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## UNIVERSITIES AFTER THE WAR

(continued from previous page)

miners or carpenters or housewives, to have access to a university for two or three years if we have a love of learning.

This report is for opening the doors of our universities wider. Its authors evidently felt that we're starving them. The annual grants they get in this country from government and local authorities amount only to about £3,000,000. The report pleads for twice that sum. asks in addition for a capital sum of £25,000,000 with which to equip and rebuild educational institutions. Few of us realise how backward and niggardly we are in this matter compared with America, with some other countries. three times our population, spends 15 times as much as we do on our universities. She is giving between the years of 18 and 21 whole-time education to 14 per cent of her young people. Our figure is not quite 1 per cent.

You may ask me whether our scientists in their plans for the post-war university are aware of its duty to mankind. We are lost unless the next generation can learn in its schools and universities how we are to live at peace and form a harmonious world-wide society of peoples. The report, I'm happy to say, gave a good deal of its space to discussing how the international exchange of students and teachers should be organised and financed.

## Other Countries

It's good that such exchanges are no longer uncommon between English and American universities. But aren't we neglecting France, and still more, Russia? The report, I'm glad to see, mentions India and China. It's the custom with hundreds of Indian and Chinese students to study in western universities. I want to see the tide flowing in the other direction also. I believe that if we had sent, say, 20 young Englishmen every year during the past half-century, to study Indian life for a year as students in an Indian university, we should have broken down the barrier between east and west long ago. Is it too late to begin?

You will find in this report some good suggestions for the creation of an international council of universities. We must have under the new world authority a cultural department that will concern itself not merely with education, but with broadcasting and with research on the international scale.

May I go a step further? I want to see the creation of at least one international university founded and financed by the united nations for the common good. It should devote itself chiefly if not entirely to the studies and sciences which have a bearing on the art of living together in society—psychology, economics, history, law, anthropology, ethics. Teachers and students alike should be drawn from all the races of mankind.

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