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United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

The Canadian Historical Association was represented on July 29, 1947, at a meeting called by the United Nations Association in Canada, at the instance of the Department of External Affairs, to discuss and create an organization to arrange for Canadian contributions to the relief work of UNESCO. About 105 Canadian organizations and institutions with educational, cultural, and scientific interests were invited and over fifty succeeded in sending delegates despite the fact that the meeting was held at short notice in the middle of summer.

The meeting was informed of the desperate lack in many devastated countries of the materials essential for educational effort of all kinds and at all levels, from pencils for school-children to text-books and apparatus for advanced technical training. These needs are estimated at \$100 million for 1947 alone.

It was decided to implement Canadian participation in UNESCO by organizing the efforts of the voluntary associations and of departments of education represented at the meeting and of others not so represented but willing to co-operate.

There was established a council consisting of the delegates from all participating organizations and an executive committee of fifteen members. It was tentatively suggested that the objective for 1947 should be at least \$2 million in cash and an indefinite amount of goods. It was also decided that an approach should be made to the Dominion and provincial governments for grants toward clerical assistance.

The Executive Committee was directed to proceed at once to discuss ways and means, to communicate with the various member organizations and to solicit their aid as appropriate, and to organize a national campaign for UNESCO relief by the collection of money and materials for despatch to the countries in need.

R. A. Preston