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Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 14 February 1956, at 2 p.m.

President:

Mr. SEARS

(United States of America)

Examination of conditions in Ruanda-Urundi [3b, 4] (continued)

Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.658. Delegations may submit corrections to the summary record for incorporation in the final version which will appear in a printed volume.

EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS IN RUANDA-URUNDI:

- (a) ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY FOR 1954 (T/1197, 1201 and 1223) [Agenda item 3b]
- (b) PETITIONS CIRCULATED UNDER RULE 85, PARA. 2, OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL (T/PET.3/L.5 and 6) [Agenda item 4] (continued)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Leroy, special representative for Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian administration, took a place at the Trusteeship Council table.

Social advancement (continued)

Mr. THORP (New Zealand): In his introductory remarks, the special representative informed the Council that two buildings for radio stations were being constructed at Kikali and Ruyigi in 1955. Could the special representative explain to the Council what the functions of these two new stations will be when they are installed.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): These stations are exclusively telecommunications facilities; they are not broadcasting stations. They are designed only to transmit and receive messages.

Mr. THORP (New Zealand): In connexion with the schools, about which we have also received a report from UNESCO, the Council is aware of the problem of wastage in education, which is by no means a problem only in Ruanda-Urundi. Is there any particular factor which the Belgian authorities have been able to discern in Ruanda-Urundi which prevents or works against these students continuing their studies sufficiently long to obtain an adequate grounding in basic subjects? One could think of such factors as pressure in the home on the basis of the family's economic needs for the services of the child or because of some particular tribal allegiance. Perhaps the special representative could offer some comment on this factor.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French):

This question could come under part 4, educational advancement, but I have no objection to answering it now. There are no particular objections in the educational field stemming from customary habits or from the necessity of keeping children at home so as to make them participate in the work of the family. These considerations may have played some role, but they no longer are of such great importance nor do they have any perceptible impact on the organization of education.

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representative)

There is a practical reason why the educational position in the Territory is not everything that we might wish it to be. At preceding sessions of the Trusteeship Council, I have shared my views on this subject with representatives. Education is one of those fields in which it is difficult to accelerate certain procedures. A teacher can guide only a certain number of students, and the education of a student must take a certain number of years. The period of time cannot easily be reduced. Consequently, we face a whole process of development which can hardly be accelerated.

Mr. THORP (New Zealand): I had assumed that, since we had the report of UNESCO, we might ask questions on education at this point. I shall, however, pose my other question on this subject when we take up educational advancement.

Mr. S. S. LIU (China): We were interested to hear the report made yesterday by the representative of the World Health Organization. With particular reference to the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi, we are interested in the size of the medical personnel, and especially the increase of such personnel from year to year. In this connexion I note a table in the annual report, which gives the numbers of the various classes of medical personnel. I also note in the Secretariat's outline of conditions, at page 23, a similar table which gives, furthermore, the figures for 1953, for purposes of comparison. In the latter table, I note, under the heading "European staff", that the number of medical assistants and public health officers decreased from 49 in 1953 to 40 in 1954. Also, I note under the heading "Indigenous staff" that the number of uncertificated assistant nurses decreased considerably, from 236 in 1953 to 113 in 1954. The number of assistant health officers and dressers also decreased, from 45 in 1953 to 42 in 1954. Could the special representative explain to us the reasons for these decreases?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): I am unable to supply accurate information on these decreases. From the budgetary and practical points of view, there has been no actual reduction in medical personnel. The Administration has consistently sought to increase the medical

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personnel in the Territory. It is possible that one set of statistics was taken at a time when a large number of medical officers were in the Territory, and the other set, at a time when a number of these officers were on leave. As regards nursing personnel, it is similarly possible that a number of nurses were promoted to a higher category, in which there was in fact a considerable rise in numbers in 1955.

If the Council is interested, I can cite the following exact figures for 1955: doctors, 71, compared to 65 in 1954; dentists, 4, compared to the same number in 1954; medical assistants and public health officers, 46, compared to 40 in 1954; assistant nurses, nurses and midwives, 76, compared to 65 in 1954. These figures indicate the Administration's eagerness to increase the number of medical officers, and we are very hopeful that this increase will continue.

Mr. S. S. LIU (China): I am satisfied with this answer and am grateful to the special representative for it.

My next question is the recurrent one concerning the curfew and restrictions on the movement of indigenous inhabitants at night.

In answer to the Trusteeship Council's recommendations on this question, the Administering Authority has repeatedly stated -- and the special representative stated it again yesterday -- that these restrictions could not be removed until there was an adequate police force and adequate lighting of the districts concerned. I am raising this question to elicit information and not to embarrass the Administering Authority. I wonder if the special representative can tell us how soon we may expect the police force to be adequate and how soon sufficient lighting can be provided to obviate the necessity of maintaining the restrictions which the Trusteeship Council has regarded in an unfavourable light.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): I am unable to give a date by which these reforms will have been carried out. When I spoke of an increase and improvement of the police force and of the arrangement of lighting facilities, I was simply citing factors which could contribute to the elimination of the measures in question. At the moment, however, the Administration is not particularly concerned with the problem, because the indigenous authorities and other indigenous inhabitants have expressed a desire that the curfew should be maintained. Indigenous inhabitants like to go to bed early. They detest people who move about during the night. An indigenous inhabitant who for any legitimate reason must return late at night in the extra-customary centres or who desires to leave late at night has only to present a paper signed by his employer or by an agent of the Administration. Such papers are freely granted, and with them indigenous inhabitants may move about freely.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): Questions have already been asked on the subject of the division of the indigenous inhabitants into civilized and uncivilized in connexion with the chapter on political advancement. I have studied the answers given by the special representative to those questions, and I must say that I have some misgivings. The special representative explained that the Administration's legitimation of this division of the indigenous inhabitants into civilized and uncivilized should not be overemphasized because it was not too broadly applied in the Territory. If this is so, may I ask whether the Administering Authority intends to revoke this discriminatory legislation which has been criticized in the Trusteeship Council? Or is it suggested that, despite the fact that it has no broad application, this legislation should and must nevertheless be retained in the Territory for the time being?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): By way of replying to this question I should like, with the Council's permission, to read a text for the benefit of the representative of the Soviet Union. When the question of registration was being studied at the end of 1948, this measure was considered as a means of combating racial discrimination rather than perpetuating it. In Brussels, on 21 October 1948, the President of a Commission which had met in that city to conduct a study of the civilized population of the Congo stated:

"Before embarking upon a general discussion of this point, the members of the Commission must first arrive at agreement in principle on the principle that a certain number of indigenous persons have attained a degree of civilization which is such that they must be placed on the same legal footing as the European population."

The members present on that occasion agreed unanimously on this point, and one of them added:

"We must place the men who inhabit the African Territories administered by Belgium on the same footing, whatever their colour."

The desire of the Administration not to encourage racial discrimination could not be better demonstrated. The measure at present under discussion is, I must point out, rarely applied. Indeed, the most highly developed elements

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of the indigenous population have retained their customary status and have felt no need to have recourse to the legal status which applied to the European population.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Unfortunately, I have not elicited a direct answer to the question whether the Administering Authority intends to retain this discriminatory law, or whether it will revoke it in view of the fact that it has been criticized in this Council. And in this connexion representatives will remember the recommendation adopted by the Council last year, as well as the opinions and conclusions of the Visiting Mission which stated unambiguously that "The Mission is disappointed that the Government should have considered it necessary to extend to Ruanda-Urundi certain discriminatory laws and practices of the Belgian Congo..." (T/1141, para. 182). From the explanations of the special representative I understand that the view of the Administration is that equal rights will be extended to the indigenous population when it attains the level of civilization now attained by Europeans. If this is so, and taking into account the rate of progress towards civilization in the Territory, it seems that a long time will have to elapse before the indigenous population receives the rights already enjoyed by the European population. If the special representative could give a direct answer to the question whether it is intended to revoke this legislation or to retain it, this would have a great influence on the position both of my delegation and, I am sure, some other delegations on this issue.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): The special representative and I have already told the Council that in practice this legislation on registration has no importance to Ruanda-Urundi for the very good reason that the more developed elements of the population of the Territory understand that the customary system of the Territory is developing at the same time, and that they have no need to renounce their customary rights in order to be able to lead a civilized existence.

The representative of the Soviet Union would have us suppress this legislation, but unfortunately that is impossible because it is absolutely indispensable that a written law shall be applied to a certain number of indigenous persons who have broken altogether with tribal customs.

Under the legislation of Ruanda-Urundi the private rights of individuals are determined by their personal status. Let us take, for example, the simple matter of attaining one's majority. A Belgian in Ruanda-Urundi becomes a major at twenty-one because, under Belgian legislation, the age at which one attains one's majority is twenty-one years; a Netherlands national, on the other hand, would attain his majority at twenty-three because that is the age which applies in the Netherlands; and a Congolese subject to customary law attains his majority at the age decreed by custom for so doing. But at what age would a Congolese attain his majority if he were born at Leopoldville of parents belonging to two different customary systems and if he were without any personal tribal affiliation? Without any doubt some form of legislation other than national legislation is necessary. As a Belgian I am subject to my national legislation. Mr. Grubyakov, as a Soviet citizen, is subject to Soviet legislation. But when one is subject to neither a European national legislation nor a local custom it is necessary for there to be a law to which one is subject. The law in this case is the Congolese civil code. Those who are registered are subject to Congolese law. To suppress this application of the written Congolese law to those who no longer have any tribal attachments would be to place them in an indeterminate status. Would the representative of the Soviet Union wish the Belgian Government to do that?

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): Far be it from me to wish what the representative of Belgium has described in such sombre tones. I find in the documents of the Trusteeship Council and the report of the Visiting Mission that this law is described as discriminatory because it divides the population into civilized and uncivilized -- a division which is effected subjectively rather than on the basis of legally acceptable data. At the last session of the Trusteeship Council when this subject was discussed there was a great deal of argument.

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I was not especially interested in the nature of the legislation because it has already been labelled by the Council and the Visiting Mission as discriminatory. I was concerned only with regard to future developments. Will this legislation be revoked or retained? Will there be some kind of legislation applying equally to indigenous inhabitants and Europeans, or will there not? I take it that, under the circumstances, it is impossible to revoke this legislation and that it will be retained in force for the moment. Shall I proceed to another question, or does the representative of Belgium wish to comment?

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium)(interpretation from French): The special representative has an answer to give, but I should like to say, personally, that if the Council wishes this legislation to be abolished, it should suggest what we ought to do. Are we to subject those indigenous inhabitants who are not under tribal law to British, Belgian or Soviet law, or to a purely local law? What are we to do? If the Council wishes us to abolish this legislation, let it tell us what to do. Otherwise, these inhabitants will be under no law whatever.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): When we are debating the report, it is my belief that I should not merely express opinions or criticism, but make positive recommendations. We feel, of course, that the people concerned should not be left outside the pale. That is not what we are suggesting. They should have equal rights with the European inhabitants who live in the Territory.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium)(interpretation from French): But the Europeans are subject to their own national laws. To what European national law are we to subject these inhabitants to whom the representative of the Soviet Union has referred and who, he said, could not be left outside the pale? They must be under some law. According to the system of equality for Europeans, I, as a Belgian, am subject to Belgian law; you, as a representative of the Soviet Union, are under Soviet Union law. Under what law is the inhabitant of Ruanda-Urundi to be placed, since he has no national status and if he is not under tribal law?

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): I am fully aware of the concern and anxiety of the representative of Belgium on this score; there could be a broad discussion here as to rights of nationality, residence, citizenship, etc. Here is the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi; if there were no law there, that would be unfortunate, but if there is any law it should be equal for all people who live there -- Europeans, Asians and indigenous inhabitants alike. No British, Soviet, American or other

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law should prevail. There should be only one system of law -- the system of the law of the Territory, which should be the same for everybody. As I said, I do not intend merely to make comments, but to make some positive suggestions in the course of the debate on the report.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium)(interpretation from French): The representative of the Soviet Union has not answered my question. Equality exists. All races, of whatever colour, are subject to their own national law. A Belgian is subject to his Belgian law; a Britisher, to British law. If there is a question as to whether an Englishman should be allowed to marry, that is determined by his own national law. The same applies to the indigenous inhabitants who are subject to tribal law. Under what legislation are those who are not subject to tribal law to be guided? That is the question which I wish to ask.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): This is somewhat new to the members of the Council, including myself. In the Territory there live not only Belgians and indigenous inhabitants, but also Indians, Syrians, and, according to the report of the Administering Authority, there is even a Russian. If the representative of Belgium means that they are all under their respective national legislations, I do not envy the legislators and judges in the Territory who are supposed to adjudicate under Belgian, Indian, British and Soviet law and to act accordingly. There are some two score nationals of various countries in the Territory, including some countries where there is no law in the literal sense of the word. This is indeed an important problem, especially if each resident is to be subject to his own national legislation.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium)(interpretation from French): The representative of the Soviet Union is quite right; the work of the Congolese judge is no easy job, since he is obliged to apply Belgian, British, American and Soviet law. He applies the laws of the people whose status is placed before him. Thus, if two people appear, wishing to be divorced, it must be ascertained whether, according to the national law of these individuals, they are entitled to divorce. It often

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happens that a judge must decide concerning not only two people coming under the same law, but also must decide which of two national laws is to be applied. In such cases we try to satisfy each individual according to the legislation of his own country. Therefore, I repeat, not only to the representative of the Soviet Union, but also to those other representatives who wish us to modify our legislation in the Territory, my request that they should tell us to what legislation an indigenous inhabitant who does not come under tribal law should be subjected.

I do not believe that we need continue this discussion now, but if the Council feels that it is necessary to make a recommendation on this question, I shall appreciate it if it will go the whole way and tell us what to do, since as far as I am concerned, I do not know. If we are told to abolish a law, under what law, then, are we to place these inhabitants?

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): I agree with the representative of Belgium that this question must be touched upon during our discussion.

Before asking my next question, I should like to point out that our recommendation last year urged the Administering Authority to examine other methods of ascribing personal status to indigenous inhabitants who wish to break with customary or tribal law and to be registered with the civilized inhabitants. The Council, therefore, believed that the Administering Authority, after a year of consideration, would be able to find some other method. The Council did not suggest anything in particular; it asked the Administering Authority to suggest something. But the Administering Authority has done nothing.

My next question also deals with the status of the population and relates to the prohibition to leave one's place of residence without the permission of the Chief or the Administrator for a period of more than thirty days. This provision is, again, one which some representatives on the Council regarded as discriminatory inasmuch as it was directed exclusively against the indigenous inhabitants. Europeans, as the documents indicate, were not subject to this restriction of movement. May I ask whether the Administering Authority proposes to revoke these regulations, or are they to remain in force in the Territory for a substantial period of time?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): In the last few years the Administration, the representative of Belgium and I have very often stated that it is intended to unify the situation of all the inhabitants of the Territory, whatever their colour, as soon as possible. I have already explained the reason for these measures and I have already asked that the importance of this question be not exaggerated. It is true that an indigenous inhabitant who wishes to move has to obtain authorization from his chief or, at least, that he should let his chief know of his intention. This authorization is only required for movements lasting more than thirty days. For twenty-nine days, the indigenous inhabitants can move wherever they desire, it is only after the thirtieth day that they have to obtain authorization.

I have already given the reason for this. The Territory that we administer is such that it is necessary for everyone to work so as to be able to maintain the life of the Territory and so that each of the inhabitants of the Territory can live. Therefore, the chiefs have to be able to exercise certain control over the work done. That is the reason why these long sojourns are controlled. Numerous guarantees are given by the Administration, and in a number of cases passports of movement have been granted.

Mr. GRUEYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): My next question deals with corporal punishment. The report indicates that indigenous inhabitants can be punished by flogging, with a maximum of four strokes. Does the Administering Authority intend to revoke this punishment, which is not only punitive in nature but also offensive and insulting to the indigenous inhabitants, in the opinion of my delegation?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): Since the beginning of the administration of the Territory by Belgium, the Administering Authority has always endeavoured to reduce this punishment, which it also considers to be undesirable and which is applied not by the tribunals but as a disciplinary measure within the prisons, but with a number of restrictions. I want to point out to the Council that this year the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi decided to make a trial in many prisons of the total suppression

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of this penalty, and the prisoners were advised of this suppression as an experimental measure. If order is maintained in the prisons without the employment of this punishment, its suppression will be generalized in the Territory.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): My next question deals with paragraph 81 on page 181 of the annual report, where it is indicated that certain indigenous inhabitants can be removed from their residence by administrative procedure if they engage in political agitation. On page 180 of the annual report it is indicated that in paragraph 14 of the law of 1925 freedom of worship and freedom to express opinions on all matters is guaranteed. Does not the Administration feel that the ordinance I have quoted runs counter to the law of 1925, which professes to secure for the indigenous inhabitants freedom of expression in all its forms. In order to anticipate the next question, I should like to ask the special representative what is the meaning of "political agitation" among the indigenous inhabitants, especially since most of the inhabitants are illiterate and have no political parties to speak of. Does it mean criticism of the Administration or of the Governor?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): The text referred to by the representative of the Soviet Union is an article of the Belgian Constitution which was made applicable to Ruanda-Urundi. Freedom of belief and freedom of public exercise of that belief, and freedom to express opinions on all matters are guaranteed except, and I wish to draw the attention of the representative of the Soviet Union to this proviso, in the case of crimes committed in the exercise of such freedoms. In other words, we guarantee these freedoms, but we also have to guarantee the maintenance of public order. The representative of the Soviet Union mentioned political agitation or political action. Within this, freedom of expression is respected so long as it does not lead to trouble or riots and so long as it does not lead to crimes or felonies or threaten the maintenance of public order. Public order is the criterion that must be used, and we must maintain that public order. I believe that is the case in practically all the countries in the world.

MR. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I asked the question because the ordinance does not refer to towns or extra-customary centres where indigenous inhabitants not subject to local chiefs decide, but the text speaks of keeping certain indigenous inhabitants away from certain chiefdoms or regions. I am rather surprised because the Council has had no knowledge of political activity in these areas. In spite of this, there is a law which states that indigenous inhabitants can be expelled from these chiefdoms if they engage in political agitation. Therefore, I wondered whether this referred to criticism of the Administering Authority or of the chiefs. What is the specific meaning of "political agitation" in this context?

My next question refers to a number of remarks of the Administering Authority on pages 181 and 195 of the annual report. In these pages, the Administering Authority underlines the inadequate development of the indigenous population which necessitates certain labour legislation. What is the meaning of this reference to the insufficient development of the indigenous population. Does it mean that the indigenous inhabitants are illiterate or has the Administering Authority something else in mind? For example, on page 181 reference is made to the "insufficiency of the development of the indigenous inhabitants", and on page 195 reference is made to the "insufficiency of development of qualifications". The impression seems to be given that the Administration regards these applicants as being personally underdeveloped. I do not wish to be satisfied with this impression which emerges from a reading of this report; and I should like to give the Administering Authority, through its special representative, an opportunity of explaining what the phrases mean.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): I am sorry but I did not entirely understand the question put by the representative of the Soviet Union. He said that two or three times reference is made in the annual report to the insufficient development of the population. If the population were sufficiently developed, then the Trusteeship System would have no reason for existing. Would the Soviet representative be good enough to clarify his question, since I really do not know what I have to answer.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from

Russian): I shall be very happy to clarify my point. On page 181 of the annual report there is a paragraph dealing with the regime of labour, where the Administration says that the Trusteeship Council has repeatedly recommended the elimination of sanctions and that it has asked for increased salaries etc. It says that the Administration pursues the same objectives but considers that with regard to labour contracts the obligations of the parties are correlative etc., and that it is still necessary to require such penalties as imprisonment etc. as a result of the under-developed nature of the population. In what way does the under-developed nature of the population necessitate penal servitude as a punishment for non-fulfilment of contracts?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): I must

reply to this in a twofold way. First of all, it is true that from the point of view of professional ethics the indigenous inhabitants are not as yet sufficiently scrupulous in their fulfilment of contracts, freely agreed to, with regard to questions of labour. This is a positive question. The Administration has endeavoured to follow the recommendations of the Trusteeship Council on the matter and in 1954 a decree was passed stating that imprisonment would no longer be carried out except where the Governor-General decided upon it; and the Governor-General decided that Ruanda-Urundi was one of these places where imprisonment for non-fulfilment of a labour contract would no longer be applied. But a fine can be imposed.

This shows the Administration's concern as regards the evolution of legislation, in the sense and in the direction pointed out by the Trusteeship Council.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from

Russian): In the same connexion, with regard to this matter of inadequate qualifications of African workers, etc., I should like to ask the following question. On page 195 of the annual report, at the middle of the page, it is stated that African labourers are insufficiently qualified. There is also a table

on page 480 of the report, to which attention has already been drawn, which deals with wage levels. An indigenous inhabitant who is a tractor driver receives one type of wage scale for his work; a tractor driver who is a European receives another wage scale; a tractor driver who is of Asian origin works under a third wage scale. The European wage scale is higher than either the indigenous or the Asian wage scale, which gives rise to a question with which I am sure the special representative is already familiar.

With regard to jobs such as tractor driver, automobile driver and other types of work -- and there are twenty-one types of craft where the pay of the European is considerably higher, perhaps five to six times higher than the wage rates paid to indigenous inhabitants -- is it suggested that in such jobs -- I am not speaking of engineering or medicine or professorships -- the African's technical qualifications cannot be brought to as high a level as those of Europeans or of Asians?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): This question cannot be placed under that of racial discrimination. It is obvious that in itself the colour of the skin has nothing whatever to do with the technical capacity of the worker. It is no less obvious that an African worker can achieve parity with a European or an Asian. But the situation that is mirrored here, and which is in accordance with the facts, is that it is indispensable that note should be taken of the true differences which exist at present in the qualifications of persons living in Ruanda-Urundi. These employees are employed by private enterprises. There are also economic laws which are applied. But can anyone believe that the societies would pay 300 francs to a European if they could employ an indigenous inhabitant for 50 francs to do the same work.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): Of course, to pay more than 50 francs would be inappropriate from the economic point of view since such a difference in salary would indicate that unjustified measures are applied to the indigenous population.

The next question applies to paragraph 83 of the report concerning areas where Europeans live. According to a law of 1923, local inhabitants may receive permission to live permanently in European areas, and previously this was given only for a limited period. It appears to me from the text of the report that a local inhabitant, in order to settle in a European area, would have to receive special permission. That apparently is what the law requires. Is that so?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): The circumstances made it imperative that three different boroughs should be set up in the urban areas; one is a European residential area, one area which is at times both commercial and residential for the Asians, and one African area. Each of the inhabitants of one of these areas has to obtain authorization to set himself up in one of the other areas. Authorization has never been given in the case of a European or an Asian who wants to set himself up, with commercial purposes in mind, in the indigenous area. This is done to avoid the influx of these businessmen, who have more commercial know-how, into the African area. With regard to the applications of Asians and Africans to live in the European area, and the Africans to live in the Asian area, the criteria applied are not criteria of colour or race but of social development, situation, habits, custom and so on. As far as I know, there are at present three or four Indian homes in the European area, and there are two homes, occupied by the two Bami, in the European area.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The special representative, as I understood him, has said that this is explained by existing traditions or customs which have grown up and that each district is called European, Asian or African. But from the point of view of equal rights for the local inhabitants, it seems to us that this rule requiring special permission to settle in an European district is unjustified.

My next question deals with page 202, where we read that the Administration has the right to establish labour norms for the population. Of course, I recognize that this exists in many territories. But here, there is mention of a period of sixty days for forced labour. How is this provision to be understood? Does this condition exist permanently where local inhabitants have to carry out certain work for sixty days? What does this amount to in practice? Are these people required to work for two months during which time their work is not paid for?

If I understand it correctly, these provisions are applied in the Territory. I am referring to pages 202 and 203 of the report.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): The reply in detail to this question can be found on page 148 at about the middle of the page. At the moment, the indigenous inhabitants have to take part in crop cultivation of thirty-five acres per year and in crop cultivation of a non-seasonal character of twenty-five acres, of which at least fifteen have to be planted with manioc. This is a point that I should like to bring to the attention of the representative of the Soviet Union. He referred to non-remunerative work. It is remunerative since they are cultivating their own soil for their own benefit. They have to work sixty days a year for themselves. When they have harvested the crops, they can do whatever they like with those crops. This is only to ensure that they are going to work for at least sixty days in the year on this crop cultivation, and on the cultivation that is pointed out by the Administration.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Accordingly, this must be understood to mean that the forced labour which is described in these pages of the report refers to work which the indigenous inhabitants must carry out for the cultivation of their own fields. If that is so, I shall have no more questions on that part.

My next question deals with a small note, which is possibly a technical question. It is that at the present time the Administration rarely resorts to porters for transporting various types of burdens. Who is meant by this expression? How is this carried out? This is to be found on page 203 of the report.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): Resort is had to porters only when there is no possibility of utilizing route or road transportation. Portage is very reduced in character because there are so many different networks of roads in the Territory. But this had to be resorted to for the transportation of luggage and the possessions of persons visiting the hills or the indigenous inhabitants who live far from the roads: for example, the chiefs, tax collectors, territorials, health authorities, agronomists and so on. Those are the only cases in which porters are used because they are travelling far from the roads.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): My next question deals with labour union rights. The United States representative has already asked this question. My question proceeds from a different premise.

On page 223, we find a description of the regulations concerning trade unions. The Administering Authority has issued regulations as to who may be a member, how meetings can be held and so forth. As far as I know, labour unions have their own statutes which determine the membership, functions of members, duties of members and the over-all functioning of the labour union. How can we understand this situation where the Administration itself lays down the law as to what the unions may do and as to who may be a member of the unions, and where the Administration does not proceed from the fact that the trade union itself, in its own regulations, should define both the rights and duties of members of the trade union.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French):

This is one more aspect of the intervention of the Administration for the benefit of the inhabitants. Until 1946, there were no professional organizations. In that year, the Administration felt that it would be desirable for such organizations to exist. And before the existence of any trade union whatever in the Territory, the Administration itself set up the framework under which such trade unions could develop in the future. This was one way in which the Administration could set up professional organizations and thus benefit the indigenous inhabitants.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I have another technical point. On page 243, it is pointed out in connexion with the standard of living that the indigenous population is acquiring used clothing and footwear. This is perhaps a somewhat delicate question. This is a Trust Territory, and the importation of used footwear and clothing for the population does not seem to be altogether fitting.

Does the Administering Authority intend to develop textile and shoe industries in view of the fact that the raw materials are to be found there, so that used clothing and footwear would not have to be imported from other countries?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French):

The question of the leather industry is being studied at the moment. With regard to the textile industry, some very prosperous enterprises and firms have been set up in the Congo and some near Albertville close to Ruanda-Urundi. Since there is no customs frontier between the two Territories, Ruanda-Urundi can benefit directly from these local industries.

It would be a mistake to consider that the indigenous inhabitants of Ruanda-Urundi wear only cast-offs. If a certain number of second-hand clothing is sold in the Territory, it should also be mentioned that the number of garments manufactured locally is considerable. As far as shoes are concerned, I think that the indigenous inhabitants purchase many more new shoes than is the case with regard to the purchase of second-hand shoes.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): My last question is also to a certain extent a technical question which deals with public health. It is pointed out in the annual report -- and I must say that the same is true in previous annual reports -- that there are in the Territory four dentists and sixty-three general medical practitioners. The special representative stated that there were more doctors in 1955 but that there were still only four dentists. There are more than 4 million inhabitants in the Territory, and the question naturally arises: how can four dentists service such a large population?

Although it is true that in the middle ages barbers served as dentists, they have now lost that speciality and barbers may only deal with hairdressing. This figure of four dentists appears to us to be very small for the population. How does the Administering Authority view this matter? How do these four dentists serve the population? I think that there must probably be a large number of teeth in the Territory that need treatment.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): All general practitioners are obliged, by their profession, to be dentists and to practice dentistry. I have often had my teeth treated by doctors who were not dental specialists, and also by dentists who were not doctors.

Whenever a health system is being developed, it is impossible to expect to have specialists for all the different organs of the body. We have one ophthalmologist and four dentists, and if I were able to obtain new practitioners I would request general practitioners. I would certainly prefer to obtain more doctors and not more dental specialists because the diplomas given by Belgian universities to doctors cover a knowledge of dentistry.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I of course envy the special representative that he is able to have his teeth taken care of even by someone who is not a dentist, although that is somewhat risky. However, even if all the general practitioners are able to treat teeth, there are only about seventy on the medical staff.

Bearing in mind the size of the population, with all the good will of the Administering Authority, seventy medical officers are not in a position to serve such a large population. I have repeatedly spoken of the lack of doctors in the Territory.

I should like to thank the special representative and the representative of Belgium for their replies to my questions.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): I should like to add the following. The seventy-one doctors at present in the Territory are assisted by forty-six medical assistants who have had a very advanced medical training and who take over in all cases that are not of grave importance or of an emergency nature. We have nurses' assistants, medical assistants and all the rest of the indigenous staff as well as the European staff that take care of the sick.

I am not blinding myself to the fact that I would prefer to have more doctors in the Territory. However, when one takes into account the fact that thirty years ago there was not even one doctor, we are not doing too badly.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): During this long period of over thirty years mentioned by the special representative, not one native doctor has been trained. Could the special representative tell us when we might expect to see a medical doctor trained from among the indigenous population? It might be difficult for the special representative to tell us exactly when that might be, but could we expect that to take place during the next two, three, four or five years?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): We cannot expect to have many indigenous doctors in the near future. I believe that we can expect to have the first indigenous doctor within a period of five years, but after that the progress should be rather rapid. There are institutions of secondary education which are now crowded up to the third

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and fourth year. In three years' time, therefore, a number of students will finish their secondary education, and six or seven years later they will complete their medical training. Therefore, within ten years we know that we shall have a certain number of indigenous inhabitants who have graduated as doctors. It is a process that cannot be accelerated. We cannot prepare doctors along assembly-line methods.

Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): I wish to thank the special representative once again for his explanations, although I must say that his pessimistic hopes do not encourage much optimism in my delegation concerning the future public health situation in the Trust Territory.

Mr. BARGUES (France)(interpretation from French): The annual report of the Administering Authority is so complete that I shall have only one question to put to the special representative. Before doing so, however, and with the permission of the President, I should like to return to a question which was raised by the representative of the Soviet Union and which resulted in some very interesting and comprehensive replies by the representative of Belgium and the special representative. I am referring to the question of the permanent status of the indigenous inhabitants.

The representative of Belgium stated that his Government had been compelled to deal with the status of natives who, having reached a higher level of civilization than the masses, could no longer keep their personal status under tribal customs.

(Mr. Bargues, France)

The French Government, of course, has had to face the same problem. It adopted a solution different from that of the Belgian Government -- a less complete and less diversified solution. The rule is the following: the indigenous inhabitants have a personal status which arises from custom -- or, in the Moslem areas, from Moslem laws. They have the option of giving up their personal status, and it is on this point that the solution adopted by the French Government is different from that adopted by the Belgian Government, as I have already said, the French Government's solution is less thorough. The indigenous inhabitant in fact has no choice. If he gives up his personal status, he is compelled to adopt the status of the French Civil Code. It is obvious that, on this point, the French method does not discriminate between an indigenous inhabitant and a European, since it confers the same status upon the two.

When a French representative drew attention to this provision of French legislation, he was criticized by certain members of the Trusteeship Council, who said that his Government was practising a policy of abusive discrimination. This shows the truth of the saying that one cannot satisfy everyone and his brother. It is precisely because it is difficult to have single laws which do not take account of the different categories of the population that the indigenous inhabitants cannot be compelled, under the pretext of assimilation to Europeans, to give up a status to which they are attached, often by deep religious ties -- and this is particularly true in the case of Moslems. On the other hand, the Europeans cannot be compelled to abandon the status which they have brought with them from their mother country.

It is on these lines that I wish to put a question to the special representative. Like the Trusteeship Council as a whole, I have been interested in seeing to what extent certain legislative provisions applying to only one category of the population might be eliminated in order to unify the legislation, possession, preparation and consumption of alcoholic beverages. I noted that some provisions of the local regulations applied only to indigenous inhabitants. This was true of certain restrictions concerning the sale and consumption of spirits. I looked for the cause of these restrictions and discovered that they were not based on the Administering Authority's desire to discriminate, but, rather, on an application of an international convention: the Saint-Germain Convention of 10 September 1919. This is my question to the special representative:

(Mr. Bargues, France)

Has the Belgian Government the intention, in order to satisfy the desire expressed by the Trusteeship Council, to amend the regulations on the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages so as to eliminate any provisions applying only to one category of the population? If so, does the Belgian Government intend to make representations to the other signatories of the Saint-Germain Convention?

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): This is a rather burning question. The Convention of Saint-Germain-en-Laye followed the Berlin Convention, which established the economic equality of all the countries in the Basin of the Congo covered by the Convention. This economic equality was taken up in the Trusteeship Agreement, for the benefit of Members of the United Nations. However, there has been some idea of renouncing the Saint-Germain Convention, ending both the protection given to indigenous inhabitants with regard to alcoholic beverages and the commercial equality of all countries.

Belgium has always refused to urge any revision of the Saint-Germain Convention. On the contrary, it would be very happy to see an extension of the principles of the Convention to all African territories. I do not, however, think that Belgium's happiness would be shared by everyone.

U THAN HLA (Burma): I had intended to put some questions on human rights and fundamental freedoms, the indigenous Press, trade unions, the productivity of labour and whipping for breach of personal discipline. My questions, however, have already been put by representatives who have preceded me and have been answered by the special representative.

I do still have a few questions to put to the special representative. The first relates to the Trusteeship Council's recommendation to the Administering Authority to pay greater attention to the dissemination of information concerning the United Nations, and particularly concerning the Trusteeship System. As regards this recommendation, the Administering Authority states in its report for 1954 that instruction on the United Nations and the Trusteeship System is given both in Government and in mission schools. In view of the fact that such instruction can really have results only in secondary schools, because of the level of comprehension of students of the secondary-age group, and in view of the fact that there were only 233 African students in official secondary schools and 141 in subsidized secondary mission schools in 1954, can the special representative tell me whether the Administering Authority is giving consideration to the Council's recommendation of a wide use of United Nations emblems in the Territory and of other suitable channels of communication for the purpose? Regarding the latter proposal, I would enquire what are the Administering Authority's views on the inclusion of suitable programmes on the United Nations and the Trusteeship System in the broadcasts by the Leopoldville radio stations, for which loudspeakers are to be set up in the towns. Similarly, can something be done in the same direction by way of articles in the news publications of the missions, which I think the special representative said, in reply to a question put to him yesterday, had a fairly wide circulation?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French):

As the representative of Burma has said, it is really in the secondary schools that instruction on the United Nations can have results. Personally, I would even say that it is only in the last years of secondary education and in higher education that students may fully understand the position. In a desire to follow the Trusteeship Council's recommendations, however, the Administration has suggested that during the last years of primary school some instruction should be given on the United Nations. Thus, as may be seen on page 288 of the annual report, instruction on the United Nations in government schools represented four hours in preparatory courses for professional education, eight hours in the fifth and sixth forms, twenty-five hours in secondary education and fourteen hours in vocational training.

These lessons have been incorporated in the discussion courses in the primary schools, and in the history and geography courses in the secondary schools, while the administrative section of the Astrida College has made it a part of its course on administration. Those are the principal methods.

Furthermore, without giving ipso facto planned instruction on the United Nations, the press, in the nature of things, interests itself greatly in the Organization. I am sure that the press in Ruanda-Urundi is at present reporting on these debates in the Trusteeship Council. This furnishes material for instruction on the structure and functioning of the United Nations.

U THAN HLA (Burma): I should like to have the views of the special representative with regard to the inclusion of suitable programmes in the broadcasts from Leopoldville radio station which, I understood from his statement yesterday, also gives broadcasts in music.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): Frankly, I cannot give a real opinion on this question. The suggestion is one which might be transmitted to the Administering Authority, but, as I say, I am afraid that I personally can give no opinion on it.

U THAN HLA (Burma): My next question concerns labour, and it has, in a sense, been asked already by the representative of the Soviet Union. I shall refer to the answer given by the special representative to the question on automatic imprisonment being imposed for breach of labour contract. The special representative stated, I believe, that by the exercise of the right to designate areas where imprisonment is not to be used as a sanction the Administering Authority would bring about the abolition of this system of penal sanction. This I find to be in keeping with the statement made by the Administering Authority to the Visiting Mission that:

"... the local government had the right to designate areas where imprisonment should not be used as a sanction. By this means it was intended to bring about the complete but progressive elimination of imprisonment as a sanction within the time limit fixed by the International Labour Conference in Geneva." (T/1141, para. 284)

In the light of these statements, may I ask the special representative how many areas have been excluded since 1954 from the application of this sanction, and what generally is the outlook for its total abolition?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): I am afraid that the representative of Burma has not really understood the statement I made just now. The decree on labour contracts is a Belgian legislative measure, taken by the King, which applies equally to the Belgian Congo and to Ruanda-Urundi. It includes a provision whereunder the Governor General of the Belgian Congo may designate areas in which the punishment of imprisonment shall no longer be imposed for breach of labour contract. He has so designated the whole of Ruanda-Urundi.

To which regions of the Belgian Congo will this measure be applied? I feel that that question is outside the competence of the Trusteeship Council, and for my part I am unable to give an answer. In the case of Ruanda-Urundi, however, the punishment of imprisonment for breach of labour contract no longer exists.

Mr. U THAN HLA (Burma): I thank the special representative for his clarification. My last series of questions relates to prisons. The 1954 Visiting Mission observed in its report that juveniles and very young persons were not properly segregated in the two prisons which it visited. Will the special representative please inform me how many juveniles there were among the 2,518 prisoners in 1954, and what the arrangements are like for segregation in other prisons?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): It is difficult to reply with precision because the legislation of Ruanda-Urundi does not so far recognize the status of a minor. Action is taken against a delinquent, whatever his age. The fact that a person is a minor is taken into account only as an attenuating circumstance -- or even as a complete excuse -- before the court. But there is no special regime for minors.

A regime of this kind has been in operation in the Belgian Congo since 1951, and the Administration of Ruanda-Urundi contemplates its extension to the Trust Territory. So far, however, we have encountered numerous material difficulties in organizing this special system for juvenile delinquents. The figure of 2,518 prisoners referred to by the representative of Burma must include two or three dozen children -- thirty, or perhaps forty, I really do not know exactly. In the prisons, they are segregated and given light work to do, usually in company with the women prisoners. The Administration is at present engaged in organizing a regime to deal with juvenile delinquency. But there, too, it is experiencing many difficulties.

U THAN HLA (Burma): My second question is whether juveniles are detained in prison awaiting trial or during trial of their cases, and whether, under the existing law, there is a provision whereunder, for offences where bail is not allowed in the case of adults, the police, or in very serious cases the remanding magistrate, can release juveniles on bail.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): The regime is exactly the same for juvenile delinquents as for adults, since the legislation makes no distinction on the basis of age. But the question of age is always taken into account in the verdict by the magistrate or official who imposes imprisonment. A magistrate never imposes imprisonment when he feels that it would be more harmful to the re-education of the young person than setting him free.

U THAN HLA (Burma): In my last question I was not referring to the juveniles who had been sentenced to imprisonment. I was referring to those juveniles who were awaiting trial in gaol or awaiting the completion of the investigation of their cases by the police. My question was whether there was legal provision under which offences which were not bailable, as in the case of adults, the police and, in very serious cases, the remanding magistrate, could release juveniles on bail before the cases were brought up before the court.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): This question does not arise since we have only one system which applies to everybody. There is no difference between the systems applied to minors and adults. However, offences of a major character committed by juveniles are very rare because of the solidity of custom. The majority of juvenile delinquency offences are committed by children who have stolen; very often they are petty thieves, who are immediately taken care of by the law. The parents are brought into court and told to educate their children in the matter of honesty and to take appropriate measures to see that they do not commit the same offences again.

U THAN HLA (Burma): The special representative has clarified a point on which I had intended to ask a question with regard to juvenile offenders being committed to their parents or guardians. I thank him for his explanation, and I have no further questions.

The meeting was suspended at 3.55 p.m. and resumed at 4.20 p.m.

Mr. SERAPHIN (Haiti)(interpretation from French): On page 19 of the outline of conditions prepared by the Secretariat it is stated that in addition to the weekly rest period and so on, leave with pay is granted at the rate of one day for every two months' completed service. This means that six days of leave are granted per annum. Are there any reasons why the workers should not have annual paid leave of fifteen days, let us say, instead of six days?

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I do not know whether there would be any difficulty about giving fifteen days leave every year, but I should like to know in how many countries are six days of paid leave assured to workers each year.

Mr. SERAPHIN (Haiti)(interpretation from French): I thank the representative of Belgium for his comment, but it does not alter the fact that in the opinion of my delegation annual leave of six days for workers who are expected to work the year round does not appear to be adequate. This leads me to the second part of my question. The Administering Authority states that this leave is calculated in a ratio of one day for each two months of completed service. The Administering Authority seems to stress this phrase "two months' completed service". Does this mean that if a worker lost a few days through illness, accident or other incapacitation, he would also lose his leave?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): Let me first recall that this leave is in addition to the obligatory weekly rest period of at least 24 hours and the public holidays. This leave is granted in cases where there has been an interruption of service because of sickness or accident. The reason why it is given for "every two months' completed service" is that very often the workers absent themselves from their work. Often the works inspectors find that there is 40 or 50 per cent of the workers absent on Mondays, and sometimes the percentage is even greater. That is why we added the words "two months completed service".

Mr. SERAPHIN (Haiti)(interpretation from French): My next question relates to a point which has already been raised by the Soviet representative. In paragraph 83 on page 182 of the annual report it is stated that until 1953 persons of non-European racial origin could reside in European quarters in circonscriptions or urban centres only by special authorization and for one year at most. It is further stated that since 23 October 1953 this authorization has become permanent. I listened carefully to the answer given to the Soviet representative, and from that answer I understood that the only criteria which militated against the intermingling of races in various parts of the Territory were those concerning hygiene. This raises a question of the residential and other facilities of the indigenous inhabitants. Do they live in such appalling hygienic conditions that they cannot possibly be allowed in the vicinity of Europeans? Is that due to a lack of doctors, dentists and so on? Should not the intermingling of the European and indigenous elements be encouraged, and does not the Administering Authority feel that this intermingling would perhaps result in a remedying of the hygienic inadequacies which at present seem to militate against such intermingling? Should not this intermingling of indigenous inhabitants and Europeans be encouraged since it would give the indigenous inhabitants an opportunity of improving their hygienic conditions?

Mr. MEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): It is impossible to reply to this question with generalities. Amongst the African population in the Territory there are all degrees of hygiene and cleanliness. There are many Africans who have absolutely nothing to learn from Europeans in this field, and there are many who have arrived at a position where their hygienic habits are quite comparable to those found in any city or town in the world. However, in the mountains there are indigenous inhabitants who put a shirt on and do not take it off until it falls off on its own accord. There are some who have no idea at all of hygiene, and we run the gamut from one extreme to the other.

It is obvious that those at the top of the scale can have contact with the non-indigenous inhabitants and are quite easily placed on an equal footing. However, the Administration is concerned with trying to widen this knowledge, and in this regard I would mention the DDT spraying of huts. I do not know whether the Council can really gauge the tremendous effort and the terrific work that is involved in this kind of question.

Mr. SERAPHIN (Haiti)(interpretation from French): I am happy to note that in the Territory there are indigenous inhabitants who are developed in this way and who do not live under backward hygienic conditions. With regard to these fairly developed indigenous inhabitants who know of the boon of hygiene and civilization, if they wished to live in European quarters, would they be able to obtain authorization?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French):
Undoubtedly.

Mr. SERAPHIN (Haiti) (interpretation from French): At the top of page 184 of the annual report the following statement appears:

"The press designed for the indigenous inhabitants informs its readers as to local and international events which their degree of evolution enables them to cope with."

I should like to ask the special representative, the following question: Who deals with the editing and publication of this press which is designed for indigenous readers? I should also like to add the following comments. It would appear that the relating of certain local and international events is tailored to the measure of the intellectual capacities of the indigenous inhabitants, according to their degree of evolution, as the text says. I should like to say that regardless of the primitive nature of the mentality of the indigenous inhabitants, there are some events on the international scene which they can well, if not understand, at least feel, since common sense is the thing in the world which is the most widely spread.

Are the indigenous inhabitants aware of their condition, of their status, of the work done for them by the Trusteeship Council? Are they informed of the existence of some principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and of things like that? Are they informed about those things? Could the special representative tell us something about that.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): With regard to the publication of these newspapers, the representative of Haiti will find on page 183 of the annual report, in the second column, the indications of those who are in charge of these newspapers and magazines.

With regard to the editing of the Chronique Congolaise and the Dépêche du Ruanda-Urundi, they are almost written exclusively by Europeans. With regard to the French language newspaper Temps Nouveaux, the editing is carried out exclusively in co-operation with the indigenous inhabitants. There are some other missionary newspapers whose main idea is the education of the population along evangelical and religious lines, and information is secondary.

Those indigenous inhabitants interested in international problems read French newspapers and Temps Nouveaux. With regard to the rights of the indigenous inhabitants, it is rare that any of these newspapers appear without

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precise questions being asked on the part of the readers and without complete answers being given in all fields. Among the publications in French, the newspaper Temps Nouveaux is practically what one might call a specialist on this type of question.

Mr. SERAPHIN (Haiti) (interpretation from French): What is the status of these inhabitants of the Territory who take part in the editing and publication of the press designed for indigenous readers? Are they officials of the Administration or independent persons or independent enterprises or publishers who have no connection with the official administration?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): Practically speaking, anyone who has studied is interested in the work of a newspaper, and therefore anyone who writes in these newspapers is either a member of the Administration or under-chief, second chief, teacher, bank employee or commercial employee. I do not think that anyone can say that this activity is at all the domain of one specific class of the population.

Mr. SERAPHIN (Haiti) (interpretation from French): I wish to thank the special representative for his answers. I come now to my last question. I wish to refer to page 184 of the annual report, the heading "freedom of association". This paragraph states the following:

"In extra-customary centres, indigenous inhabitants can band together in associations only with the approval of the Resident. However, the ordinance of 11 February 1926 provides that such authorization shall be refused only in the case of associations whose existence might run contrary to the civilization of the indigenous inhabitants or constitute a threat to tranquillity and public order."

I should like to ask the special representative whether he can give us some notion of the organizations whose operation could be held to run counter to the development of the civilization of the indigenous inhabitants or constitute a threat to public order under these provisions.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): The associations which are mentioned in this text are those which are based on mysticisms; they are based on extremely original interpretations of the Bible. They tend toward taking a retrograde step and to manifestations of hatred towards foreigners in all fields. Very often sects of that character have appeared in the Belgian Congo, and they manifested their existence by refusing to do any work whatever. Then, this was followed by night dances, and at times even massacres were carried out. It is that type of association which has been covered by this legislation and prohibited by it.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): My first question arises from a statement in the report of the last Visiting Mission which said that mobile units had undertaken sample studies of the incidence of tuberculosis in all areas of the Territory and that those studies had shown that there was a serious incidence of the disease, especially among the Batutsi. I wonder whether the special representative has any additional information about this and also whether the Administration has taken any special measures to combat the incidence of tuberculosis among the Batutsi, who seem to be more susceptible to it than the others.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): No measures have been taken for the Batutsi because they do not constitute a population separate from the others. They are simply a section of the population which is spread throughout the Territory. However, an intensive effort has been made for years now in the anti-tuberculosis campaign. In particular this has taken the form of building two sanatoria, one at Kibumbu in Urundi and the other at Rwamagana in Ruanda.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I thank the special representative for his reply. But I should have thought that special attention ordinarily might have been paid to a section of the population which, according to competent medical authorities, is most susceptible to this particular disease than the other sections. That was the point of my question. However, I shall go on to my next question.

It is said here that the Councils of the extra-customary centres, when they discussed the curfew last year or the year before, had suggested a later starting hour. Has the Administering Authority agreed to accept that suggestion? I also notice that the curfew is in force in Usumbura. Could the special representative tell us what the position is in the other towns, and particularly in the rural areas? I presume that in the customary areas there is a sort of self-imposed curfew which can be lifted if necessary by the customary authorities themselves; in other words, the Administration has not imposed a curfew in the rural areas.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): Before answering the question concerning the curfew, I should like to add something with regard to the preceding question. When I said that no special attention was paid to the Batutsi, I meant that no measures were taken which were reserved or restricted to the Batutsi. In the two sanatoria, all cases of tuberculosis are treated alike, Batutsi, Bahutu, Batwa or whatever they may be.

As to the question asked by the representative of India concerning the curfew, there is indeed no official curfew imposed in the mountainous and rural areas. As the representative of India correctly surmised, there is some sort of a customary curfew. The indigenous inhabitants usually go to bed early.

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Those who go out at night are expected to state their intentions in advance; otherwise they may run the risk of being impaled on a lance if encountered by the local guards. Where imposed officially, the curfew usually begins at 10 p.m.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I want to know whether the suggestion of the Councils of the extra-customary centres that the curfew should begin at a later hour was in fact accepted by the Administering Authority. I should also like to know whether this curfew is in force in the other towns in Ruanda-Urundi and not only in Usumbura.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): As I have indicated, the hour of the curfew at Usumbura has been moved from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. I believe the situation is the same in the other urban circonscriptions but I am not even sure that there is any curfew of any description in all of them. The decisions of the two Residents, the one of Ruanda and the other of Urundi, resulted in the promulgation of a certain curfew in European centres and circonscriptions. I have no exact information as to the hours set. It is possible that there is some variation from town to town. But I should like to repeat to the Council that the indigenous inhabitants wish to see this measure retained.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I asked that question because I was not very clear when I was in the Territory whether this curfew was also enforced in the other towns. It seemed to me then that it was somewhat artificial to have this curfew enforced only in Usumbura where, being the capital of the Territory, one would imagine that the forces of law and order would be more than adequate to meet any evildoers who wished to travel at night.

The special representative has just pointed out that there is a curfew in some of the other areas too. But is it only in those areas where there is a fairly large European population or is the curfew imposed regardless of the question of European settlement? For instance, I think that there are parts of Ruanda-Urundi where there are what are called colons. They have their plantations and things. Do they have curfews in those areas as well?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): The curfew is only applied where there are larger agglomerations, especially where there are Europeans. Usually, such urban centres grew up around settlements founded by Europeans. In Ruanda, there are Kigali, Astrida, Shangugu, Kisenyi and six other centres: Nyanza, Gitamara, Ruhengeri, Biumba, Gatsibu and Kibungu. In Urundi, there are Usumbura, Kitega, Muramvya, Kayanza, Muyaga, Rugigi, Rutana, Bururi and others. These are places where a curfew system has been promulgated. But the curfew should not be regarded as a measure which is offensive to the indigenous inhabitants. They are as one in desiring the retention of this curfew.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): My next question concerns the granting of permits in what are called European areas for permanent residence to non-Europeans. As the special representative pointed out, this so-called segregation of the races appears to be the product of historical circumstances. When foreigners came to this Territory, I suppose that they found Africans living in a particular area. Because they did not want to disturb the Africans, they established homes in another area. But why should it now be necessary to perpetuate this by a system of permits? That is not very clear to me. It seems to me that if the demand on the part of the non-Europeans to live in so-called European areas is not very great, why should we have this system of permits at all? I should imagine that if that system was taken away, the position would remain substantially the same. The continuance of such a system is probably legitimately the cause of many criticisms. Could the special representative comment on this? I think he said earlier that permits were granted for permanent residence to five Asians and two Africans. Do many non-Europeans apply for these permits?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): This is precisely the answer which I was going to give. The representative of India said that this procedure had given rise to much criticism. In fact, it has given rise to criticism only in the Trusteeship Council. For example, take the Indian population of Usumbura. Never have I heard any complaints of this nature, and I am speaking in the first person because I am the person to whom people would make complaints of this nature if complaints were to be made.

(Mr. Leroy, Special
representative)

Three or four Indians have asked to be allowed to live there in the urban district, the European section. They have been authorized to live there and they are there right now. But it is quite evident that in the African district and even in certain parts of the Asian section of town there are people who live in lamentable hygienic conditions which are utterably beyond conception and which the Administration, with all its efforts, cannot clean up. We have considerable misgivings in allowing these people to open such festering places in the better residential parts of town.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I believe that the representative of India was well advised in suggesting that the elimination of this regulation would not substantially modify the present state of affairs. I should like to point out to the representative of India that there is one reason why even the indigenous inhabitants who live in hygienic conditions and who have perfectly acceptable standards of cleanliness do not ask to be allowed to live in the European quarter. The reason for that is that in the indigenous part of town land is given without cost while in the European part of town land is very expensive. Houses built by the authorities in the indigenous parts of town are rented at a price which cannot exceed the interest on the cost of construction. The land under these houses, if situated in the European part of town or if this land is subject to purchase at all, would be worth much more than the value of the house itself if it could be sold. In the indigenous parts of town, the land has been artificially stripped of its monetary value and, I repeat, it is placed without charge at the disposition of the indigenous inhabitants. It is natural that these indigenous inhabitants, with their limited resources, prefer not to pay for the cost of the house. If they were to live in the European quarter, they would have to add to the cost of the house the price of land, a price which is very high, especially in the central part of Usumbura.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I do not wish to pursue this point further, but I should like to inform the special representative that the Trusteeship Council -- at any rate some members of this Council -- have been somewhat critical of this system because it does have a vague suggestion of discrimination, which is contrary to the Trusteeship Agreement. However, it seems to me that the so-called European area is no longer European because non-Europeans are living there. It perhaps would be best if that area was not referred to as the European area. Permits can be granted on an entirely different basis, according to the representative of Belgium. He has himself suggested a certain basis, and it seems to me that that is the right way.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): There is one point I should like to add because it may be of such a nature as to give satisfaction to the representative of India. In the organization of town planning, especially for Usumbura, the Administration has sought to create, after the ordinary sections, free sections where inter-penetration of parts of the population would be encouraged by the Administration, and where this welding together with the various parts of the population could be carried out most effectively.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I have no such ambition as to want to weld the different communities together.

My last question concerns personal status, which has been a subject of discussion earlier this afternoon. I should like some clarification here.

It seems to me, under the decree of September 1952, that there is a register of civilized population and people who are registered on that become assimilated fully in legal matters with non-indigenous persons. Then again, you have another class of persons who hold cards of civic merit, and they are also entitled to be assimilated in legal matters with the non-indigenous persons. What would be the position of persons who do not fall in these two categories, for instance, persons who live in the extra-customary centres and around Usumbura, many of whom, I am sure, are not on the register of civilized population and many of whom probably do not hold cards of civic merit? On the other hand, these persons are outside the customary area jurisdiction. What is the procedure which brings them within the purview of the Belgian law in the matter of personal status?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French):

This question of registration, as I have pointed out, affects very few indigenous inhabitants. In fact, it affects two persons in Ruanda-Urundi now. In the extra-customary centres there live Africans who have become detached from their district of origin, from the native district. However indigenous tribunals exist in these centres. Litigation is decided by these tribunals so far as possible on the basis of the custom of the parties concerned.

As to the precise issue as to how an African residing in one of those centres can secure the complete status of the European, this is a question which at the present time has no solution. The Administration has consistently endeavoured to unify the status of persons so far as practicable. I am sorry to repeat myself, but in the field of fundamental rights, individual freedom, the equality of sentences, inviolability of domiciles, guarantees of property, freedom of worship and funeral rites, freedom of opinion, liberty of education, the right of petition, the secrecy of correspondence, in civil rights, in real rights, rights of contracts and obligations, criminal justice, judicial organization and procedure, like that of economic legislation -- in all these fields there is one set of legislation for all. But personal status intervenes where custom strongly affected the relationships between individuals. That is where differences between status had to be registered as a matter of fact, and this is the basis for this diversity.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I wish to thank the representative of Belgium for the answer which he has given. I agree that it is an understandable reason, but somehow it does not carry much conviction. I do feel that it was unnecessary to have introduced the legislation in the Territory, but I do feel that it might have been introduced so far as it applied to Congolese citizens living in the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi. Here we have a Territory which has only an administrative union with the Congo, and I do not think that the scope of that union permits the introduction of Congolese legislation automatically to the Trust Territory.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): In view of the many exceptions and distinctions that exist in the legislation of Ruanda-Urundi, has the Administering Authority considered the possibility of the formulation of a fundamental statute to ensure the juridical security of the indigenous inhabitants?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): When Belgium undertook the administration of the Belgian Congo in 1908, it applied to that territory the bulk of Belgian legislation, which included the fundamental rights of man.

In 1925, the fundamental law of Ruanda-Urundi was promulgated, and at that time the constitutional texts were applied to Ruanda-Urundi. These texts are enumerated in detail on page 180 of the annual report.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): In view of these texts, I should like to ask whether all the procedural guarantees are available to the indigenous inhabitants of the Territory.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): The answer is yes.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): That being the case, I am extremely satisfied with the reply and I shall go on to my next question.

In connexion with social rights, and primarily with regard to the laws regulating relations between management and labour, the report states that there is a system of the inspection of work that has been applied since 1953 and that in 1954 a committee of health and welfare was set up representing employers and employees. The report further states that a local committee of indigenous workers was set up in Usumbura.

My question is the following: Besides these special committees which have been set up, in view of the juridically inferior position of the indigenous inhabitants, is there any other administrative authority which, in the fulfilment of the Trusteeship Agreement, ensures the implementation of these social obligations?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): Among these services which assist the Vice-Governor General of Ruanda-Urundi in the performance of his duties, there is an office of indigenous labour to which the labour inspection service is attached. We should not lose sight of the fact that the number of enterprises employing indigenous inhabitants is rather small and that the number of workers employed in these enterprises is small compared to the total population. The labour inspection service visits all the enterprises one after the other. These enterprises are under continuous scrutiny in connexion with the fulfilment of the obligations of employers toward employees and the fulfilment of the obligations of employees toward employers.

(Mr. Leroy, special representative)

Labour inspectors send in letters or recommendations to employers as a result of their inspections. A few days later, or sometimes a few weeks later, the inspectors visit the enterprises again to ensure that their observations have been complied with. If they have, so much the better. If not, judicial prosecution is resorted to.

In addition to the work of specialists in the inspection of labour conditions the whole territorial civil service sees to it that labour legislation is observed and respected in all parts of the Territory.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): In the report of the Administering Authority it is stated that until 1954 the Governor set a minimum wage, and that this minimum wage has been reviewed every six months by the indigenous committee of health and welfare and social progress. My question is as follows: Will the special representative tell us how the Governor decides upon that minimum salary? In other words, what is the preliminary work on such a decision on the part of the Governor?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French): These commissions of social work and welfare of the indigenous inhabitants are composed of representatives of the indigenous inhabitants, and they make proposals to the Governor. It is on the basis of such proposals that such matters as the minimum wage are decided upon. Since 1950, these commissions have had one aim in mind -- to achieve an annual increase in the minimum wage -- and they have achieved that aim every year.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I should like to ask the special representative to be good enough to tell me whether the Administering Authority has considered the possibility of parity commissions being set up -- parity, that is, between the indigenous inhabitants and the Europeans -- and that such parity commissions themselves should decide upon and set these minimum wage levels.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French):

Up to the present time, these commissions have not been set up on a parity basis. However, I have attended these meetings very often, and I must say that the Administration and the non-native members of these commissions have always agreed with the native members on the measures to be taken in the labour field.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): Will the special representative tell me, then, whether the participation of the commission on work and welfare in this question is merely that of an a posteriori ratification of the decision taken and the level decided upon by the Governor?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French):

No, these are the bodies that study the salary minimum. It is these commissions which make proposals to the Governor, and the Governor bases his ordinances on the work of these commissions.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I ask this question because, in paragraph 98 of the report, it is stated that the minimum salary decided upon by the Governor was revised every six months by the indigenous commission on work and welfare. This would appear to mean that the work of this commission is purely a posteriori -- that is, ratification, and not the proposing of this minimum salary level. I should now like to add to that question by saying that I should like the special representative to tell me whether this commission merely ratifies the minimum salary decided upon by the Governor and whether cases have arisen in which the commission has rejected the minimum wage level proposed by the Governor.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative) (interpretation from French):

I come back to what I said earlier: the commission does not intervene a posteriori. This is the way it works: The commission meets and asks whether the salary fixed by the last ordinance of the Governor corresponds to the needs of the situation. Then the commission studies the minimum salary and, when it has completed its work, it communicates this study immediately to the Governor, who issues a new ordinance fixing the minimum. The Governor thus intervenes only

(Mr. Leroy, special representative)

after the work of the commission and, as each session of the commission is followed by an ordinance of the Governor, changing the level of salary if necessary, it is obvious that at the next session there would be a salary which had been established previously. But the determination of the salary by the Governor is made after, and on the proposal of the commission.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I thank the special representative for the information has has given me and I must say that on this question I am satisfied with his answers. However, I should like to ask a question on another aspect of these same social problems. It is stated that during 1954 the number of prisoners in the prison system was 2,058, as compared with more than 4,000 in 1953. Later on, the Administering Authority states that it contemplates the possibility of a progressive setting up of a penitentiary system in accordance with the experience that may be obtained in the Belgian Congo. Will the special representative point out whether, in view of this progressive growth of delinquency in the Territory, the Administering Authority has taken urgent measures with regard to the penal code in order to cope with this increased delinquency?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): I do not think that one can say that there has been an increase in delinquency in the Territory. There has been a small increase in the number of persons in the prisons, but that is due to the fact that the over-all population of the Territory has increased and to the fact that the judicial services which have the responsibility for eliminating infractions have also increased.

As the Council may note from the data contained at page 350 of the annual report, the rate of crime in Ruanda-Urundi remains very low.

I should like to revert to an earlier question put to me by the representative of Guatemala. That representative asked whether the labour commission, the commission on social progress, and so forth, were parity commissions. I replied somewhat hastily that they were not. If, however, one looks at pages 220 and 221 of the annual report, one sees that the interests of the workers are actually broadly represented. In addition to the employer and his delegates, there is a representation of the workers on these commissions.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): The special representative has just completed the answer which he gave to one of my earlier questions. But he has given only a partial answer to the question which I asked on delinquency. I should therefore like to revert to that subject. This was my question: Has the Administering Authority taken urgent measures to prevent delinquency, in view of the growth of the delinquency rate in the Territory? The special representative replied merely that, in effect, there had been no increase in delinquency. But what I wanted to know was simply whether preventive measures had been taken while awaiting the implementation of the penitentiary reform programme referred to in the annual report. Could the special representative tell me whether the Administration has in fact taken urgent measures with regard to the crime rate in the Territory?

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium)(interpretation from French): May I ask the representative of Guatemala what he has in mind when he speaks of urgent measures to reduce the crime rate in the Territory? Could he give me an example of such a measure?

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): My question is somewhat technical in nature. I am thinking less of measures which might have some indirect influence in reducing the crime rate -- medical treatment of delinquents, and so forth -- than of sociological studies, statistical studies; anthropological studies on the rate of crime, the causes and consequences, and so forth.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): As I have just said, the crime rate in Ruanda-Urundi is not so high as to require special studies of preventive measures. The present system, which consists above all in repressing infractions committed and in attempting to make those infractions less frequent by education, hygiene, and so forth, seems to be quite adequate. Nevertheless, within the framework of the studies mentioned by the representative of Guatemala, we may cite work done by the Scientific Research Institute in Central Africa, which has a branch in Astrida; a number of that Institute's studies relate to the inhabitant of Ruanda-Urundi and his behaviour.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium)(interpretation from French): The representative of Guatemala will find on page 350 of the annual report a list of the principal crimes tried by the non-indigenous courts. For example, he will see that during the entire year there were 49 murders and 13 assassinations -- or a total of 62. Now, I read in a newspaper this morning that there were more than 400 crimes in the City of New York in 1955. Thus, this proportion of 62 murders and assassinations among a population of four million is not really very alarming in a country whose indigenous inhabitants are still rather undeveloped.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): I appreciate the comparison just made by the representative of Belgium. But I do not think that it is a question here of analysing statistics. It is true that the population of New York is somewhat larger than that of Ruanda-Urundi, and it is equally true that the proportion is not in relation to the degree of civilization attained. In any case, I wished only to have some additional information, and I am satisfied with the answers which have been given by the special representative and the representative of Belgium.

Mr. CUTTS (Australia): I do not think that there is much which remains to be asked in the field of social advancement. I do, however, have two questions relating to labour conditions in the Territory. The first is this:

I have observed that, at its fifteenth session, the Trusteeship Council noted with satisfaction certain of the Administering Authority's activities in relation to labour conditions. These were with regard to family allowances, the requirements for housing workers and the effective inspection of labour conditions. It had been my intention to ask the special representative whether he could indicate to the Council any developments which had occurred in the Administration's policies regarding those three matters, or whether he could at least give the Council the assurance that the standards which had aroused the approval of this Council at its fifteenth session had been maintained. The special representative has in effect given this information as regards labour inspection, in answer to a question put to him by the representative of Guatemala. I wonder if he could give us the same kind of answer in relation to the two other aspects of labour conditions in the Territory which the Trusteeship Council approved at its fifteenth session; namely, the general application of family allowances and the requirements of housing workers. In other words, could he indicate to the Council whether there have been any developments in the Administering Authority's policies on those matters, or, at any rate, could he assure us that the standards which were noted at the fifteenth session have been maintained?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): The level which had been reached in the past has certainly been maintained. The Administration has redoubled its efforts in this field, particularly with regard to the housing of workers in Usumbura, and has, moreover, continued its efforts in the matter of labour inspection. Furthermore, as I have told the Council, I have had numerous reports on the visits made to employees and numerous expressions of satisfaction at the improvements brought about by most of these enterprises. Another point, which I have mentioned already, is the suppression of imprisonment as a penalty for breach of labour contracts. Various measures have been taken in connexion with housing, food and salary increases, and, at the end of 1954, in connexion with the recruitment and training of indigenous persons. All this has been done within the framework and along the lines of the Council's recommendations.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I note that the representative of Haiti is not here, but I should like to give a clarification. I replied just now in a tone which might have appeared ironical to a question whether six days' minimum leave was adequate. I asked in how many countries this obligation to give six days' leave to all workers existed. In giving this reply in the form of a question I was thinking of my own country. In Belgium the minimum vacation is six days, and although this minimum has not been raised Belgium nevertheless still considers itself as a country where the rights of the worker are broadly respected. It would be difficult to require Belgium to impose in a Trust Territory a higher minimum leave than exists for its own workers. That was the meaning of the comment I made just now when I asked in how many countries a similar minimum leave existed. I was thinking of Belgium.

Mr. CUTTS (Australia): In paragraph 92 of the Outline of Conditions in Ruanda-Urundi prepared by the Secretariat I note certain interesting information with regard to labour contracts. It is stated there that, "As a rule, workers are engaged for three years and at least 90 per cent of them must be accompanied by their families." This is a very interesting piece of information, and I have endeavoured without success to track it down in the

annual report of the Administering Authority. Might I ask the special representative, first of all, if he could direct me to the relevant passage in the report and, secondly, a more general question in relation to this piece of information, namely, whether the Administering Authority finds that the provisions for families to live with workers during the period of their contracts makes for a greater stability of the labour force, greater productivity and generally better social conditions?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): This concerns workers who have been recruited -- that is those who are engaged to provide services elsewhere than in their native areas or, in other words, outside their own native chiefdoms. On page 197 of the annual report the representative of Australia will find the information relating to recruitment. I must confess to the Council that when we imposed this limit of 90 per cent of the workers to be accompanied by their families we were very optimistic -- too optimistic, it now proves. The Banyarwanda and the Barundi, who expatriate themselves most often, want to leave their wives on their land to carry on the agricultural work, and despite its good intentions our legislation was blocked by manoeuvres carried out by the indigenous inhabitants themselves. They left their wives in their fields and took concubines whom they presented as the wives who were to leave with them. This happened in many cases, with the result that the Administration is now compelled to reduce the proportion and will probably have to authorize the recruitment of 30 per cent of bachelors instead of 10 per cent. This is one of the instances in which custom has proved stronger than the law.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I think that I can add, in reply to the last part of the question put by the representative of Australia, that on the basis of experience in the Belgian Congo, where the family union rule has been applied for about thirty years, results were decisively in favour of this kind of family recruitment. Of course, it is much more expensive. The government has to pay the travelling expenses of the family of the worker; the families have to be housed and fed and generally cared for, and schools have to be provided for the children. But although all this costs more than would

be spent if unmarried persons were engaged, the extra expense is justified by the fact that the workers who are accompanied by their families take more interest in their work, become more stable and develop into professional workers instead of just being persons who leave their villages for six months or so and then return without acquiring any real vocational training. This is so true that large companies found that in spite of the significant difference in the cost it was, on balance, in the interests of everyone -- not only the worker, but the employer as well. This, of course, applies to large employers. For small employers such as colonists and planters family recruitment has always been the practice.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I have two very minor questions which I should like to ask. On page 23 of the Outline of Conditions in Ruanda-Urundi prepared by the Secretariat there is a table from which we find that the various missions employ seventy-eight uncertificated assistant nurses. I do not know what the regulations are with regard to the employment of uncertificated nurses, but I presume that there must be a regulation which requires them to obtain a certificate as early as possible. Could the special representative throw some light on this question? It does not seem to be a very laudable thing to have uncertificated nurses. I presume that they are trained but do not have certificates.

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): Yes, usually these are persons who are studying to become nurses -- persons who are engaged in a kind of in-training work and who will obtain their diplomas after a certain time.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I note in the Outline of Conditions prepared by the Secretariat that the "incidence of sleeping sickness remained very low but a new outbreak of the disease was discovered in 1954 on the border of Tanganyika Territory. Immediate action was taken and conferences were held with the medical authorities of Tanganyika Territory to check this new outbreak". Could the special representative tell us whether any deaths occurred during this outbreak?

Mr. LEROY (Special representative)(interpretation from French): On page 260 of the report I see no reference to sleeping sickness among the causes of death. On pages 251 and 252 there is information regarding the measures taken in this field.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium)(interpretation from French): The figures are found on page 495. Item 121 indicates that three indigenous inhabitants were treated in hospital for this disease, but there were no deaths.

The PRESIDENT: Since the Council is behind in its work, I would suggest a meeting on Friday morning, 17 February, as well as in the afternoon.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): I have no objection to a morning meeting, if it is necessary, but I think it would be better to defer a decision in that regard until Thursday. It may be that we shall require only one meeting on Friday.

The PRESIDENT: I think it makes it easier for the Secretariat if we take a decision now. However, if there is any objection, obviously the Council has a right to make it.

Mr. CUTTS (Australia): I was just going to suggest, as you did, Mr. President, that we might take the decision now, subject to rescission if a morning meeting on Friday should later appear to be unnecessary.

The PRESIDENT: It is so decided.

The meeting rose at 5.45 p.m.