1956

During 1956 The Rockefeller Foundation appropriated $30,075,305, the largest total in any single year since the Foundation was established in 1913. With an income of $22,369,496 for the year, these appropriations reflect a decision by the Trustees to utilize a portion of the Foundation's capital funds in support of an expanded program in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa, as will be discussed in the next section.

An Expanding Program Overseas

Of the present 81 Members of the United Nations no less than 19, with a total population of more than 650,000,000, have emerged as fully independent nations since World War II. All 19 are to be found in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, areas from which still other independent nations will be knocking on the door of the world community within the next decade. **In long perspective, this means that the ideas of national revolution and self-determination, born in the West and spread from there into other regions along with trade and empire, have borne their fruit and that the non-Western world is rapidly becoming responsible for its own affairs under its own leadership.**

There are more sovereign frontiers across which disputes may occur, more factors to be taken into account in adjusting differences, more problems of explaining and under-

standing.

Many of these nations are now attempting to build, some from the ground up, an administrative structure to take the place of one which has been swept away; some are still preoccupied with the rudiments of law and order. They are moving tentatively and experimentally toward the constitutional and political arrangements under which their affairs are to be managed for the longer run. Relatively few have a complex of established institutions to carry much of the daily load through habit or automatic action, leaving for the highest levels of leadership the burden of decisions on relatively minor matters.

Their peoples are stirring with new hopes and expectations of economic and social improvement, the promised reward of independence; governments find themselves under

great public pressure to make good on this promise and are under a terrible compulsion to do quickly what others have been able to do only slowly over a long period of time. In some, population growth outruns capital investment and increasing production, spreading gloom on the horizon ahead. There is an acute shortage of capital both for economic investment and for the essential public equipment of a going state, but subsistence levels offer little prospect for rapid accumulations of capital from internal resources. Productivity is low, if slowly rising. Illiteracy rates are high; education is in short supply, and at all levels in almost every field of endeavor there is a severe shortage of trained personnel. If there are menacing problems, there are also encouraging assets. Some of these nations are fortunate in leadership with long vision and a realistic perception of the nature of the task at hand. Many are determined to work out their future under the freedoms of a constitutional system, adapted for their own situation. Some have a promising framework of educational institutions as a base for further expansion. Rising expectations produce new energy, both in the villages and in urban centers. Pride in independence undergirds public morale and calls many to selfless and devoted service. Some have important natural resources waiting for further development, a few even have surpluses over current consumption available for investment.

**The officers and Trustees of The Rockefeller Foundation are deeply impressed with the thought that the prospects for peace and orderly economic growth throughout the world during the next quarter-century can be decisively affected by what happens in the independent nations of Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.**

If they succeed in establishing constitutional systems with friendly and easy exchange with the rest of the world, increasingly productive economies to supply their own needs at rising levels and to play an active role in world trade, and educational systems which can train their leadership in adequate numbers and educate their citizenry for the responsibilities of their new societies, then peace and stability will have gained tremendous support. Conversely, their failure to achieve a steady advance toward their present aspirations will create threats to the peace and postpone indefinitely the possibility of stability in the world at large.

The Foundation, in considering what it might do to be of assistance to the independent nations of the non-Western world, thought also of its traditional interest in Latin America, where many of the same problems exist if under somewhat different conditions. The Trustees decided that the needs and opportunities were sufficiently compelling to warrant a sharp increase in Foundation expenditures in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa.

The amounts involved are small, certainly, in relation to total need; but it is believed that such funds can be of great significance if applied at the point where the Foundation believes that it can make the best contribution, namely, in the training of professional leadership.

Agriculture p 31

In 1956 the Foundation published a special brochure, The Agricultural Program of The Rockefeller Foundation. Launched more than 13 years ago by the dispatch of a single staff member to Mexico, the agricultural program has grown steadily in scientific significance, in the commitment of Foundation funds and personnel, and In contributions to increased production and higher levels of nutrition. Its emphasis is upon basic food crops rather than upon those products which are essential raw materials for industry. Its eventual target is more food for the underfed, in the countryside, villages, and urban centers of countries where human dignity is not yet adequately supported by a healthful diet, and where the struggle to raise food absorbs so much time and energy that other activities cannot prosper.

Its economic assumptions are relatively uncomplicated, some might say unsophisticated; one is the notion that men who toil for their food on the land will be better off, and better able to serve their urban neighbours, if that toil and that land can produce more food through Improved varieties and techniques; another is the notion that, if mankind is to find its food in the years ahead, there must be a rapidly widening understanding and use of scientific agriculture.

The program is a companion piece to the Foundation's work in public health and medical care and is one of its chief contributions to the so-called population problem.

The agricultural program uses a variety of techniques, all having as one of their purposes the multiplication of returns from modest investments. These techniques include: research by the Foundation's own staff of agricultural specialists; the advanced training of agricultural scientists;…

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Upon the urgent invitation of the Government of Mexico, a cooperative research base and training center was established some 12 years ago adjoining the National College of Agriculture at Chapingo, near Mexico City.

The crops under investigation include wheat, corn, beans, potatoes, garden vegetables,

sorghums, soybeans, and forage legumes and grasses. Studies of poultry improvement have recently been added to the work. Indispensable to the effective use of resulting improved varieties is supporting work in such fields as the control of pests and plant diseases, the efficient use of fertilizers, and improved agronomic practices in the choice and mode of planting and cultivation of the crops.

In 1950, against the background of the experience in Mexico, a smaller but similar program was initiated in CoLombia. First attention was given to work on corn and beans at the Federal Agricultural Experiment Station at Medellin and on wheat at the La Picota station near Bogota. Potatoes, barley, forage crops, and green manure crops were taken up later and activities extended to Palmira, Bonza, and Montena; work in the high savannah was shifted from La Picota to an excellent and extensive new agricultural experiment station, Tibaitata, only a few minutes' drive from Bogota.

Programs alike in Chile, India.

These four operating programs have some elements in common, but even more important are the variations which reflect adaptation to the circumstances in each country. The friendly, informal, and cooperative relationships between ministries of agriculture and a private foundation make it relatively easy jointly to devise plans which bring to bear upon the needs of a particular country the specialized resources which the Foundation can offer.

In the brochure, The Agricultural Program of The Rockefeller Foundation^ certain principles of operation were noted:

1. Cooperation is the key principle, and it starts with an invitation from the host country to The Rockefeller Foundation to collaborate in a program of food improvement and with the agreement of the Foundation's Trustees to undertake the joint effort.

2. Operating programs are then organized as integral parts of the Ministry of Agriculture of the host country and are affiliated with its appropriate agricultural agencies.

3. Staff scientists for these foreign assistance programs are selected by The Rockefeller Foundation on the basis of high personal and scientific quality; they and their families must be persons who welcome an opportunity to serve the aims of international agriculture

on a career basis.

4. Programs are designed to fit the economic and cultural framework in which they are set. They are intended to accelerate natural processes of evolution rather than to create agricultural revolutions.

5. Emphasis is steadfastly on research, leading to the improvement of the quantity and quality of basic food crops in the country involved.

6. Results of research are made available as rapidly as possible to agencies which are responsible for seed multiplication and distribution and for extension activities. Attempt is made to publish results promptly in technical bulletins, popular circulars, and through the

medium of professional journals.

7, The entire operation is carried out in close association with local scientists, who participate in every phase of the program—initially as junior associates and ultimately as research leaders.

8. International collaboration is promoted whenever compatible with the basic aims of the local programs.

9. Terminal dates are not established at the beginning of collaboration

In the longer run, the success or failure of cooperative undertakings like those described above will depend upon roots which penetrate into the local situation and the reading

ness of local leadership not merely to maintain but to build upon and improve what might be accomplished initially as a joint venture. In the shorter run, of course, such programs

would be impossible without close collaboration between local and Foundation scientists on problems which call for the highest possible competence from both sides.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT p46

In the opening portion of this Review the expanding activities of The Rockefeller Foundation in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa were discussed. All the programs of the Foundation are involved; direct contributions are thereby made to the economic and social development of countries whose needs and aspirations presently outstrip their capabilities.

The experience of the postwar period suggests that these problems are not always understood either in the countries attempting rapid development or in those which are trying to assist the process.

The "revolution of rising expectations" is injecting new values and aims into economically less-developed countries where long-familiar institutions are often ill-suited to the new aims. Evidence accumulates that for them merely to borrow institutional forms— parliaments, free elections, free contracts in free markets, central planning, and so on—from the economically more developed countries, stripped from the context of the value systems and ancillary institutions in which they evolved, does not assure orderly and rapid development. The task

almost surely becomes the creative one of adjusting established institutions on the local scene, combined with discriminating borrowing from the experience of others. Further, the prospect is that development is unlikely to move very far by means of lunges at narrow sectors of the national life; enduring progress requires advance on a broad front, including education, health, productivity, law, political processes, and public understanding.

The social sciences p190

Along with many others, the officers in the social sciences are convinced that the less developed countries in Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America now confront major political, economic, and social problems. Many of these problems—and similar ones that lie ahead as the development process moves forward—will be best analyzed and dealt with by well-trained social scientists from their own populations.

Although the officers in the social sciences believe that the less developed areas warrant greater program emphasis than a few years ago, they are as firmly convinced as ever that in the social sciences, as in others, basic theoretical work, "fundamental" research, or new syntheses must go forward at all times. In the long run no other scientific endeavour yields returns even closely comparable to these. Yet persons capable of the best work of this type are invariably all too few in relation to the need, and more often than not promising opportunities genuinely to assist them are less numerous than one would wish.

Consequently, the conviction goes deep that the Foundation's few resources should be devoted to current problems only in those comparatively infrequent instances where genuinely substantive research on them may yield solutions with a relevance to other problem areas at home or abroad; where the ad hoc research may contribute something to the main stream of scientific thought in the social sciences; and where the problem is of such broad and enduring importance that the results, if any, are not likely to be rendered irrelevant by the swift march of current events.

The quest for economic development 196

Vanderbild university

Since 1952 the Foundation has supported economic research at the institute in two areas: in industrial organization and public policy by Professor George W . Stocking, and in agricultural economics by Professor William H , Nicholls.

professor Stocking's research projects on industry are focused especially on the legal and economic problems associated with monopolies, but a somewhat broader emphasis is planned for the next several years to allow for increased attention to the difficulties and challenges involved in the problems of underdeveloped areas. Prof nichols : historical investigations in three southern regions to determine the effects of industrial- urban growth on local farm productivity and income.

Tulane Univesity of Louisiana; latin amrecian legal and social studies

Comparative law between Latin American (civil law) and USA (common law)

National planning association; economics of competitive existence

The economic policies available, respectively, to the Free World and to the Soviet Bloc, and the probable effectiveness of these policies are being analyzed by the National Planning Association, Washington, D. C. In this study of the economics of competitive coexistence, competing policies in international trade, capital movements, and technical assistance will be considered. A series of special investiga- tions, including an appraisal of the economic needs and potential offiveselected underdeveloped countries,will pro- vide the basis for the analysis.

Standford University; Food research institute

One of the world's leading centers of research in agricultural economics, the Food Research Institute of Stanford University has long been distinguished for its concentration on international food and agricultural problems. Basic research on the economics of food production, distribution, and consumption has led to the examination of national food management, agricultural policy, international com-

modity controls, factors that promote or inhibit economic expansion in predominantly agricultural regions, and other important subjects. Recently the institute has added to its interests a growing concern with tropical regions and with problems of economic development.

The growing need felt by national and international agencies and underdeveloped countries for agricultural economists equipped to help them with problems of agricultural development has prompted the Food Research Institute to formulate a program of postgraduate training in the field.

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT p 200

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

In 1955 the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development established an Economic Development Institute to provide training in policy planning and in the formulation and administration of development programs for key administrators from underdeveloped countries. In its courses the institute offers training in the theory and techniques by which problems of economic development can be effectively analyzed, as well as intensive review of con- crete problems in a particular setting.

Students at the institute have included senior officials of ministries of finance or economic affairs, of central banks, programming offices, or development corporations, who hold or who are expected to hold important posts involving them in the formulation and implementation of development programs and policies within their own countries. Perhaps as valuable as the training they have received has been the experience the institute gives the participants of coop- erating in a common intellectual venture with persons from other countries.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM

MIDDLE EASTERN GEOGRAPHY

Studies of the economic and cultural geography of underdeveloped areas are often a necessary prerequisite to more specialized studies in the economic, political, and social aspects of development. They form a base for studies of aspects of the development process in particular areas, are valuable as a background for public programs, and contribute to an effective approach by scholars and public officials in underdeveloped countries to the development problems of their countries.

CENTER OF LATIN AMERICAN MONETARY STUDIES

The Center of Latin American Monetary Studies, Mexico City, was established in 1952 to stimulate sound economic planning in Latin America by training central bank officials in the principles of monetary theory and practice. As a further aid to economic development, the center will prepare and publish an annual survey of current monetary de- velopments in Latin American countries.

UNIVERSITY OF ISTANBUL

HISTORY OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE

For some years Professor Omer Liiftii Barkan,director of the Institute of Economic History at the university of Istanbul, has been engaged on an economic and social history of the Ottoman Empire which promises to contribute importantly to deeper understanding, in Turkey and the West, of the economic past underlying Turkey's present.

DUTCH ECONOMIC INSTITUTE

DEPARTMENT OF BALANCED INTERNATIONAL GROWTH

The Dutch Economic Institute, affiliated with the Rotterdam School of Economics, is an important research and training center which has received Foundation support since 1931. Now a new Department of Balanced International Growth has been created under the leadership of Professor Jan Tinbergen, one of the institute's distinguished directors, to deal with problems of economic growth and development.

Social Science Problems of Contemporary Western Society p205

THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

For many years The Royal Institute of International Affairs has conducted studies of problems which its Research Committee feels are of current or emerging importance, and isparticularly distinguished for research on the problems of underdeveloped areas and the processes of economic, political, and social development. Its approach in initiating a new study has been to stressfirsta general survey of economic, political, and social conditions in a particular area, and to follow the survey with detailed investigations of particular problems.