

On the whole, the Council has made substantial progress in 1925, both in the direction of more effective organization and in dealing with specific types of problems. It is the hope of the members of the Council that it may be increasingly useful to students of social science and that the various constituent organizations and their respective members may find it helpful in the organization and development of technical social research. The Council is in an experimental state, and suggestions for making undertakings and methods more valuable to the social sciences or to those interested in the social implications of natural science are welcomed.

Annual Report of the American Council of Learned Societies.¹ The activities of the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) fall into two general categories, according as they have to do with (1) international coöperation arising chiefly out of the Council's membership in the Union Académique Internationale (UAI) and (2) the development of relations between the constituent societies and the promotion of their interests and the advancement of the humanistic and social sciences in the United States.

Activities which are of at least incidental concern to political scientists include: (1) the preparation of a dictionary of medieval latin, and also of a dictionary of late mediaeval British latin; (2) the setting up of a committee on intellectual coöperation (chairman, R. A. Milliken); (3) new arrangements for the distribution of American learned publications abroad; (4) annual conferences of secretaries of the constituent societies, held in New York at the expense of the ACLS; (5) the establishment of *Speculum*, a journal of medieval studies; and (6) assistance to the American Library Association in preparing its annual catalogue of books recommended for purchase by public libraries.

Activities of larger or more direct concern include:

Dictionary of American Biography. The committee on management, J. Franklin Jameson, Carnegie Institution of Washington, chairman, has selected Professor Allen Johnson, of Yale University, to be general editor, and he will assume active charge in February, 1926. Meanwhile,

¹ Composed of two representatives each of the American Political Science Association and eleven other societies devoted to humanistic and social studies, as follows: American Philosophical Society, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, American Antiquarian Society, American Oriental Society, American Philosophical Association, Archaeological Institute of America, Modern Language Association, American Philological Association, American Historical Association, American Economic Association, and American Sociological Society.

considerable progress has been made in drawing up preliminary lists of persons to be considered for inclusion in the Dictionary, and the cooperation of the constituent societies through the appointment of consulting representatives has been invited.

Survey of Research. The Council has secured a subvention of \$10,000 from the Carnegie Corporation for a survey of research in the United States in the humanistic and social sciences. The survey will include projects of research being carried on by societies, academies, institutions, foundations, governmental agencies, research bureaus, etc., as well as by individual scholars, including students in graduate schools. It is also proposed to make as complete a list as possible of all funds, fellowships, prizes, etc., which are available for the aid and encouragement of research, and to investigate the existing means of publishing the results of research. The survey will proceed actively during the coming spring and summer, under the direction of Professor Frederic A. Ogg, of the University of Wisconsin, who may be addressed at 1133 Woodward Building, Washington, D. C., concerning any aspect of it. Effort will be made to coordinate the survey of the ACLS with surveys which may be planned or undertaken by other bodies, such as the Social Science Research Council and the American Association of University Professors, in order to avoid duplication and to meet as many needs as possible.

Handbook of Learned and Scientific Societies. Upon invitation from the National Research Council, the ACLS is cooperating with that body in planning a directory of American learned and scientific societies and institutions, which will resemble, with important differences, the Handbook compiled by the Carnegie Institution some twenty years ago.

Survey of Learned Societies. The Survey of Learned Societies has progressed during the year and when completed will make a substantial volume. A summary will be issued early in 1926, and the complete work will be published during the year.

Grants in Aid of Research. The Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial has made an annual subvention to the ACLS of \$5,000 a year for three years on the basis of which the Council is able to offer in 1926, 1927, and 1928 a number of small grants not exceeding \$300 for the purpose of aiding mature scholars in their projects of research in the humanistic and social sciences. The grants will be made for specific purposes, such as travel, assistance, appliances, copies, photographs, computations, compilations, etc., and will be awarded by the Committee on Aid to

Research, of which Professor Guy Stanton Ford, of the University of Minnesota, is chairman.

Catalogue of Foreign Manuscripts in American Libraries. At the last meeting of the ACLS a committee, Professor Karl Young, Yale University, chairman, was appointed to undertake the preparation of a catalogue of manuscripts originating outside of America which are to be found in the libraries and collections of the United States. The value and need of such a catalogue are obvious, and the task before the committee is one of large proportions. It is expected that with the coöperation of the Library of Congress and of the principal University libraries, a substantial beginning in the actual cataloguing of certain collections will be made during the coming year.

Encyclopedia of International Public and Private Law. The Royal Academy of Sciences of Amsterdam has recently presented a proposal to the member academies of the UAI for the compilation by international coöperation of an Encyclopedia of International Public and Private Law. This proposal was considered by the ACLS at its annual meeting in January, 1926, and will come before the UAI for consideration in May of the same year. The American Society of International Law has been asked to join with the ACLS in the consideration of this project.

Dictionary of Indonesian Customary Law. American scholars have not as yet taken an active part in the gathering of material for the Dictionary of Indonesian Customary Law. Efforts are being made, however, to organize a committee in the Philippines and in the United States which will make possible the important contribution to this work that is properly expected from this country.

The American delegates presented to the UAI a proposal by the ACLS for an International Survey of Current Bibliography and of important retrospective bibliographies since 1914 devoted to the humanistic and social sciences. The object of the proposed survey is to prepare a list containing detailed descriptions of current bibliographical enterprises, which would enable scholars to have more complete knowledge than is at present easily obtainable respecting the important bibliographical tools in their respective fields. Such a survey will doubtless reveal much duplication, as well as important gaps, and will be the first step toward systematising and making more comprehensive the bibliographical record of the current output. The ACLS is now engaged in developing the proposal for further examination at the next meeting of the UAI. The informal proposal of the delegates of the ACLS that the UAI should undertake enterprises in the fields of modern

history and the social sciences was warmly received, and it is expected that such projects will be undertaken in the near future, thus balancing the present tendency to emphasize work in archaeology and philology.

In concluding its report for the year, the executive committee calls attention to the fact that the American Council is a representative body, the agent of its constituent societies, and that it urgently invites suggestions as to ways of serving their joint and several interests. The representatives of the American Political Science Association in the Council are Professors J. P. Chamberlain, of Columbia University (chairman), and Frederic A. Ogg, of the University of Wisconsin.