



UNITED NATIONS  
TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL



LIMITED  
T/L.82  
6 June 1950  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH-  
FRENCH

DOCUMENTS MASTER  
INDEX UNIT

Seventh Session  
Item 4 (a) of the Agenda

7 JUN 1950



EXAMINATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS:

WESTERN SAMOA, YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 1949

Written questions addressed by Members of the  
Trusteeship Council to the Special Representative  
of the Administering Authority and answers of  
the Special Representative thereto

I. GENERAL

A. Implementation of the recommendations of the Trusteeship Council

Question 1: An annex on page 68 of the Report contains a statement on implementation of the recommendations of the Trusteeship Council. Would the Special Representative care to give additional information on the implementation of those recommendations and the recommendations of the General Assembly since the publishing of the present Report? (Philippines)

Answer: An answer to this question will be given later in the session.

B. Status of the inhabitants

Question 2: The Report states that the Trusteeship Council will be advised in subsequent reports of proposals for the solution of the problem of the status of the inhabitants. Please give information, if possible, on what basic principle such a solution is contemplated? (Philippines)

Answer: The problem of providing a common status for the inhabitants of the Trust Territory is receiving the continuous attention of the Administering Authority. The complexities of the present law add a complication to the practical difficulty that there is no one status which would be acceptable in all its implications to the whole population. For instance, while Samoans desire the continued protection of their rights to all Samoan land, which they believe

/should be

should be reserved for the Samoans of the future, the local 'European' feels that Samoa is just as much his home as it is that of the Samoans, and that his economic opportunities should not be less. The achievement of a common domestic status depends upon the solution of problems such as these, which can be resolved only by a gradual process assisted by a continuation of the good feeling displayed by leaders of both Samoan and European groups.

Question 3: According to the Report, a Samoan may not in general be sued for trade debts. What is, then, the effect of this provision on granting credit to the indigenous people? (China)

Answer: Purchases by Samoans are financed either by cash in hand or from the proceeds of sale of produce brought to the trading station for the purpose. The effect of the provision that a Samoan may not be sued for trade debts is to restrict the granting of credit. In the past this has been considered to be in the interests of the indigenous people, but there is a growing opinion in the community that this restriction could be removed. The whole question of commercial credit is one that is at present being examined.

Question 4: As only five conventions in regard to labour problems have been applied to Western Samoa, is the Administering Authority contemplating to extend other labour conventions of the International Labour Organisation to the Trust Territory? (China)

Answer: This question will be referred to the Administering Authority.

#### C. The South Pacific Commission

Question 5: According to the Report a meeting of the South Pacific Commission was set for May, 1949. Would the Special Representative care to give information on its deliberations and recommendations in regard of the Trust Territory? (Philippines)

Answer: The South Pacific Commission has drawn up a comprehensive programme of operations which has been translated by the Research Council of the Commission into express projects under economic, health and social advancement headings. The Research Council has met once, and a further meeting is set down for August of this year. A visit was made by the permanent members of the South Pacific Commission to Samoa during 1949 and this combined visit for the purpose of an overall study of the problems involved has been followed by individual visits of members to Samoa and Wellington, as well as a special visit to the Territory by an

/expert

expert investigating methods of visual education. Some attention has also been given to the study of commercial credit systems as one feature of economic development. The Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission is expected to visit Samoa during the present month, and further information upon the application of projects to the Trust Territory may be anticipated following on the next meeting of the Research Council this year.

The close identity of the Government of Samoa with the operations of the Research Council may be judged from the fact that the New Zealand Government has nominated and the South Pacific Commission has appointed the Director of Health, the General Manager of the New Zealand Reparation Estates, and the Secretary of Samoan Affairs, as Associate Members of the Research Council for Health, Economic Advancement and Social Advancement respectively.

## II. POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT

### A. The Council of State

Question 6: The Council of State, composed of the High Commissioner and two Fatua, is an Advisory Body where each member has a vote. What is the situation when an advisory decision is taken by votes of the two Fatua against the High Commissioner? (Philippines)

Answer: No case is recalled in which the views of the two Fatua and of the High Commissioner have been irreconcilable on any important issue. In the event of a difference of opinion or where further investigation of Samoan opinion seemed desirable, it is likely that either the question would be discussed or deferred until some degree of unanimity could be reached, or action would be taken to refer the point in issue to either the Fono of Faipule or the Legislative Assembly, or both, for some expression of opinion by the representatives of the people.

### B. Legislative Assembly

Question 7: According to the Report, the scope of the legislative power of the Legislative Assembly was specifically widened to include the power of overriding New Zealand legislation, except in regards to certain reserved subjects. What are these reserved subjects? (Philippines)

Answer: The reserved subjects, or rather, those parts of the law which contain reference to these subjects, are set out in Section 9 of the Samoa Amendment Act 1947, or listed in the Samoa Reserved Enactments Regulations 1948. A full understanding of the subject of reserved enactments would call for a study of the full text of all Acts or parts of Acts or Regulations cited. For the information of the Council, however, it may be stated that the subjects on which New Zealand legislation is paramount are defence, external affairs, Crown land, and all matters affecting the Constitution of Western Samoa. The last-mentioned comprise mainly parts of the Samoa Act 1921 and its amendments, certain legislation relating to the New Zealand Reparation Estates, and the regulations governing the appointment of the Fatua and the election of the members of the Assembly itself. Statutory provisions for the election of Faipule are not reserved.

Question 8: Please describe the functioning of the standing committees of the Legislative Assembly, e.g., how these committees are appointed and for what terms; and will membership rotate; what procedures are followed by the committees in respect to public hearings, drafting and initiation of legislation, study of specific problems; and do the committees function between sessions of the Legislative Assembly? (USA)

Answer: The present Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly on Finance, Health, Public Works and Education were set up by the Assembly itself during its second session, each consisting of three Samoan members, one European member and one official member, with members of the Council of State sitting ex officio on all Committees. The intention that they will hold office during the three year term of the present Assembly and that membership will not rotate within that period appears to meet with the wishes of the members themselves, and this procedure is advisable in order to give them the most thorough understanding of the operation of their own Committee. Appointment of a chairman was left to each Committee with the intimation that the person chosen need not necessarily be the official member. The Health and Education Committees decided to appoint the heads of their respective Departments, but those for Finance and Public Works chose Samoan members.

The Committees function principally between the sessions of the Legislative Assembly, since that is the time when they are free to devote themselves to the study of policy and administrative problems. The Finance Committee met on a total of fifteen days during the year ended March 31, 1950; that for Education on eight days; the Health Committee on ten days; and the Public Works Committee on seven days. Members have an opportunity of considering, in its initial stages, the legislation which affects the Department in which they are particularly interested. They are, of course, free to suggest legislation if they wish. Since the Finance Committee is concerned with many major questions of policy, the High Commissioner occasionally finds it useful to attend meetings in person, to discuss them with members.

Question 9: What, in general, are the provisions of the Samoan Reserve Enactment Regulations of 1948 (Serial No. 1948/85) referred to in Appendix IV, (p.57), as an Order in Council applying to Western Samoa during the year? (United States of America)

Answer: Please see answer to Question 7 in the Political Advancement Section of the replies to the questions of the Philippines Delegation.

Question 10: Of the ordinances passed by the Legislative Assembly during the year, how many or what proportion were initiated by the High Commissioner, by standing committees, by individual members, Samoan and European? (United States of America)

Answer: All legislation passed during the year under review was initiated by the High Commissioner and sponsored by official members, as were all ordinances passed during the year ended March 31, 1950. Many motions, upon which some of the keenest debates were held, were, however, introduced by private members, who have been informed that those who wish to initiate legislation will be afforded every possible assistance by the Law Drafting Office in preparing their Bills. No private member has so far availed himself of this offer.

Question 11: Who are at present the six official members of the Legislative Assembly? Are the presidents of its four standing Committees appointed or elected? If they are elected, are they elected by the Assembly or by committees themselves? (China)

Answer: The six official members of the Legislative Assembly are the Secretary-Treasurer, the Trusteeship Officer, the Secretary of Samoan Affairs, the Director of Health, the Director of Education and the Crown Solicitor. Chairmen of Standing Committees of the Assembly are elected by the members of the Committees themselves. The Health and Education Committees have appointed the heads of their respective Departments as chairmen, but those for Finance and Public Works chose Samoan members.

C. The Fono of Faipule

Question 12: According to the Report, Faipule election procedure is regulated by local ordinance. Who or what body has passed this ordinance and what are the exact contents of it? (Philippines)

Answer: The Faipule Election Ordinance 1939 was examined in draft form by the Fono of Faipule and then passed by the old Legislative Council - since replaced by the Legislative Assembly. Briefly, the contents comprise a schedule setting out of the designation and boundaries of the fortyone Faipule Constituencies, the regulation of the nominations and voting in respect of candidates, together with a clause empowering the High Commissioner to declare that certain Faipule have been duly elected, and a statement of the conditions upon which a Faipule may be deemed to have vacated office. A further clause defines the period of three years during which Faipule are to hold office. It is within the jurisdiction of the Legislative Assembly to amend this Ordinance as desired.

Question 13: According to a statement of the Special Representative the only reason for continuing the arrangement previously in force whereby the High Commissioner confirmed the appointment of any Faipule selected by the majority of Matai is the necessity for some authority to declare that the Faipule has been legally appointed. Does that mean that such a confirmation has at any time been withheld? (Philippines)

Answer: The High Commissioner has never arbitrarily refused to accept a nomination for the office of Faipule supported by the majority of the Matai in the constituency. One case is, however, recalled where a technical majority in a Constituency (comprising one village) at first desired to depart from an agreement made three years previously with a minority in that Constituency (another smaller village) whereby the office of Faipule was to alternate between these two groups. The High Commissioner called both groups before him for discussion and it was ultimately arranged that the majority should acquiesce in the nomination of the candidate put forward originally by the minority.



D. The Samoan Public Service Commission

Question 14: The report states (p. 15) that legislation has been prepared to provide for a separate Samoan public service commission. Such action was recommended by the Visiting Mission and the need was acknowledged by the Administering Authority. The United States Delegation noted with interest the statement of the Special Representative of New Zealand that a Samoan public service commissioner commenced duty on 1 April 1950 and is at present engaged in reviewing the organization of the public services of the Territory. Does this statement imply that the legislation referred to above has now been adopted? If so, what are the general provisions of this legislation; if not, what is the present status of the proposed legislation?  
(United States of America)

Answer: The Samoa Amendment Act, 1949, which has now been brought into force by Proclamation of the Governor-General, sets up the Samoan Public Service Commission as from April 1, 1950, and a copy is available for inspection by Delegations if desired. There is provision for Assistant Public Service Commissioners and machinery clauses for the operation of the Act, which also provides for the appointment, termination or suspension of appointments, salaries, gradings and regradings, advertising of vacancies, inquiries into conduct of officers, and appeals and miscellaneous provisions usual in an Act of this nature.

E. Judicial Organization

Question 15: The Report states (p. 21) that the Fono has so far not been willing to re-nominate a judge for a second consecutive period of office and that this period is of three years. Does not such a short term have unfavourable effects on their independence? Why is the principle of unremovability of judges not applied to the Samoan judges (Ja 'Amasino Samoa Itumalo)? (Philippines)

Answer: It may definitely be stated that the three year term for Samoan Judges does not have unfavourable effects upon their independence of action. Neither the executive nor the judiciary of the Government of Samoa is opposed to the course suggested in the question. It is on record that both have frequently urged it to the Fono of Faipule. It is a fact, however, that in this matter the Samoan people are slow to relax the view they have consistently held that government offices of this nature should be subject to change every three years. The Report indicates that there have been instances of re-appointment; for instance the Fono, after some persuasion, on one occasion agreed on the nomination of a Samoan Judge for a third term. More recently, a Judge was nominated who had had previous experience in a similar office.

/Question 16:



Question 16: According to the reply of the Special Representative, the divisions of the Native Land and Titles Courts are given in law by a majority of the European Assessors, but in practice Samoan Associate Judges assist in framing divisions. He declared that the possibility of revising the law to bring it into conformity with the existing practice will be examined. What has been the result of such an examination? (Philippines)

Answer: The question of the status and jurisdiction of Samoan Associate and District Judges is at present being examined, both by the Government and by the Local Body Commission of Enquiry, which is now conducting its hearings. The Commission of Enquiry will be interested indirectly in some, at least, of the operations of the Samoan Judges in that it will examine the question of judicial functions for Village Councils. A plan for the reorganization of the work of the High Court, allowing for greater responsibility to be given to Associate Judges, awaits approval by the Samoan Public Service Commission of the appointment of the additional staff required.

Question 17: Do the indigenous inhabitants have the right to be defended before the courts of justice by legal practitioners? (Philippines)

Answer: All indigenous inhabitants have the right to be defended before the courts of justice by legal practitioners.

Question 18: In Western Samoa when a more serious criminal case happens in which the defendant is a native, the usual practice is to include one Samoan assessor in a group of four assessors who sit with the judge in their advisory capacity. Now, since the judge may accept a majority opinion of three of the four assessors so engaged, does the Administering Authority contemplate any improvement to this practice so as to strengthen the influence of the indigenous assessors? (China)

Answer: The law does not require that assessors shall be of any particular racial status but merely prescribes that they shall be "fit and proper persons". It has been the practice of the Court to appoint one Samoan assessor for trials in which the accused is a Samoan, but more recently there have been cases in which two Samoan assessors have been appointed. The decision in any particular case is one solely for the Court.

/Question 19:

Question 19: According to a statement made by the Special Representative in the Fifth Session of the Trusteeship Council, no indigenous inhabitant has so far qualified himself for admission to practice as a barrister or solicitor. What, in the opinion of the Administering Authority, can be done in order to improve this situation? (China)

Answer: It is part of the purpose of the scholarship system to afford Samoans an opportunity of qualifying for professional positions. The present scholars include some who have qualified for entrance to the University of New Zealand and others may be expected to do so. The way is thus open for any Samoan scholar with the necessary academic qualifications to proceed to study further for admission as a barrister or solicitor.

### III. ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

#### A. Industry:

Question 20: The major economic problem of the Trust Territory, as stated by the Trusteeship Council, lies in the direction of a diversification of industry. According to the Report a beginning has been made with the establishment of a factory to produce desiccated coconut and developing a dairy industry. What further steps are contemplated by the Administering Authority in this direction? (Philippines)

Answer: To some extent the reply to this question is bound up with the reply to Question 21 under the heading of "Economic Advancement". The question of what industries may best be developed in future depends largely upon the operation of an over-all plan for economic development which takes into account the fact that too great a degree of industrialization might not be in the best interests of the inhabitants of the Territory. It is too early, however, to draw any final conclusion on this important matter. A good deal of preliminary work is at present being done. The establishment of the Department of Agriculture and the proposed census of food and agricultural resources to be taken under the auspices of the FAO this year will supply a good deal of information, and this, together with the projected aerial survey of the whole Territory, will bring up-to-date our information as to existing land utilization and the extent and nature of undeveloped areas.

Question 21: The Trusteeship Council at its Fifth Session requested the Administering Authority to elaborate an over-all plan for the economic development of the Trust Territory. Can the plans for a survey to determine the economic potential of the Territory and the work of the South Pacific Commission be regarded as preliminary steps for this over-all plan? (Philippines)

Answer: The reply to this question should be read in conjunction with the reply to Question 20. The plans for a survey to determine the economic potential of the Territory and the work of the South Pacific Commission in its economic branches may be regarded as the preliminary steps for the over-all plan for the economic development of the Trust Territory. The roading programme at present being carried into operation is a feature of plans of the Government of Samoa for economic development. Approximately 35 miles of new road were completed and opened for traffic during the financial year ended

/March 31, 1950,

March 31, 1950, 20 miles of existing roads were widened, straightened and improved, and assistance was extended to six villages in the construction of roads giving them access to main roads. The establishment of the new Department of Agriculture is also an important feature in the economic policy of the Government of Samoa and some time will be required for preliminary examination before the details of any effective plan for economic development will begin to emerge.

B. Copra

Question 22: Would the Special Representative care to make the text of the Copra Board Ordinance, 1948 and the Copra Ordinance, 1948, available to the Council? (Philippines)

Answer: If the Secretariat has not already been supplied with copies of the Copra Board Ordinance and the Copra Ordinance 1948, any Delegation is free to refer to the copies of these Ordinances held by the New Zealand Delegation.

Question 23: Copra has been sold since 1942 to the British Ministry of Food under contracts which have provided for the taking of the entire output of the Territory. As this sort of practice tends to create monopoly which can be harmful to the interests of the indigenous producers, does the new contract purport some improvement to the situation? (China)

Answer: The present contract for the sale of copra to the British Ministry of Food is not only considered by the Administering Authority and the Government of Samoa to be in the best interests of the Samoan people but is accepted as such by the Samoans themselves. The price at present being paid is a high one and there is provision that this is not to vary from year to year by more than ten per cent of the price paid in the previous year. A most satisfactory price for some years to come is therefore assured.

Question 24: In the year under review, a factory to produce desiccated coconut has been established in the Territory. Please explain the fact that the quantity of desiccated coconut exported from the Territory was lower in 1948 than in 1947. (China)

Answer: The desiccated coconut factory has been in production for some years, but there is a plan to establish a further factory in order to increase production from 650 to 950 tons per annum. As explained in the Report, the fact that the quantity of desiccated coconut exported from the Territory was

/lower

lower in 1948 than in 1947 was due to the fact that some of the plant, much of which was more or less improvised, became defective. The up-to-date machinery, stated in the Report to have been ordered, has now been received and installed.

C. Cocoa

Question 25: Please give some information on the new contract for nine years with the British Ministry of Food in regards to cocoa prices and marketing. (Philippines)

Answer: There is no contract with the British Ministry of Food for the sale and purchase of cocoa. A contract for copra, however, has been signed for the nine-year period extending from January 1, 1949, to December 31, 1957. It provides that the price to be paid for copra in any one calendar year shall not increase or decrease by more than ten per cent of the price paid for the previous year. This ensures that the principal product of the Territory has an assured market at a good price for several years to come.

Question 26: Is the world price of cocoa still showing a downward trend? What can be done to increase the quantity of export of cocoa to help counterbalance the trend of prices? (China)

Answer: The price for cocoa, though subject to fluctuations, is at present excellent and both Government and private cocoa plantations are being extended.

Question 27: What is the reason for the decrease of 4,000 tons in the volume of cocoa exported? Is it due to a decline in the number of cocoa-producing trees? (p. 30 of the Annual Report) (Belgium)

Answer: An answer will be given to this question later in the session.

D. Agriculture

Question 28: The United States Delegation notes with particular interest the re-establishment in Western Samoa of the Department of Agriculture. In view of the increased interest in agricultural development shown by the Samoans, the primarily agricultural economy of the Territory, and the Statement in the annual report (p.25) that government assistance has been on a small scale and that little activity has been shown in the field in recent years, the re-establishment of the Department of Agriculture is worthy of commendation and it would be useful to the Council if further details of the plans for this development could be given by the Administering Authority. (United States of America) /Answer:

Answer: The proposal to re-establish the Department of Agriculture was proceeded with after careful consideration and consultation with various public groups. It was thought best not to attempt too much in the initial stages. The staff at present comprises an Acting Director, who was previously the Produce Inspector, and seven field inspectors and instructors who are all Samoans. Control of the work of the fourteen Samoan District Plantation Inspectors has been placed under the new Department and co-ordination of their activities will form an important part of the initial work. The Department, besides being responsible for the inspection of produce exported, will also be largely employed during the present year in taking an agricultural census and collating the results. It has also placed high on the list of urgent work to be done the development of operations for the elimination of the rhinoceros beetle. Arrangements have been made for regular spraying with DDT solution by the staff of the Agriculture Department of the Apia storage sheds in an effort to reduce the wastage which results from the depredations of copra-consuming insects.

E. New Zealand Reparation Estates

Question 29: In connection with the statement in the report (p.28) that the balance of accumulated but unallotted profits of the New Zealand Reparations Estate have been allocated for various uses would the Special Representative comment on the possibility of giving legal form to the announced policy of devoting these profits to the development of the Territory by some means such as the establishment of a Samoan Development Fund as mentioned in the annex of the report of the Visiting Mission (T/46/Add.1, p. 101)? (United States of America)

Answer: The suggestion that a legal basis be given the long-standing policy of devoting profits of the New Zealand Reparation Estates to the development of the Territory by means of the establishment of a Samoan Development Fund will be brought to the attention of the Administering Authority.



F. Trade and tariffs

Question 30: Would the Special Representative care to explain the machinery and purpose of governmental control of the export of bananas? (Philippines)

Answer: The principal purpose of Government control of the export of bananas is to ensure the maintenance of the present high standard of the product and to take full advantage of the restricted avenues of shipping which are at present open. Government control in Samoa also results in an economy of organization and is in the interests of the growers. In this connexion, it is worthy of note that the Fono of Faipule recently recommended the setting up of a Banana Board with constitution and powers similar to those of the copra Board.

The New Zealand Reparation Estates are responsible for the accounting work in connexion with the scheme and the new Agriculture Department controls the inspection of plantations and of the packed cases for export and the loading arrangements. Families or villages pack their bananas at a local depot in the district. The cases are then transported to the shipping point at the expense of the controlling organization. Subject to satisfactory inspection the grower receives payment for his bananas delivered to the village depot, and all subsequent costs and overhead are borne by the scheme.

Question 31: How long will price control over foodstuffs be maintained in the Territory? What is the reason for the maintenance of control over imports of foodstuffs? (China)

Answer: The question of continuing price control over foodstuffs is at present being examined. Import control in respect of foodstuffs is merely part of the general control of imports, the primary purpose of which is the conservation of foreign exchange. While the machinery of these controls remains unaltered, there has recently been considerable relaxation in their application, particularly in respect of imports from non-dollar areas whence most foodstuffs are now imported, and in the establishment of general convertibility of currency with many sterling countries.



Question 32: The Trust Territory is an earner of hard currencies, mainly from the export of cocoa to the United States. The value of its exports is higher than the value of its imports. What is the exact reason why the purchase of foreign exchange is controlled? Is the eventual surplus of hard currencies given to the Bank of New Zealand? How great has been this surplus in the last year? (Philippines)

Answer: Although the value of exports is higher than the value of imports, the difference is not entirely represented by exports to dollar-producing countries. The purchase of foreign exchange is controlled as a contribution, however insignificant it may be, to the solution of one of the most pressing of current world problems. It is not possible to state the exact amount of the dollar surplus during the last year, other than to say that there is, in fact, a small net dollar surplus on the year's operations. The eventual surplus of hard currencies is not given to the Bank of New Zealand.

Question 33: In view of the appointment of a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly to study the problem of the preferential tariff, would the Special Representative comment on the recommendations of this committee, the consideration given to them by the Administering Authority, and any plans to implement these recommendations? (United States of America)

Answer: The representative of the Administering Authority has already made a statement to the Council on the subject of the preferential tariff.

Question 34: Was the examination of the question of the preferential Tariff applying to British goods imported into the Territory not yet finished when the Report was published? (Philippines)

Answer: As at the date of the Report now under consideration, the report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on Preferential Tariff had not been published. The Select Committee was set up on June 24, 1949, and presented its report dated October 24 to the Legislative Assembly on November 7, 1949.

G. Public Finance

Question 35: The information given on Public Finance in the Report did not allow the Trusteeship Council to make a thorough examination of the financial situation of the Trust Territory. Why it is not possible to forward the detailed budget as is requested by the question 19 of the Provisional Questionnaire? (Philippines)

Answer: Preparation of the material for the Report commences before the end of the period reported on and is completed soon after that date in order that it may be printed in New Zealand with the least possible delay. To include the detailed budget in the Report would involve delays both as to preparation and printing.

Question 36: There was a considerable decrease of the receipts of the public revenue in the year under review in comparison with the previous year. (\$500,338 in 1948-49 against \$548,682 in 1947-48). Would the Special Representative care to explain the reasons for this decrease? (Philippines)

Answer: The decrease in the receipts of public revenue in the year under review was due largely to a reduction in the amount received under the heading of Treasury and Customs, which was a reflection of the drop in the total value of exports and imports. Reduced export production restricts spending power and is quickly reflected in a decrease in the value of imports.

Question 37: How far has the examination concerning the question of introducing income tax in the Territory proceeded? (China)

Answer: As stated during the oral examination on Monday, 5 June, a comprehensive review of the taxation system in the Territory has been carried out by a senior officer of the New Zealand Land and Income Tax Department. As a further step in the re-organization of the system, another officer of this Department has recently been specially appointed to the position of Collector of Customs and Taxes for a period of twelve months. It will be his function to examine the extent to which the recommendations arising out of this review can be implemented.

## H. Conservation of natural resources

Question 38: What measures have been taken for conservation of natural resources, including land and mineral resources? The answer given to this question of the Provisional Questionnaire by the Report (p. 25) cannot be regarded as satisfactory. (Philippines)

Answer: Measures to be taken for the conservation of natural resources will emerge more clearly after the expected visit this year of the Conservator of Forests from Fiji, as reported in the opening address. The work of the Agriculture Department and the information to be gathered from the FAO census this year, together with material that is brought together in respect of the economic survey of natural resources, will all show more clearly the measures, if any, that are necessary for their conservation. There are no known mineral deposits in the Territory.

## I. Animal husbandry

Question 39: The Report contains almost no information on Animal Husbandry. Would the Special Representative care to give some information on this question? What types of animals are raised? What measures have been taken to improve the quality and increase the quantity of stock? (Philippines)

Answer: The measures taken to improve the quality and increase the quantity of stock have been referred to in the opening address in the section dealing with the operations of the New Zealand Reparation Estates. The herds of cattle on Reparation Estates Plantations have recently been increased to 10,000, of which some 1,300 are killed annually for beef. Recently, also, an additional 1,100 acres of grazing land have been brought into operation by the Estates which also undertake the breeding of pigs on a scientific basis.

## J. Fisheries

Question 40: Could fisheries be developed in the future? (China)

Answer: This question was fully answered during the oral examination on Monday, 5 June.

K. Transport

Question 41: The Report states that the present export trade in bananas and other crops cannot be increased until additional shipping connexions with New Zealand are provided. What has been done in the year under review to improve this situation and what are the plans for the future? (Philippines)

Answer: The operation of shipping connexions to the Trust Territory is in the hands of a New Zealand shipping company which has at present in process the construction of a new vessel for the Islands trade. It is anticipated that this will be in commission some time during 1951.

Question 42: What is the reason for reconstruction and increase of the airport at Faleolo for which 1,387 acres have been alienated? (Philippines)

Answer: It is presumed that this question refers to the statement on page 31 of the Report to the effect that details of past and projected alienations of native land include 1,387 acres for the Faleolo Airport. This is a reference to an alienation which took place in the early years of World War II. There has been no reconstruction or increase in the area of the Airport other than the action necessary to maintain it in a serviceable condition.

L. Electricity

Question 43: With regard to electricity, was it absolutely impossible to obtain steel pipes, or was this lack due to the impossibility of obtaining the necessary currency? (p. 34 of the annual Report) (Belgium)

Answer: The Hydro Electric piping was manufactured in Queensland, Australia and it proved impossible to arrange shipment for many months. It is anticipated that the piping will by now have been received and that it will be installed and the scheme be in operation by the end of September. There was no difficulty about financing the purchase.



#### IV. SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT

##### A. Trade Unions

Question 44: Are there any trade unions in the Territory? What are the methods of settlement of industrial disputes? (Philippines)

Answer: There are no Trade Unions in the Territory, and industrial disputes are practically unknown because there are so few industries. In relation to general employment, however, an examination of the possibility of introducing workers' compensation insurance is being made by the Government, assisted by an expert from New Zealand. Some consideration has also been given to a Bill relating to contracts of indigenous workers. These steps flow from the operation of certain International Conventions to which the Administering Authority is a party and which have been ratified on behalf of the Trust Territory.

##### B. Wages and standard of living

Question 45: Are there any discriminations in employment and in wage and salary payments according to race, sex, nationality, religion or tribal association? What measures have been taken to prevent such discrimination? (Philippines)

Answer: There is no Government discrimination in employment and in wage and salary payments according to race, sex, nationality, religion or tribal association. The policy of the Government has been to appoint to the vacant positions in the Public Service those applicants who qualify satisfactorily for the positions, and the recent establishment of a Samoan Public Service Commission which is required by law "to have regard to the obligation of the Administering Authority under the Trusteeship Agreement to ensure to the inhabitants of Western Samoa a progressively increasing share in the administrative and other services of the Territory" will ensure that the aspirations of the Samoan people in this connection receive attention.

Question 46: The Report says (p. 37) that no Samoan is entirely dependent on wages for sustenance. Does this mean that the newly adopted scale of wages has been figured out with reference to this deplorable situation? (China)

Answer: This question was discussed during the oral examination on Monday, 5 June, from which it will be clear that, in the opinion of the

/Special

Special Representative, the fact that Samoans are not entirely dependent on wages for sustenance places them in a position of advantage over those who are.

Question 47: When will the first results of sample studies of standard of living of the inhabitants be available to the Trusteeship Council? (China)

Answer: The oral examination has probably demonstrated that it would be difficult to produce accurate sample studies of standards of living in Western Samoa and it will be some time before any survey of this description, which it may be found possible to attempt, could be expected to produce any useful or reliable results.

C. Infant mortality

Question 48: What has been the reason of an increase of the Samoan infant mortality during 1948? What special provisions, if any are made concerning maternal and child health? (Philippines)

Answer: A review of the figures for Samoan infant mortality during the last 20 years does not suggest that the small increase in the mortality rate during 1948 was significant. The figures for Western Samoa compare favourably with those in most other parts of the Pacific. This is, however, a matter to which the Director of Health gives constant attention. There are seventeen Samoan nurses in the district Baby Welfare service which covers the whole Territory. Each month over one thousand babies are seen and their mothers advised as to their proper care. The service also includes pre-natal attention and the records show that about five hundred pregnant women are advised each month. Some 175 lectures and demonstrations are given in the same period to Women's Committees, and every effort is made to reduce the considerable illness that is common among young children due to faulty feeding, especially at the weaning period. During the early part of this year Dr. Muriel Bell, Senior Nutrition Officer of the New Zealand Medical Research Council, paid a visit to the Territory to study the blood protein levels in children, a subject bound up with questions of nutrition and the search for suitable weaning foods.

A central baby clinic is operated at the main Hospital in Apia and provision is made under the programme of operations of the Mobile Clinic for

advice to be given by one of the nurses attached to the staff. In addition, the Senior Staff Nurse at Apia Hospital has during the past year given a course of lectures to the Teachers' Training College on baby welfare, school health and general hygiene.

D. Health

Question 49: With regard to public health matters, the United States Delegation noted with interest the account in the annual report of the surveys conducted by the Medical Research Council of New Zealand in Western Samoa. It also notes certain steps mentioned in the opening statement of the Special Representative with regard to improving the public health service of Western Samoa, in particular the construction of a large new detached tuberculosis ward, as well as certain steps to control tuberculosis among cattle. Would the Special Representative comment on any other steps being taken to control the relative high incidence of tuberculosis? Do the steps taken to control tuberculosis in cattle include the tuberculin testing of the dairy herds of the New Zealand Reparation Estates? Is the information gathered in these surveys being made available through the South Pacific Health Service and the South Pacific Commission to other territories with similar problems? (United States of America)

Answer: Routine milk testing is carried out in the laboratory attached to the main hospital in Apia and other milk products offered for sale, such as cream and ice cream are tested from time to time. As to measures for the control of tuberculosis in human beings, a tuberculosis register has been established; nearly 1100 chest X-rays were carried out in the last twelve months. All staff at Apia hospital are weighed monthly, the entire staff of the Department is X-rayed at six-monthly intervals, and it is hoped to extend this procedure as opportunity offers. The completion of new Tuberculosis accommodation now under construction will permit intensification of field work. The Samoan Medical Department maintains the closest contact with the South Pacific Health Service and the South Pacific Commission.

Question 50: The Report stresses that there is a scarcity of officers willing to accept appointment on the medical staff of the Trust Territory. Has any effort been made to find prospective applicants among qualified displaced persons in Europe? (China)

Answer: Attempts have been made to find prospective applicants for medical positions among qualified displaced persons in Europe and other places outside  
/New Zealand



New Zealand and the United Kingdom. At one time a medical officer from Vienna was employed in the Territory and, more recently, two officers from the Indian Medical Service, one of whom is still attached to the main hospital in Apia, took up appointments.

Question 51: According to the Report repairs were undertaken at both Apia Hospital and several district hospitals. Is there, in the opinion of the Administering Authority, any necessity for a building programme of new hospitals? (Philippines)

Answer: The construction of new district hospitals is part of the health programme which has been approved by the Government of Samoa with the intention of bringing an adequate medical service within the reach of every person in the Territory. These district hospitals will be central points for the control of the smaller dispensary and hospital units in the outer districts.

Question 52: In connection with the difficulty of recruiting doctors, has the Administration attempted to find medical personnel outside of New Zealand and Great Britain? (p. 39 of the Annual Report) (Belgium)

Answer: The Administering Authority has made attempts in countries other than New Zealand and the United Kingdom to obtain the services of additional medical personnel. At one time a medical officer from Vienna was employed in the Territory, and more recently two officers from the Indian Medical Service, one of whom is still attached to the main Hospital in Apia, took up appointments.

#### E. Social insurance

Question 53: The Report states that the love of children and a respect for the aged in the Samoan society rendered the need for social security less pressing than it is in some other countries. Is this, in the opinion of the Administering Authority, the reason why no legislation affecting social welfare has been enacted during the year? What will be the policy of the Government in the future? (Philippines)

Answer: There is not the need in Samoan society for the development of general social security legislation as operated in other countries. Samoans already receive free medical treatment, and legislation is not considered necessary in the circumstances. Even where a small charge is made for medicines,

/no medicine

no medicine or special treatment of any kind is ever refused to any person because of his inability to pay.

F. Housing

Question 54: The Report speaks about a shortage of European-type houses. Is there no shortage of houses for indigenous population? Is no housing programme needed in the Territory? (Philippines)

Answer: Samoans are able to build freely whatever additional houses are required from easily procured materials taken from their own lands and there is accordingly no necessity for a building programme.

G. Rodent control

Question 55: The Report for 1948 mentioned rodent control measures being instituted. In the absence of any reference to this matter in the Report for 1949, would the Special Representative comment on the progress in this field? Have there been any further developments in the study of rats as possible carriers of leptospirosis, i.e., the causative organism of Wild's disease or infectious jaundice? (United States of America)

Answer: Six trainees have been employed during the last year in mosquito and rodent control and a good deal of success has been achieved in effecting an improvement in certain areas in and about Apia which in the past were badly infested with rats. Due to shortage of staff, the teaching and supervision of trainees have so far been insufficient to produce the maximum results. Occasionally, the staff attached to the mobile clinic includes a Sanitary Inspector and vermin and mosquito-control teams with sprays, and these teams work through the village while the clinic remains. They also operate a power sprayer which has been in use during most of the last year, and some hundreds of dwellings, stores and public places have been sprayed with DDT.

Cases of malignant jaundice, listed in Appendix VIII, are now notified as infective hepatitis. There have been no specially significant developments in the study of rats as possible carriers of leptospirosis but research on this problem is being continued.

V. EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT

A. School curricula

Question 56: Would the Administering Authority give more detailed information as to the specific curriculum in use in various grades and standards in various schools and, in particular, as to the manner in which the curriculum is related to local requirements? (United States of America)

Answer: The request for more detailed information as to the specific curricula in use in various grades and standards in schools will be referred to the Administering Authority.

Teachers' training

Question 57: A programme in teacher's training is noted with satisfaction. The Report states that until there are sufficient trained teachers and administrative schools, it is considered impracticable to introduce a system of compulsory education. When, in the opinion of the Administering Authority, will these conditions be fulfilled? (Philippines)

Answer: It is difficult to forecast when there will be sufficient trained teachers for government schools. Additions have been made to the Teachers' Training College which will enable the roll to be raised to 150. During the year ended March 31, 1950, 450 applicants for training as teachers sat the entrance examination. This allowed of a careful selection, particularly as the educational standard of the applicants is higher each succeeding year. Sixty new trainees were admitted, bringing the present roll to 123. The course of training now covers three years, at a much higher level than has been achieved in the past, and during the last year twenty third-year students graduated from the College. It is advisable to point out, however, that all of these graduates were absorbed into existing schools. There is a steady annual loss of teachers due to marriage or change of occupation, and the rapid growth in the population makes it essential to staff adequately the existing Government schools before many new schools can be opened. In order to cope with the rapidly increasing number of infants, however, a system of employing temporary assistants has been brought into operation. Sixty temporary assistants have been taken on up to the present and if they show ability they will be given an opportunity to enter the Training College as soon as they can be replaced with trained teachers.

/Question 58:



Question 58: Has anything been done in the year under review to encourage the formation of teacher's associations? (Philippines)

Answer: It would be difficult to set up and operate teachers' associations in view of the dispersal throughout the Territory of those who would be the members. During the year, however, teachers of each district were gathered at a central place and a short refresher course was conducted in specific subjects. In the May vacation all teachers and inspectors attended a ten days' refresher course held in Apia, and the teachers, divided into groups, received instruction from New Zealand teachers in the correct use of radio lessons, social studies, music and writing. These refresher courses are valuable in improving the knowledge and technique of the teachers and as a source of inspiration towards greater efforts.

#### B. Scholarships

Question 59: How many indigenous pupils have studied in New Zealand under the existing scholarship programme? The Report (p. 49) states only that ten more Samoan and European students were selected to be sent to New Zealand for higher education. How many among these ten were Samoans? (China)

Answer: The number of students who have been awarded scholarships in New Zealand now totals 61, and the latest information concerning their activities is set out fully in the opening address by the Special Representative. Of the ten students selected to be sent to New Zealand during the year ended 31 March, 1949, eight were Samoans and two Europeans.

#### C. Schools

Question 60: The Report states (p. 65) that the number of schools represented an increase of three during the 1947-48 period. Does this refer to the calendar year 1947 and 1948 or to the year ending March 1948? If so, how many schools were opened in the year ending 31st March 1949? (China)

Answer: The increase of three in the number of schools referred to on page 65 of the Report is in respect of the year ended 31 March, 1949. The phrasing employed in this footnote is ambiguous and could have been more clearly expressed as an increase of three over the number for the 1947-48 period.

/Question 61:

Question 61: Answering a question of the United States Representative, the Special Representative at the Fifth Session of the Trusteeship Council stated that the Administering Authority considered it feasible to establish additional boarding schools. Were such schools established during the year under review? (Philippines)

Answer: No additional boarding schools were established during the year under review. The residential school in Savai'i is, however, being entirely rebuilt. This has a present roll of seventy boys under the tuition of Samoan teachers, but upon completion of a European residence, modern dormitories and class rooms, two New Zealand teachers will be appointed to the staff. The school will then fill an important place in the education of the boys of Savai'i.

A Samoan Accelerate School has been established and ninety young pupils, many of them from the outlying villages, have been enrolled. The instruction is all in English and the syllabus follows the general lines of a New Zealand school. The best of these pupils will later form the student nucleus of the projected Samoa College, which is the proposed new residential secondary College referred to in the opening address. The establishment of Samoa College will represent the principal step proposed for the setting up of additional boarding schools and it is likely that this institution will absorb the present High School into its secondary department.

#### D. Mission schools

Question 62: According to the Report (p. 49) the mission schools are not subject, as regard their organization, staffing, or curricula, to government control. Is the present situation, in the opinion of the Administering Authority, quite satisfactory and is no control planned for the future? (Philippines)

Answer: The present extent of Government control over Mission schools is not considered unsatisfactory in present circumstances. The Missions are eager to move with the Government in the field of education, and both Missions and Government co-operate in the drawing up of school syllabuses. Missions also receive copies of the Samoan School Journal, printed in the vernacular and issued six times a year. The Journal supplies a fund of factual material, imaginative stories and plays, and is doing a great deal to broaden the educational experience of the Samoan child.

/The Missions

The Missions are also showing increasing activity in educational development. The London Missionary Society has completed a large building for boys in the Apia area, the Marist Brothers have almost completed a High School, and the Latter Day Saints Mission is planning to erect a large education block in the coming year. This enterprise on the part of the Missions is welcomed, as it will help to ensure that education facilities keep pace with the growing population.

E. Adult education

Question 63: It is stated that in this year a night school for adults was opened at Leifiifi on Upolu. When would it be possible to open such a school on the other large island of the Trust Territory? (China)

Answer: The special classes referred to in the Report under review are continuing but there has been a marked falling off in attendance indicating that many adults have apparently found themselves unable to keep up the steady effort required for after-hours study. The conducting of such classes on the Island of Savaii would, therefore, not appear to be warranted at present and, in any case, would have to await the provision of additional staff for the purpose. Other developments in adult education have been referred to by the Special Representative in the opening address.

## VI. FORM OF THE REPORT

Question 64: It is noted that an index has been appended to the last Report giving the page for the reply to each question of the Provisional Questionnaire. Would it be possible in future reports to number the answers with the corresponding number of the questions like the reports of other Trust Territories? (Philippines)

Answer: The suggestion that in future reports the answers be numbered with the corresponding number of the question in the Provisional Questionnaire will be referred to the Administering Authority.

Question 65: Would it be possible to include in future reports some photographs illustrating the country and its people? (Philippines)

Answer: The suggestion to include photographs illustrating the country and its people in future reports will also be referred to the Administering Authority. It is hoped to do so in the next Annual Report. An album of photographs will be circulated during examination of the Report.

-----