence, based not only upon the support of the Governments, but also upon the constant encouragement of enlightened public opinion. This valuable collaboration of leading personalities and intellectuals of every country has been acquired by the attitude, both prudent and firm, which the Committee has adopted from the beginning. "The Committee," said its Chairman, M. BERGSON, "has withstood the temptation to consider itself as a kind of super- or super-national intelligence and has always aimed at practical objectives in the interests of intellectual work and workers."

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