

The New Institute of World Affairs

TO CONTRIBUTE to a diagnosis of the present state of world affairs will be the primary task of the new Institute of World Affairs, 66 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Our work is to center in collective research of fundamental trends with special regard to social controls on the international level, and to the dominant forces, material and spiritual, as they foster or impede the establishment of permanent world order. Here the sociologist joins hands with the economist and both are to integrate their findings with those of the political scientist and the moral philosopher.

The research program for the initial activity of the Institute is now being shaped. Blockade and occupation have brought about an artificial unity of the territory between the channel and the Russian border. Though there is little doubt that the victory of the Allies is going to restore the former sovereignties at least of the United Nations in this area, reconstruction will succeed only if the continental countries can agree to a much higher degree of political and economic co-operation. Whatever the economic fate of Germany, neither the occupation of her territory nor her ultimate reception in the European family of nations can be made effective without supranational arrangements. Therefore the project on "Germany's Position in European Post-War Reconstruction," in which the Institute is now engaged, leads not only into the core of the political and economic but also of the psychological and cultural problems of post-war Europe as a whole.

In the Western hemisphere, supranational collaboration is primarily a question of improved communications, capital investment and trade policy. Under the heading—"Practical Co-operation in the Western Hemisphere"—these problems are to be subjected to detailed analysis. Another project in this series is concerned with "Recent Technological Trends and their Effects on the Flexibility of Labor." A comprehensive investigation is planned dealing with the effect of full employment on international trade and international capital movements. The planning devices of the Western countries are the subjects of two new projects, one dealing with "Comparative Government," the other with "Comparative Administration."

The Institute is aware that the success of its program depends on the co-operation which it hopes to obtain from the leading social scientists in this country and from other American research institutions working in the same fields of world affairs.

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