

work of publicizing scientific organizations and the indexing of all the world's scientific knowledge is being surveyed. Realizing that science can only be effective in making a better world if it gets to the people, another effort is to promote the popularization of science through press, radio and magazines. A flow of young scientists and expert professors from one country to another is occurring through UNESCO's support.

In universities, schools and research laboratories in war-devastated Europe and Asia, thousands of students and professors are using scientific apparatus sent them by UNESCO. Some of this apparatus is war surplus now doing a peaceful job. This is substantial aid to the training of scientists of the future. Along with the apparatus itself there have been sent machine shops and materials from which apparatus is made on the spot. This equips laboratories for teaching science and doing research.

Scientists are concerned with the way in which the world uses the knowledge they create and for that reason UNESCO is studying the social implications of technology and knowledge. The world has only a limited amount of natural resources which must be conserved and renewed as they are used. Experts in conservation, in biology, agriculture, and engineering will meet in a world conference this summer under UNESCO auspices, to consider how the world can keep its natural heritage.

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#### GENERAL SCIENCE

### By-Pass Credit for Result, World Agencies Advised

► THERE is a good chemical word that is getting into the vocabulary of those who are trying to keep peace in the world today. The word is "catalytic."

All the United Nations efforts, all the Marshall Plan activities are in their essence catalytic—if they are to be most effective with the least cost of time, money and effort.

The trick is to get someone else to do what you want done without doing it yourself. "Catalytic" is just a way of saying that in one word with a scientific flavor.

The world itself must do the job of keeping itself out of war and building for the future—in education, science and culture as in UNESCO and in industry and production as in the ECA. These agencies—beehives of people, paper and plans—are most effective as the persuaders, the instigators or the catalysts.

In this catalytic business of rebuilding and creating, the goods are best that go out unlabeled. The smartest pilots of the international alphabetical agencies are philosophical about the inadvisability of labeling the end products as UNESCO, ECA, or even UN and USA. This is a tough although realistic conclusion, for the money to carry on the work must come from Congress

or the equivalent international public bodies, persuaded by public pressure and publicity. Always the administrator is tempted to wave his own banner and inject his name or his organization's name into the things being done. And the people, being human, like names and personalities which they identify with institutions and ideas for good or bad.

The shopkeeper, farmer or industrialist in France would rather put himself and his corner of the world back on its feet without foreign help—that is, without bowing continually before the Marshall Plan. To be sure, he needs and wants the aid. The essential fact is that he must feel that because of his participation in the world's progress—not just France's progress—he has as much right to the aid as the American people have the right to proffer it. It is

#### GENERAL SCIENCE

### UNESCO Tries to Create Better Understanding

By DR. PIERRE AUGER

Head of UNESCO's Natural Science Department, speaking over CBS from Paris Jan. 22, on "Adventures in Science".

► THERE are two aspects of science that concern UNESCO: Science is a creative activity of the human brain. On the other hand, it makes profound changes in man's way of life. All of UNESCO's efforts are directed towards creating better understanding between men and, consequently, towards a lasting peace.

Scientific activity by its very nature has a universal character. That is why for many centuries, scientists of all nations have been able to correspond actively on their work and form a kind of brotherhood which has never known any frontiers. At the time of the Renaissance these ties were established in the form of exchange of letters. At the present time, powerful scientific unions have been formed through whose intermediary all scientific discoveries circulate in international circles. One of UNESCO's jobs is to maintain these contacts and help create new ones.

But science during the last two centuries has invaded all spheres of human activity. It has transformed industry and economy, daily life, and philosophical ideas. We must therefore bear in mind not only a rather restricted group of men who have a direct responsibility in the advancement of science, but all those who are more or less directly affected by the results of this progress. UNESCO must make known to the greatest possible number of people, not only the scientific achievements and their applications, but the trend of scientific progress. The public must be constantly informed of living science, that is of science under construction. The public must expect new and important scientific progress in the future. It must not lose its head over new developments to come.

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a mutuality and not an economic conquest.

So it is with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization headquartered in Paris. Never before have different professions, nationalities, spirits and viewpoints gathered so effectively under one great physical and intellectual roof. But again it is not UNESCO that is the desired end result. People and organizations at the grassroots of your and my own home town must do the job for the most part and get the credit. Problems of the tropical forests can be solved actually in the Amazon and not in Paris. Go to the deserts to apply the torrents of knowledge needed to make the arid zones fruitful. Education is sterile without people learning.

This push for peace may be successful if we take the results and let the credit go.

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#### GENERAL SCIENCE

### Scientists Are Example of International Cooperation

By DR. JAIME TORRES BODET

Director-General of UNESCO, speaking over CBS from Paris, Jan. 22, on "Adventures in Science".

► SCIENCE is dedicated to truth. I think everyone will agree to that. We have a conviction that peace can be achieved by truth. Truth, science and UNESCO are essentially a single enterprise. Scientists themselves have for hundreds of years demonstrated the possibility of international cooperation—Indian, French, Egyptian, Swedish and scientists of practically all other nations are working together because they know that one nation cannot be without the other. All nations are interdependent in seeking for scientific knowledge as they are in political and economic fields.

While UNESCO works with scientists of all nations, the results are for the benefit of all the people.

Scientists pool their efforts within UNESCO, but what we call the world center of scientific liaison is not just for the benefit of the few professionals. It is an effort to make scientific knowledge more accessible to everyone. We are encouraging the popularization of science as has been done so effectively in America. The great objective of UNESCO's intellectual cooperation is to improve the living conditions of the great associations of human beings.

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The *castor bean*, from which castor oil is obtained, is not a true bean and not even remotely related to leguminous beans; the plant on which it grows is a first cousin to the Para rubber tree.

Much new information was obtained last year concerning the coral reefs and both animal and vegetable life deep under the water off the Bermuda Islands by scientists equipped with *diving helmets* covering the head only.