



UNITED NATIONS  
TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL



LIMITED

T/L.19  
13 February 1950

ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Dual Distribution

Sixth Session

Item 4(b) of the Agenda

DOCUMENTS  
INDEX UNIT

MASTER

20 MAR 1950

Y 22  
M V | A H

EXAMINATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS:

RUANDA-URUNDI 1948

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. POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT

### Council of the Vice-Government General

Question 1: Could the Administering Authority give some indications on the manner in which the two Bami participated in the work of the Vice-Government Council in 1949? (China)

Answer: The Bami participated in the work of the Council of the Vice-Government General in 1949 in the same way as the other members of the Council.

### Legislative Councils

Question 2: In replies to questions 21(b) and 26 in the Annual Report it is stated that the Administering Authority is studying the possibility of establishing various African Councils, including a Higher Council for Ruanda, and a Higher Council for Urundi, having limited legislative powers. Members of these Councils would be elected by some procedure suited to the political education of the population. In view of the fact that it is stated in the Annual Report that these modifications might already take place in 1949, could the Special Representative give more detailed information on that subject, e.g. on the election system envisaged, the composition of these Councils, and the proposed extent of their legislative powers. Would these new legislative Higher Councils be restricted to purely African native affairs, or would they be competent to consider matters which concern the country as a whole? (Philippines)

Answer: Reforms in the political organization of the Africans are being carefully studied. As far as the local authorities are concerned, these studies have been completed, and their proposals have now been submitted to

higher authorities. It is not possible for the Special Representative to give the Trusteeship Council detailed information on plans which have not yet been finally approved by the Minister for Colonies. In any case the plans which he approves will have to go before the legislative authorities.

It is probable that the new Higher African Council will have to deal primarily with native affairs, although in accordance with the Administering Authority's policy it will be called upon to deal more and more with questions of a more general nature.

Question 3: The Visiting Mission noted with satisfaction that in the centres where native custom does not apply, the Belgian Administration has begun to study the appointment by election of chiefs and members of councils.

No information on that subject appears in the Annual Report. Are the plans concerning these "extra-customary centres" included in the general plans relating to African Councils? Has some progress been made in regard to the study of specific plans for these "extra-customary centres"? (Philippines)

Answer: An attempt was made in 1949, in the "extra-customary centre" of Usumbura, to have several members of the Council elected. The Africans were invited to nominate their candidates in perfect freedom. The results of this experiment were somewhat disappointing, not because the Africans' choice was bad, but rather because they took no interest in the elections, which they considered as an uncongenial duty, although the Administration explained their significance to them through the native authorities. However, the Administration will endeavour to arouse the population's interest and educate them in this respect. The plans which are at present being studied for political councils for chiefdoms and sub-chiefdoms are not intended to apply to "extra-customary centres", which are more advanced in this respect than chiefdoms. They possess a community council, composed of five to twelve members chosen by the Resident with due regard to the inhabitants' wishes and appointed for two years.

The role of the Councils is advisory. They must by law be consulted on draft regulations, taxes, dues, the budget and the use of resources. Their views are communicated to the authorities in writing.

Non-indigenous Courts

Question 4:

On page 25 of its Report the Visiting Mission suggested that police court magistrates should always be assisted by a native assessor. The Annual Report appears to contain no statement on the subject. Could the Special Representative give his views on this suggestion?  
(Philippines)

Answer: The Administering Authority has not considered it possible to make the presence of a native assessor at police courts compulsory in every case.

Article 28 of the Decree of 5 July 1948 states explicitly that police court magistrates, Residents' Court judges and Public Prosecutors' Court judges may call upon the defendant's or defendants' chief, or other African notables acting on his behalf, to act as assessors.

It is not possible to make the presence of such an assessor compulsory in every case since in a vast number of cases the magistrate must give judgment, expeditiously and in the course of his circuit, on countless petty offences. If on each occasion he had to be careful to have an assessor present, the work of the police court would be paralysed.

In addition to this the legal education of the African takes place rather in the native courts, in which native judges and their assessors sit, sometimes with a European but usually alone.

Question 5:

On the subject of non-indigenous courts, the Annual Report states on page 36 that the judicial functions are exercised by Administrative officials except in Higher Courts. However, on page 35, it is added that the Decree of 5 July 1948, which will be put into effect in 1949, will change considerably the judicial organization, and will provide a fuller separation between

the administrative and the judicial functions. Has this Decree been put into effect? To what extent exactly does it improve the situation in respect of separation of powers? (China)

Answer: The Decree of 5 July 1948 entered into force in Ruanda-Urundi on 1 July 1949.

The principal signs of progress towards the separation of powers are the following:

- 1) The President of the Court of Appeal, who was formerly the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi, is now an independent magistrate.
- 2) The Public Prosecutor and his staff used to be appointed by the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi from the administrative officials. These duties are now performed by a King's Proctor, aided by assistants, all professional magistrates, and at present six in number.
- 3) A new form of court has been created, the Public Prosecutor's Courts, under the Assistant King's Proctors; these control the native courts and the police courts.
- 4) The Residents' Courts, which are presided over as in the past by officials, now only deal with offences punishable by not more than twenty years penal servitude. Moreover, it is compulsory for a magistrate from the Public Prosecutor's Court to sit on these Residents' Courts to represent him.
- 5) Previously, police court magistrates used to be purely and simply appointed by the Governor. Nowadays the Territorial Administrators are automatically police court magistrates and the supplementary judges are only appointed by the Governor with the approval of the King's Proctor.

## II ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

### Ten Year Plan

#### Questions 6 & 7:

In reply to question 39, the Annual Report on page 43 states that the Ten Year Plan for the Belgian Congo will have a favourable effect on Ruanda-Urundi. Could the Special Representative comment on that statement? (Philippines)

The Ten Year Plan for the Belgian Congo which was published in 1949 does not include Ruanda-Urundi, for which a separate plan is said to be prepared.

Could the Special Representative give some indications as to the date when the drafting of the Ten Year Plan for Ruanda-Urundi will be completed, and what will be its main features? (Philippines)

Answer: When the local authorities stated that the Ten-Year Plan for the economic and social development of the Belgian Congo would probably have a favourable effect on Ruandi-Urundi, they did not yet know that a special plan would be prepared for the Trust Territory.

The Plan for the economic and social development of Ruandi-Urundi will probably be published at the beginning of next year and will contain five volumes, of which the headings were given in the Introductory Statement by the Governor of the Territory.

### National Income

Question 8: In reply to question 46, figures are given, of which the outstanding one relates to food crops. Does the figure of 1,756,720,000 francs (which appears broken down in details on p. 319) relate to the total quantity of foodstuffs produced in the country, including those consumed by the producers for their own subsistence? What was the method followed to arrive at an approximate estimation of these quantities and values? (Philippines)

Answer: The figure of 1,756,720,000 francs shown on page 46 of the Report (which is the same as that given on page 319) represents the value of the 2,891,440 tons of foodstuffs produced, and relates to the total quantity of foodstuffs produced by Ruanda-Urundi; these are consumed almost entirely in the district where they are grown. Even in the best years, only 0.5 per cent is exported.

In order to obtain as accurate an estimate of production as possible, the average production per caput was multiplied by the number of producers, and its value was determined on the basis of normal agricultural prices.

### Native Commercial and Industrial Establishments

Question 9: The number of African economic establishments in 1948 is given on page 44 of the Annual Report as being 121, against none in 1947. The figures given on page 70 (reply to question 71) are 121



against 4. How do you account for this discrepancy? According to the explanation for the increase given on page 70, it appears that these establishments are all commercial ones. However, in the table on page 45, the breakdown given for the 121 new African establishments is: 21 commercial, 100 industrial. Could some information be given on the 100 African industrial establishments? Does the information given on page 99 relate to the same industries, the figures being different? (China)

Answer: The Special Representative has cabled to Usumbura asking for the information requested.

#### Loans to Natives

Question 10: How many of the 64 requests for loans mentioned in answer to questions 56-7 were made by Africans; how many of the 18 granted were granted to Africans? (Philippines)

Answer: The Colonial Loan Society does not make loans to Africans, who can obtain loans from other sources such as the administrative funds of the chiefdoms.

#### Unpaid Labour

Question 11: On page 8 it is stated that in November 1948 all unpaid labour for road maintenance has been abolished. On page 139 it is stated, however, that there was still work of an unpaid nature with regard to weeding. Has the latter also been abolished? (Philippines)

Answer: Weeding work was abolished by a decision of the Governor of Ruanda Urundi on 23 December 1948. Instead each taxpayer pays into the African community chests a sum at present fixed at 10 francs per annum. With these funds the native communities engage the labour necessary to keep the roads in good repair.



Co-operative System in the Production and Trade of Cotton and Coffee

Question 12: In reply to question 76 it is stated in the Annual Report that no co-operative system is planned for export, except for cotton. The Visiting Mission's report stated however on page 32 that the administration was planning a scheme for a co-operative system for producing and trading in native coffee. Have these plans been dropped? (China)

Answer: No co-operative system has yet been established for the production of and trade in coffee. As regards the co-operative system in respect of cotton, the Special Representative requests the Chinese delegation to refer to the answers given to the question asked by the United States delegation (Question 27) and to the question asked by the Philippines delegation (Question 13).

Question 13: When is it planned to implement in Ruanda-Urundi the 1947 legislation on cotton, which provides for an African co-operative system for sale and export, instead of the present system of monopoly in the hands of a private corporation? (Annual Report, p. 79) (Philippines)

Answer: Wise counsel requires the Administering Authority to act with prudence in applying the new cotton legislation of 1947 to Ruanda-Urundi. As is shown in the Report (page 879), experiments are going on in the Belgian Congo, for example in Uele where a pilot co-operative has been organized. It will be of the greatest advantage for Ruanda to await the lessons which can be drawn from the experiments being made in the Belgian Congo before deciding on the way in which the co-operative system should be applied in the Territory.

Mining

Question 14: On pages 73-74 of the Visiting Mission's report, some suggestions are made for special data to enable the Trusteeship Council to appraise the amount and proportion of any sums returned to the Territory as compensation for the impoverishment of its subsoil by mining operations. The Annual Report does not seem to contain any specific information on this subject. Has the special representative some data concerning this matter? (China)

Answer: The required information has been requested by cable from Africa.

Question 15: The answer to question 81 indicates that the Administering Authority has undertaken no geological surveys of the Territory but that various studies have been undertaken by geologists in the service of mining companies. The answer to question 92, p. 87 (on mineral resources), along with the statistical annex, indicates the total 1948 production in the principal exploitations but does not indicate the total resources. Two geological works dealing with Central Africa

are cited, and the statement is made that the names of works appearing since 1944 can be obtained by writing to the Direction de l'Institut royal colonial belge, Ministère des Colonies, in Brussels. Would the Administering Authority describe the mineral resources of Ruanda-Urundi as revealed in these surveys? Does the Administering Authority consider that further geological surveys are needed? (United States)

Answer: It is not correct to state that the Administration has undertaken no geological surveys in Ruanda-Urundi. As a matter of fact all the information assembled in these Territories has not necessarily been published. It is included in the records of the Geological Survey at Costermansville, (Belgian Congo) which covers Ruanda-Urundi. In the Transactions of the Belgian Geological Society (new quarto series n° 3, 1949) is to be found an article in which are given all the data collected by the late R. DE DYCKER, Director of the Geological Survey on the "geological features of the mineral deposits of Ruanda".

Furthermore, the mining concessionaires have detailed information about certain parts of their concessions. This information has not all been published either.

The following is a list of the principal publications on the geology of Ruanda-Urundi:

- A.
1. F. Delhaye and A. Salée. Geological map of Ruanda-Urundi in six sheets. 1 - 200,000, 1928.
  2. A. Salée. Geological map of Eastern Ruanda 1 - 200,000 with memo: Geological composition of Eastern Ruanda. Transactions of the Geological Institute of the University of Louvain, T.V. volume II, 1928.
  3. A. Salée. Geological map of Southern Urundi, 1 - 200,000 with notes, *ibid.* T.V. volume III, 1932.
  4. A. Salée. Geological map of Uranda Urundi 1 - 500,000 (synthesis of all the preceding documents). Société Générale de Belgique, after 1932.
  5. F. Schellinck. Geological observations in the Eastern part of the Belgian African Territories, with a geological map of Ruanda-Urundi approximately 1 - 500,000. Publications of the Mons Mining Engineers Association. Volume I, 1931, No.36.
  6. N. Boutakoff. Geology of the Territories to the west and north-west of the Kivu tectonic rift. Transactions of the Geological Institute of the University of Louvain. T.IX, Volume I, 1939, with map. (Only deals in part with Ruanda-Urundi)
  7. R. de Dycker. Transactions of the Belgian Geological Society (new quarto series n° 3-1949.)

B. Only important publications of general interest from the geological and cartographical point of view are included. There are also a large number of articles on special subjects.

C. The information contained in the above has been combined in the following works:

- (1). Geological map of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi  
1 - 2,000,000; by L. Cahen and J. Lepersonne. Geological

Answer: The chief centre for scientific agricultural research in the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi is at Yangambi. It was founded by INFAC (National Institute for Agricultural Studies in the Belgian Congo) and houses a large number of research workers in the various fields. It comprises a botanical division, a vegetable physiology division, a timber division, with which the forestry group of Ituri is associated for the study of problems of altitude in connection with forestry, also agrolgy, climatology, agricultural technology and pathology and entomology divisions. Under the direct control of this last-mentioned division are regional laboratories, including that at Mulungu-Thibinda, a mountain station at Kivu, close to and amidst similar ecological conditions to that of Ruanda-Urundi.

Besides the scientific research section there is also a section for agronomical research which includes amongst others food plants, coffee and palm oil divisions at Yangambi.

Adaptations within the Trust Territory of the scientific methods and resources of the Yangambi centre to agronomical research in the highlands is carried out by the experimental stations at Rubena and Kisozi.

The station at Rubona in Ruanda experiments with varieties and methods of cultivation of food plants.. maize, groundnuts, sorghum, soya beans, haricot beans, peas, sunflowers, sweet potatoes, potatoes, sundry fruit bearing plants, Arabian coffee and quinine, and with afforestation.

industrial development in Ruanda-Urundi. Has the Administering Authority considered the possibility of establishing an industrial development corporation or other methods of planning for and fostering the development of local industries, including secondary industries? (United States)

Answer: As was pointed out in the introductory statement, the Belgian Authorities are at present engaged in working out a Plan for the economic and social development of Ruanda-Urundi. This plan will probably be published at the beginning of next year. It will include a fourth part dealing with industrial and mining development.

It will describe the policy which the Administering Authority proposes to adopt for the development of industry.

### III. SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT

#### Migrant Labour

Question 21: With reference to page 115 of the Annual Report, could the special representative explain why so many Africans from Ruanda-Urundi get permanently disabled or incurably ill in Uganda? (China)

Answer: The reason why a "comparatively large" number of immigrants in Uganda become permanently disabled or incurably ill is that being in a foreign country they are subjected to physical and moral living conditions to which they are to some extent unaccustomed.

#### Vagrancy

Question 22: The United States delegation is interested in the special regime which the Administering Authority has set up to deal with vagrancy cases. It is understood that this special regime is carried out through administrative action somewhat different from the ordinary type of penal action. The Appendix Table on p. 200 indicates that there were 71 condemnations for vagrancy in 1948, and that the penalties pronounced for this offence were from two to four months. Would the Administering Authority describe more fully the character and work of the Tribunal which exists under this special regime? How many of the individuals condemned were interned in a work establishment (établissement de travail) and how many were put in prison? (United States).

Answer: Vagrancy, which is dealt with under the Ordinance of 3 May 1919, is subject to a special regime.

Any coloured person found in a state of vagrancy, or begging, may be arrested and brought before a penal tribunal which ascertains the age, physical and mental condition and mode of life of the vagrant. It may place the latter at the Government's disposal for internment in a work establishment or, failing



such establishment, in a civil prison. The period of internment may amount to one year, on the sentence of a magistrate. The Resident's Tribunal is empowered to pronounce sentences of internment up to a maximum of seven years; in actual fact, however, it never deals with cases of this kind. No sentences of internment in excess of four months were pronounced in 1948.

While the law provides no definition of vagrancy, the courts regard as vagrants - as stated in the reply to question 128 (page 116 of the Report) - persons possessing neither a domicile, an occupation nor means of subsistence. Shelter and temporary maintenance charitably afforded by members of the same race or friends do not come within the definition of domicile or means of subsistence. Moreover, natives or coloured persons living within a radius of 5 km. of European communities are forbidden to give asylum to individuals having neither a domicile nor regular means of subsistence, without the written permission of the competent territorial authority.

There are no work establishments in existence at present, and vagrants are therefore interned in the prisons, where they are subjected to the civil prison regime.

Internment of this kind is an administrative measure rather than an actual penalty.

Vagrants are not usually interned unless guilty of some other offence. It will be noticed that the number of cases mentioned on page 200 of the Report (Annex) as cited by the United States representative is quite inconsiderable.

#### Penal sanctions for breach of labour legislation

Question 23: On page 8 of the Report it is stated that penal sanctions can be taken against European employers as well as against African labour. On page 137 it is indicated that 833 Africans have been sentenced and 286 fined. Some employers have also been prosecuted.

- (a) Are the 5 employers who have been sentenced to prison Europeans, Asians, agents of corporations, private industrialists or settlers?
- (b) What is meant exactly by "détournement de main-d'oeuvre"? Is it punishable in order to protect African labour or in order to protect the other employers?
- (c) Have the 9 employers prosecuted for not having obtained a certificate of physical fitness for their workmen been sentenced? (Philippines)

Answer: (a) The 5 persons sentenced were African employees who, placed in charge of workers as foremen and overseers, made them work for their personal gain.

(b) As indicated in (a) above "détournement de main-d'oeuvre" (misuse of labour) means the fraudulent use by an individual for his own gain or that of a third party of workers or employees placed under his charge by an employer.

The measure is therefore one of public order: the person paying a worker has the right to his labour; the worker, for his part, can claim the right not to be taken off the work which he has freely chosen.

(c) Details have been requested from the Government of Ruanda-Urundi concerning the action to be taken in these individual cases. The special representative understands - but is not certain - that these breaches have been punished by fines.

These fines, as imposed by the tribunals, are of a penal and not a transactional nature. They are entered in the judicial records of the persons concerned and will be taken into consideration in the case of repetition of the offence.

Question 24: What are the social troubles referred to on page 8 of the Annual Report which could arise if penal sanctions were abolished? (Philippines).

Answer: The reason why social troubles are to be feared, should the penal sanctions prescribed by the labour contract legislation be abolished, is that the indigenous inhabitants, who have not yet acquired the idea of pride in their work and respect for their commitments, would cease to fulfil their obligations and would render economic activity difficult, if not impossible.

Question 25: On page 126 (question 151 (a)) mention is made of "penal sanctions" which may be applied either to natives who have been recruited under a labour contract or to the employer who engaged them under such contract.

On page 137 (question 153) it is stated that there have been 330 convictions for breach of contract by desertion of work and 503 for other failures to fulfil such a contract by employees.

In addition, less grave breaches of labour discipline by employees have been punished by transactional fines ("amendes transactionnelles")

1. Do convictions for breach of contract always, or almost always, result in imprisonment?
2. What is the nature of the other failures to observe these contracts and what are the penalties imposed in these cases?
3. What is the nature of the less grave offences which are punished by transactional fines?
4. Are these convictions passed exclusively upon native employees and not upon employees of another race or origin? If so, what is the reason for this difference or discrimination?

5. In general, what are the reasons for imposing in the Territory penal sanctions of a sufficiently severe type like imprisonment for purely civil breaches of contract? (Dominican Republic)

Answer:

1. Convictions for breach of labour contracts do not always, or nearly always, result in imprisonment. In fact, the examination of the statistics for 1948 (page 200) shows that of 1,128 breaches of labour contracts, 295 - or 26% - were punished by transactional fines.

The legislation provides for the following penalties for desertion of work:

imprisonment (maximum 2 months)

fine (maximum 50 frs.)

reprimand (penalty expressly provided by the law)

The penalty imposed varies according to the seriousness of the offence.

To cite a few examples:

- (i) A worker abandons his work for several days without notice: the judge will usually confine himself to a reprimand:
- (ii) If he absents himself as a result of over-indulgence in liquor, the usual penalty will be a fine;
- (iii) If he breaks the contract into which he freely and wittingly entered in order to obtain employment at a higher wage, he will be imprisoned.
- (iv) If he is a previous offender, the term of imprisonment will be longer etc.

2. Breaches of labour contracts can be of the most varied kinds. The most frequent met with are as follows:

Unjustifiable absence - late arrival - leaving before time - bad workmanship - wilful neglect of tools - workers found asleep - servants borrowing their employer's car or clothes.

The penalties are proportionate to the offence. They cannot exceed a maximum of 15 days' imprisonment in ordinary cases or 2 months where the worker has given evidence of bad faith, i.e., where in practice, he has deliberately committed the offence with the object of harming his employer or in the face of repeated warnings.

3. Transactional fines are imposed for breaches with only minor social or economic implications; for example, an unjustifiable absence of brief duration, the borrowing of tools for work at home, bad workmanship due to carelessness etc.

4. Where the employee is a native, the relations between master and man are governed by the labour contract decree regardless of the race of the employer. This legislation provides for penal sanctions (fines or imprisonment).

The position of the non-native employee is governed by the employment contract decree, which provides no penalties for the employee but only for the employer.

The reason for this differentiation is that civil penalties (financial compensation), which are fully sufficient to ensure respect for the contract in the case of non-natives, are useless in the case of the native, who, with his few needs, can evade the labour law and, with his meagre possessions and living as he does in the immediate present, cares little about respect for obligations freely and wittingly contracted.

5. This question has been answered under (4): the reason is the ineffectiveness of purely civil sanctions.

#### Wages.

##### Question 26:

In view of the statements contained on pages 52-54 of the Visiting Mission's report on the extremely low wages constituting one of the

bases of the economic system of Ruanda-Urundi and recommending urgently to consider the possibility of radically changing the wage system does the statement made by the Administering Authority on page 8 of the Annual Report mean that these wages are adequate? (Philippines).

Answer: The Administering Authority recognizes that, judged absolutely, minimum wage rates are very low. But the best way of raising them is to increase the economic prosperity of the Territory, which is what the Administration is constantly endeavouring to do. The following various factors must, however, be taken into account:

1. The labour is of low grade. The productivity of the happy-go-lucky indigenous worker, with his marked reluctance for sustained effort, is very low and the few workers who stand out above the mass receive a large number of offers of employment and quite high wages. Drivers and mechanics get up to 80 francs a day, shorthand typists 100 to 125 francs; yet the output of these indigenous workers, who form a sort of labour aristocracy, can hardly bear comparison with that of the average non-indigenous worker.
2. Some allowance must also be made for the effect of the law of supply and demand and for the fact that, were wages suddenly raised, there would be a danger that a large number of posts would be abolished.
3. Measures to lower the cost of living are being kept in force and even intensified.
4. Finally wage rates are steadily rising. They have doubled since 1944 and quadrupled since 1938.

Question 27:

The answer to question 168 indicates that the inhabitants have thus far shown no initiative in creating true co-operatives. The report indicates that the Government has not abandoned the project to establish co-operatives,

but that the present attitude of the inhabitants is not favourable to the project. The 1947 report (p.293) indicated that an officer of the Government was in Ruanda-Urundi studying the problem of cooperatives. Has this offer completed and reported on his work? What efforts have been made to popularize the idea of co-operatives in Ruanda-Urundi?

Answer: The officer referred to in the 1947 Report on the administration of Ruanda-Urundi has submitted a report and the facts have been communicated to the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi by the Government of the Belgian Congo.

The local authorities are at present conducting enquiries to discover to what forms of activity the co-operative system might be applied and territorial administrators have been asked to make suggestions on the subject. Provision will be made in the Ruanda-Urundi budget for a Government fund to encourage the establishment of co-operatives.

The ten-year plan for the economic and social advancement of Ruanda-Urundi, which will be published at the beginning of next year, will probably give a detailed statement of Government policy on the question.

#### Public health

##### Question 28:

Has the Administering Authority considered the possibility of using travelling or mobile medical units in outlying territories? (United States of America).



Answer: The Administering Authority took steps to organize a travelling medical service some considerable time ago. The subject is mentioned several times in the Reports on the administration of Ruanda-Urundi; the reply to question 181 in the 1948 Report (page 153) also gives some details in that connection.

Furthermore, under the programmes for the expansion of medical services, each hospital will be equipped with an ambulance for the rapid transport of serious cases from dispensaries and for conveying medical assistance to parts of the Territory where it is called for urgently.

#### Juvenile delinquency

Question 29: The answer to question 209 is identical in the 1947 and 1948 reports, indicating that there are no special tribunals or laws for juvenile delinquents. It is stated that an ordinance of October 15, 1941 provides for the eventual existence of institutions for juvenile delinquents but that this law has not been implemented in Ruanda-Urundi. Would the Administering Authority inform the Council whether steps have yet been taken to implement the 1931 law and whether such steps are contemplated in the near future? (United States of America).

Answer: The Administering Authority has taken no steps to set up special institutions for juvenile delinquents nor does it contemplate taking any in the near future. The rate of juvenile delinquency is not high enough to justify such establishments, especially in view of the fact that the flexibility of the penal system enables juvenile delinquents to be accorded appropriate treatment.

#### Prison system

Question 30: On page 166 it is stated that the Government General of the Belgian Congo was studying plans for important