

is being followed. The idea is to mix established civic leaders with those who are less experienced or may have shown leadership potential, drawing participants from every social sector of the community. So far the feedback has been encouraging.

A second main program of the academy operates under the title of "Problems of crime and justice" (\$180,000). The main tack taken under this program has been to work with local and national officials to develop workable new policies in areas such as correc-

tions and crime prevention. An academy group has been cooperating, for example, in a committee on economic crime with the National District Attorneys Association.

The third major area of concern falls under the aegis of "Problems of work and education" (\$75,000). Changing attitudes toward work in industry and their effect on job satisfaction and productivity have obvious relevance in a heavy-industry state like Ohio, and academy people seem to have made a good start at working with both

management and labor in projects to "redesign" work.

While the academy wants to be responsive to signals from the outside, it was decided at the outset that "reacting to the fire bell" would not be enough. Consequently, an academy program designated "Prognosis" (\$150,000) was set up to work on an early warning system for emerging problems and to help local and state governments anticipate problems and set priorities in dealing with them.

Is it possible to pass judgment on

Unesco's Israeli Sanctions Arouse a Bitter Backlash

Officials of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization are starting to worry about a wave of Western protests over the sanctions the Unesco general conference brusquely meted out to Israel last month in Paris. The conference voted to deny cultural aid to Israel and to bar it from joining Unesco's European regional grouping, and the backlash has been picking up momentum ever since.

In the United States, Western Europe, and Israel, a passel of outraged artists and intellectuals—including some 20 Nobelists—have vowed not to participate henceforth in Unesco activities until the organization mends its ways. The U.S. Senate and the lower house of the Swiss parliament have already voted to curtail support of Unesco, and other nations are likely to follow suit.

While the impact of the intellectuals' protest seems mostly symbolic now—as were the sanctions against Israel—the U.S. Anti-Defamation League is predicting that the withdrawal of artists, educators, and scientists will snowball and Unesco officials fear the league may be right. A Unesco spokesman in New York foresaw a "serious potential for an unraveling" of the organizations' diffuse array of international conferences and aid programs. A major withdrawal, he averred, "could seriously impair the authenticity and universality of Unesco."

With the possibility for overreaction and lasting damage plainly in mind, the United States National Commission for Unesco, a congressionally chartered advisory group, dashed off a statement on 5 December that "deplores" and "condemns" the sanctions, but pleads with artists, scholars, and most of all Congress to maintain their support.

The imbroglio began on 7 November when Unesco's cultural committee, meeting in Paris, passed a resolution calling on Israel to halt its archeological diggings in Jerusalem and any other activities that might alter the city's "features or its cultural or historical character." On 20 November the general conference of member nations approved the resolution and "invited" the director general to "withhold assistance from Israel in the fields of education, science, and culture until such time as it scrupulously respects" eight similar resolutions

adopted since 1968. The vote was 59 to 34, with 24 abstentions, and the effect was to cut off \$12,000 a year in cultural grants (not \$24,000 as widely reported).

Backed as it was by the Soviet bloc and a coalition of Arab and non-Arab Moslem nations, the resolution clearly had political motivations. But U.S. State Department officials who were present make the point that the Moslem's complaint was not entirely baseless. Israel had ignored repeated requests since 1968 to stop its excavations, and, while Unesco inspection teams generally gave Israeli archeologists high marks for the professional quality of their work, the diggings nevertheless remained an affront to Moslems, who hold the sanctity of Jerusalem second only to that of Mecca. To make matters worse, the Israelis have put up some modern buildings near the old city, including a high-rise apartment on the Mount of Olives that altered a classic skyline.

The cultural resolution has nevertheless been widely interpreted as part of a transparent ploy to shoulder Israel out of Unesco and establish a precedent that can be carried back to the General Assembly. Not generally noticed was a caveat the Arabs attached to their resolution. According to a State Department official, the Arabs went on record as saying this resolution "should not be interpreted as extending outside Unesco."

Israel's exclusion from the European grouping of Unesco members is a murkier matter, the practical effects of which are likely—with a suitably narrow interpretation by the Unesco secretariat—to border on the inconsequential. It means that Israel may not vote on advisory resolutions considered in official regional meetings of the five groupings, although Israel may continue to observe such meetings and participate in Unesco in every other way. Indeed, up until this year, the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand also were not members of a regional grouping. Israel, though still a member of Unesco, is now alone in this respect.

The significance of this diplomatic pillowfight is that it reveals a further erosion in Unesco's traditional immunity to the political rivalries endemic in the General Assembly. It is an open question whether Israel's antagonists understand the potential for damage to Unesco, or care.—R.G.