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the relationship with UN. The agreement is to provide for 'effective co-operation' between the two, and at the same time recognise UNESCO's autonomy. Of course UNESCO will be dependent on UN for its money, but all the same I think it will be something more than just a commission of UN, and effectively autonomous."

Practical Ways

"What about the practical side? You've told us how the administration will work; can you say yet what UNESCO will be able to do, in practical terms, for the countries that hope to benefit—including New Zealand?"

"I think myself that when it gets going—which will be soon—it will work in five or six divisions: (1) Schooling; (2) literature, journals and so on; (3) the arts; (4) social studies; (5) the natural sciences; (6) what we call for want of a better name 'mass media'—radio, cinema, and the press. Each agency will have a strong information section.

"And these are some of the practical ways in which I think it will be able to make itself useful:

"It could provide technical advisers to countries with special problems (illiteracy, for instance); it could produce some sort of annual world survey of education; it could set up an international library of educational works, films, visual aids, and so on; it could arrange the interchange of personnel; and it could make possible the circulating of exhibits of arts, crafts, and science, which are very expensive to make in the original, but can be copied cheaply if only someone stands the cost of the first part.

"The preparatory commission, with its secretariat, is now at work in London. The plan has to be ratified by 20 nations, and as soon as that's done, the organisation will move over to Paris and set itself up permanently. I think a tremendous amount depends on the secretariat. But if they get really good people, I think that without being Utopian, we can say the organisation's going to be very useful."

Perhaps Here Some Day

"One or two points while I remember: the location of the General Conference

Operatic Plan For Sydney

THE Premier of New South Wales (W. J. McKell) recently announced that he had a long-range plan to create a National Opera House in Sydney. He mentioned the idea when commenting on the establishment of Sydney's permanent Symphony Orchestra—the first in Australia.

"Appreciation of good music, as of good literature and dramatic art, is essential to the full enjoyment of leisure by a people who claim for themselves, and rightly, a high standard of living," Mr. McKell said.

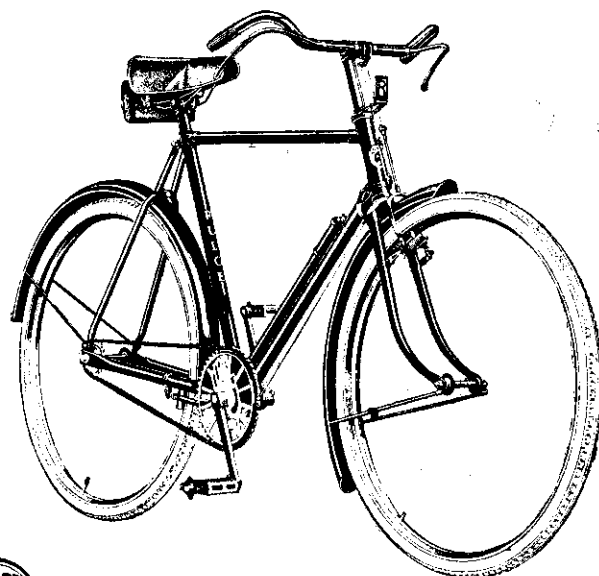
"My Government, in its post-war reconstruction design, envisages the building up of a National Opera House, the expansion of the tutorial services of the Conservatorium, and the encouragement in every way possible in the community of a deep love of all that is worth while in music and the associated arts."

moves from year to year. It doesn't have to go right round everyone in turn, only it can't be in the same place two years running. This means that if they find that one place has special advantages they can go back to it in two years. And I think we might see one conference down in this part of the world—in Sydney at any rate, some time in the next ten years or so. One proposal that has been made, and thought well of, is that in the year in which a conference is set down to meet in one country, there should be a UNESCO month in that country just before, with all sorts of activities helped along by the Government, displays, music festivals, and so on, and the delegates could come early and see this and get to know each other before the business begins.

Not a Relief Agency

"Another thing: the question of aid to devastated countries. It was a difficult issue. On the one hand it was felt that UNESCO must avoid becoming just another relief agency and getting diverted from its main purpose. Yet on the other hand many countries, particularly those that were very badly knocked about, will judge UNESCO by its ability to meet their immediate needs. In some cases, for instance, even the basic simple necessities are missing—even pencils and paper. So the conference's solution for this problem was to set up a Technical sub-committee of the Preparatory Commission to survey the needs of the devastated countries, and when it has satisfied itself about their needs, it can bring them to the notice of Governments, organisations, and individuals who are willing to help."

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