A description of Foundation activities over the past half-century must center on its efforts to advance human knowledge and its application year by year to those ills and problems which limit the freedom and satisfactions of mankind. Through a deliberate policy adopted by

its first Trustees, Foundation effort has been directed not to the practice of charity but rather toward the identification of the underlying causes of human suffering and lack of opportunity and toward their gradual removal from areas of the human scene whose boundaries widened as the years went by.

Social Sciences p 10

In 1928 the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial fund was consolidated with The Rockefeller Foundation as the Foundation's Division of Social Sciences. In its program the division emphasized the advancement of research in the social sciences, including economics, sociology, government, and history. A grant-making rather than an "operating" division, its efforts were directed principally to the support of research in colleges and universities in the United States, Europe, and Great Britain and to social science organizations dedicated to advancing knowledge. As in all Foundation programs, a great

deal of effort was directed to increasing the number of knowledgeable individuals thoroughly trained in the social science disciplines and interested in carrying on research or instruction. Among the organizations which the Foundation assisted or helped bring into being are the Social Science Research Council, the Council on Foreign Relations, the National Bureau of Economic Research, and the Broolcings Institution. Through Foundation support, these agencies and similar bodies in American and European universities have been enabled to progress Over the years the program in the social sciences, like other sectors of the Foundation, has evolved in response to changing need and opportunity. Recently emphasis has been given to economic history, .government and diplomacy, legal and political philosophy, general economic theory, and agricultural and land economics. Advanced research at the frontiers of knowledge has been supported at various centers. During this period, too, there has been growing interest on the part of the Foundation in the role of the social sciences in the underdeveloped areas, and moves have been made to permit increasing contributions to the social and economic growth of many of these regions.

Tomorrow, page 15

Predicated on the concept that a given society, whatever its stage of development, stands in intimate relation to all aspects of its environment and that a change in one necessarily affects the others, an ecological approach would seek to assist advances simultaneously

on several important fronts.

Page 18

By thus narrowing its objectives, and utilizing an ecological approach for their attainment, the Foundation believes that it can promote a better relationship between the universities and their environments. In many less developed countries a serious imbalance exists between the ability of the institutions to serve society and the demands made upon them to produce the trained and competent specialists required in a host of fields.

Clearly no one formula can be expected to fit such diverse problems, and foreign organizations, however good their aims, cannot take the lead in beginning corrective adaptation. The American system of higher education evolved over three centuries. Its success at home does not mean that it would be the right system for other countries.

Page 20

In deliberately deciding to concentrate on institutional develop-

ment on an international scale, the Foundation remains true to its

basic objectives. A large proportion of its staff and financial aid has

always been devoted to helping indigenous institutions rise to levels of

quality and diversified competence which permit them to shoulder a

much greater share of the burden of higher education for their own

people. The Foundation has never attempted to create or direct the

process, but only to respond to the initiative and enterprise of local

leadership subscribing to the same educational philosophy and trying

to do something about i

pag 40

In Colombia, one of the projects at the Center for Studies in Economic Development of the University of the Andes, Bogota, is an analysis of the international market for Colombian coffee in which special emphasis is being placed on the interrelationship of the factors that influence the world demand. The results of this study will be helpful to both Colombia and other Latin American countries in formulating future policies.