Exchange of Information

Professor Pack thought quite strongly that there should be another Conference on the subjects dealt with, but in greater detail. He thought it was a question whether it should form part of the Congress in Tokyo or should be a conference of its own; whether a small working committee should be set up to prepare the finer points which had arisen. He said he felt very strongly that it was absolutely necessary that something practical should grow out of this Conference in quite a short time.

The Chairman wished to make a correction in order to prevent any possible misconception: he said it would not be possible to discuss these subjects in Japan; that the whole agenda had been decided and settled and the discussion, which would only occupy two or three afternoons, would concern itself with the education of the public, so that a specially convened conference would be necessary for the purpose.

Mr. Roman Black (U.K.) said he wished to make a practical contribution to the subject of the exchange of artists who had to make their living as teachers; he suggested a sub-committee should be formed.

He thought these exchanges should be on a world scale. The Chairman replied that this could only be organized from Central Headquarters with the aid of Unesco, but since it had been put up as a recommendation from this Conference he would formulate the proposal that it is very desirable to set up some central machinery which would organize the exchange of artists, which might include art teachers and art students, between other countries on the basis of mutual services.

This was seconded by Mr. Vaassen, and a count showed twenty delegates in favour and none against, so the proposal was carried.

Mr. Kestelman wished to make a suggestion in the light of the controversial issues of the harmonizing of the history of art teaching, experiments in first-year training and subjects to which Mr. Laurier had alluded. Various different methods had been elaborated to deal with these and it was desirable that they should be very different, since we were not seeking any kind of uniformity. He wondered therefore whether a committee could be set up by the Executive Committee in Paris, which would be responsible for urging the National Committees in each country to collect and publish whatever information could be made available.

The Chairman, in mentioning that Mr. Bellmay had felt much of the discussion here impinged on questions of art in general education, said it was most unfortunate that no representative of the International Society of Education through Art had been present at the Conference.

Professor Baldew wished to support the suggestions of Mr. Pack and Mr. Kestelman. He thought a sub-committee should be appointed to work out something which could be used as another means of inspiring art teachers and artists.

Mr. M. de Saumarez, in supporting very strongly Mr. Kestelman’s proposal, said it would be a valuable outcome of this Conference to have the continual stimulus of the critical opinions and experiences of teachers.

The Chairman asked whether Committees set up in each country through the National Committees of the Association should prepare and collate material for submission to our Central Headquarters.

Mr. Kestelman said it was a matter of organization—National Committees were in touch with delegates and the Executive Committee in Paris was in touch