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Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Wednesday, 26 June 1957, at 2.30 p.m.

President:

Mr. HOOD

(Australia)

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of New Guinea:
annual report on the administration of the Trust Territory of
New Guinea [Tb] (continued)

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EXAMINATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA: ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA (T/1326; T/L.776) [Agenda item 4b/ (continued)]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. John Herbert Jones, special representative for the Trust Territory of New Guinea under Australian administration, took a place at the Council table.

Economic advancement (continued)

U KYAW MIN (Burma): On pages 44-45 of the annual report for 1955-56 a list is given of the private commercial firms registered in the Territory with a nominal capital of £100,000 and over. May I ask the special representative how many of the companies enumerated in that list are founded and operated by indigenous people with predominantly indigenous capital? The names of the companies listed seem to suggest that they are all foreign enterprises.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): None are operated by indigenous people, nor do any of them have a majority of indigenous capital invested.

U KYAW MIN (Burma): I take it, then, that the special representative has in effect stated that there exists in the Territory at present no indigenous commercial enterprises with a capital of £100,000 or over. May I in that case ask the special representative if he is aware of the existence of indigenous commercial enterprises having nominal capital of less than £100,000 and, if so, could he kindly tell me the number and the general fields of activity in which these enterprises are engaged?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Most of the indigenous development is, of course, through the co-operatives, and full particulars regarding the co-operatives can be found in appendix XIV, on page 175 of the annual report. In addition, of course, we have the cocoa project in the Gazelle Peninsula, which is more or less under the direction of the five local government councils. That is quite an important industry, which, within the next year or two, will be producing 2,000 tons of cocoa a year.

There are a number of Rural Progress Societies which are registered, and there are a number of small enterprises such as building groups: a number of indigenous people get together and form a building group. There are also groups operating vehicles for hire, and such other small enterprises.

U KYAW MIN (Burma): We note from the annual report that the indigenous inhabitants are taking an increasing part in commercial activities but that the bulk of commerce and trade in the Territory is still in the hands of European and, to a smaller extent, Asian enterprises. We have further noted the very heartening statement in the same report that the economic policy of the Administering Authority is to encourage all sections of the community to play a part in the economic life and development of the Territory, and particularly to ensure increased participation by indigenous inhabitants. I should like to know from the special representative what active inducements and encouragements are being given in this respect to the indigenous inhabitants, especially to the small traders and those engaged in the export-import trade.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): If I may say so, that question is in line with another one which was interpreted to me as being a general question on what the Administering Authority is doing to assist and encourage the indigenous people to play an ever-increasing part in the economic development of the Territory. In reply to the previous question, I referred to sections of the report which deal so fully with that particular phase of development that I felt there was very little I could add to it. I do not like doing this, and I hope I will be forgiven for doing it; my only reason is that it will be noted that in the report we have made every effort to give the fullest information on our policy and planning for development in a general

(Mr. Jones, Special representative)

way, and, in the section on the economic advancement of the Territory, the point now brought forward by the representative of Burma is very fully covered -- every aspect of it -- in regard to what we are doing and what we propose to do in order to assist the indigenous people in the field of economic advancement and development. I also touched upon it in my opening statement. If there is anything that the representative of Burma would like to know in addition to the information contained in the annual report and in my opening statement, I would be only too pleased to give such additional information on any particular point on which he desires it.

U KYAW MIN (Burma): The reply of the special representative has tempted me to put another question to him. We are aware that a system of import-export licensing is in force in the Territory. We feel that this is an expedient measure and should serve to fulfil more than one purpose. What I want to know in this connexion is whether the Administering Authority is using or intends to use this system as an instrument in its general economic policy to encourage indigenous firms engaged in the export-import trade by according them some kind of preferential treatment in issuing licences, in order to minimize the handicaps under which they obviously have to compete with the more experienced and firmly entrenched foreign firms. If the Administering Authority is in fact according encouragement of this nature, could the special representative kindly give me some idea as to exactly how it is being done?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The import-export restrictions to which reference has been made are fully explained in the annual report. The report explains why these restrictions have been put into effect. Furthermore, in reply to a previous question I said that we hoped that, as the general position improved as regards the overseas markets and as the monetary position improved, we should be able to give some relief in this matter.

The restrictions do not apply only to a particular section of the population. They apply equally to the entire population. They are not intended to give some advantage to the indigenous population. We do not think that that would be a very good way of assisting the indigenous population. We have other ways of helping them which are detailed in the annual report. We feel that the indigenous people must advance side by side with the rest of the population -- of course, with the assistance and guidance of the Administering Authority.

The indigenous people are not at a disadvantage as compared with the non-indigenous people so far as economic development is concerned. If anything, I would say that the indigenous people are in a more advantageous position. I think that the figures demonstrate that the part played by the indigenous people and the proportion of the Territory's production for which they are responsible are increasing year by year. Their production is catching up with that of the non-indigenous population.

Let us take the plantations as an example. These were planted forty or fifty years ago, for the most part, in the days when the entire economic production of the Territory was in the hands of the non-indigenous people. Over the years, however, there has been a gradual increase in the production of the indigenous population. The increase has been more rapid during the past ten years. As I have already said, there has been a sharp increase during the last three or four years. There is no doubt that this production will continue to rise sharply during the next few years.

U KYAW MIN (Burma): I shall study that reply most carefully, in conjunction with the relevant section of the annual report. I wish to reserve my delegation's right to comment on this matter in our statement in the general debate.

Mr. CHACKO (India): Since I am the last representative to put questions on economic matters in this Territory, I do not have many questions. Those that I do wish to put arise out of some replies given by the special representative.

My first question relates to direct taxation. Before asking it, I should like to receive some clarification on two replies by the special representative that seemed to throw some doubt on the following statement which appears on page 107 of the annual report and which is a reply to a Trusteeship Council recommendation:

"The consideration of the question of widening the present system of taxation is proceeding and the Administering Authority notes in this connexion the hope expressed by the Council for the introduction of direct taxation wherever possible ...".

In reply to a question put by the representative of Belgium, the special representative said, "We do not consider that direct taxation would be a wise step". I should like to ask the special representative whether I should go by the statement in the annual report or by that reply which he gave this morning to the representative of Belgium.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The question is still under consideration. In my reply this morning, I was referring to a system of direct taxation which would apply to everyone in the Territory, without distinction, and which would not take into consideration the degree of development of the people and the development needs of the Territory. The direct taxation of certain elements of the population might be a different matter. It is, in fact, still under consideration, as I have said. On the general question of direct taxation, the Administering Authority's views remain as stated.

Mr. CHACKO (India): From that reply, am I correct in assuming that the question of the introduction of direct taxation, which was under consideration by the Administration last year, is still under consideration and that the Trusteeship Council may expect a decision in the near future?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The question is still under consideration. I do hope that some definite information on the matter will be contained in the next annual report.

Mr. CHACKO (India): Still on the question of taxation, I should like some clarification on another statement made this morning -- a statement that there is at present no direct taxation in the Territory. My understanding of the situation is that at present there is a system of direct taxation which applies only to the indigenous people. If we look at page 27 of the annual report, we see the tax rates levied on New Guineans who are covered by the existing six Local Government Councils. I hope that this system will also apply to the people living in the four areas where councils have just been established. The rates indicated on page 27 of the annual report are not very small, and, if my calculations are correct, the number of people taxed by the Local Government Councils is over 50,000. I should like to ask the special representative whether I am correct in concluding that there is now direct taxation covering a little over 50,000 people and that the rates are given on page 27 of the annual report.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): There is no direct taxation, as a territorial tax, in the Territory. The tax to which the representative of India has referred is one levied by the Local Government Councils under the provisions of their ordinance and constitution. It is a tax paid by those people to their own Local Government Council and is used solely for purposes within their own Council area and for their own benefit.

Mr. CHACKO (India): The point which I should like to make in this connexion -- and this is a mere observation -- is that my delegation takes the view that there does exist a direct taxation affecting nearly 50,000 indigenous people, whereas there is no direct taxation in regard to the other people, and that this fact should be taken into account in considering the institution of some kind of direct taxation in the Territory. The fact that local taxation is used purely for local purposes is not, in our opinion, valid consideration, for the simple reason that the amount which the Councils are now spending on education and health facilities would have had to be met by the Administration if these Councils were not in existence.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I do not find any question in that remark; it was rather a statement.

Mr. CHACKO (India): My next question relates to the commercial companies existing in the Territory. On page 39 of the annual report it is stated:

" ... At 30th June, 1956 a total of 185 'local' companies were operating with an aggregate nominal capital of £13,782,000."

I should like to ask the special representative if any part of the capital of these funds -- even a small part -- belongs to the indigenous people.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The answer to that is no.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I should like to ask, then, what exactly is meant by the term "local companies"?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): They are companies which are registered in the Territory as distinct from companies registered outside the Territory but operating within it.

Mr. CHACKO (India): On page 42 of the report a list is given of the countries to which these companies in the Territory belong -- that is, companies incorporated outside the Territory and carrying on business in the Territory. There were fifty incorporated in Australia, nineteen in England, four in New Zealand, eight in the Territory of Papua and one each in Canada, Hong Kong, Malaya and the United States. I should like to ask the special representative whether any requests for registration of companies from any other country were received by the Administration, and if any such application was rejected.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I have no knowledge of any application having been made by any other country and refused.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I should like to know whether, in any of these companies in the Territory -- and a full list is given in the appendix to the report -- any New Guinean is employed in a responsible position. By "responsible" position, I mean any position other than a menial job.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): It all depends, of course, on the interpretation of "a menial job". I think that I may clarify the position by saying that there is no indigenous inhabitant employed in a senior executive position with any of these companies.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I actually had in mind something besides senior executive positions. I should like to know whether there are any indigenous inhabitants even in clerical positions, or the like.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Yes, there are quite a number of indigenous inhabitants employed in clerical and other semi-skilled positions with these companies.

Mr. CHACKO (India): Several companies in other countries have adopted a system of training people for responsible positions in the companies themselves, and I should like to ask whether any of these companies in the Trust Territory has any programme for training local people for future positions with them.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Yes, quite a number of the companies do make provision for training indigenous people and, in some cases where employees have been with them for a number of years, the latter have been, from time to time, promoted to higher positions. Quite a number of the companies are now actively supporting the apprenticeship scheme and have apprentices on their staffs.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I have one or two more questions. The annual report states that the first report of the resources survey went to print last June, and I hope that we shall have a chance to see it very soon. I should like to ask the special representative whether the CSIRO is continuing with that survey and, if so, which area it is surveying at present.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The intention is that the survey, in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture of the Territory, will be continued until such time as the whole area has been covered. I have no actual knowledge of which area they will operate in next, although they have commenced, I understand, preliminary investigations into the Highland areas.

Mr. CHACKO (India): My next question relates to page 72 of the report with regard to mineral resources: for example, petroleum mining. The following statement appears:

"At the present time, interest is not widespread in the search for oil in the Territory and only one petroleum prospecting permit was in force at 30th June, 1956. This permit is held by an Australian company, over an area of 1,650 square miles in the Sepik River area, but operations are still in the prospecting stage."

I have two brief questions in this connexion. One is: when did this company actually start prospecting? The second is: has any other company applied for a permit?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): To the best of my knowledge, this particular company named in the report commenced their first operations about two years ago. I have no information that any other company has applied for a permit and been refused or not. Of course, there are certain terms and conditions which have to be complied with in regard to the Mining Ordinance itself. The search for oil would of course be very difficult for any small company with limited capital to undertake, but I have no knowledge of any application having been received in addition to the company which is already operating.

Mr. CHACKO (India): My last question relates to leases of land. In reply to another question put this morning, the special representative pointed out the details regarding the leases given out during the last year. According to the report about 31,000 acres of land were leased out last year, and the special representative said that the maximum period of the lease is ninety-nine years. I should like to ask how much of these 31,000 acres have been leased out for the maximum period of ninety-nine years.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I do not have with me a list of the actual periods, but I would say that unless there were exceptional circumstances, or the Administration considered that a lease of a lesser number of years than the maximum would be necessary in the interests of the indigenous people, the leases which have been granted here would be in accordance with the list which I read out some time ago in answer to another question; that is, the agriculture leases would be for a period of ninety-nine years and the resident and business leases would also be for a period of ninety-nine years. I think I said that the period for the pasture leases was for forty years. I just do not have it before me now. It would be very hard to say about the special leases. They would vary from probably one or two years up to the maximum provided for.

Mr. CHACKO (India): Is it right to assume that at the end of the lease period the land, together with the improvements thereon, would revert to the Administration?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): If the areas were then required by the indigenous people, yes. That is the whole basis of the lease system, to insure that the land will eventually return to the Administration and that it will be available to the indigenous people if it is necessary for their development. If it was still not actually required for indigenous development, then consideration would be given to re-leasing the land for perhaps a shorter term, again having in mind when that period had expired the needs of the indigenous people.

Mr. CHACKO (India): If my understanding is right, most of this land is leased out to non-indigenous people over all settlers. If the intention is that they are going to be permanent settlers in the Territory, then what happens to them at the end of the period of lease? Either they have to be given some other land or they are allowed to leave the Territory altogether. Has the Administration thought about this possibility?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The Administering Authority always has that in mind, but we also hope that the people who obtain the leases will have it in mind also and appreciate the fact that whatever their business may be, whatever they intend to do with the land, they only have a lease for ninety-nine years. I think that this applies in many other countries. It is a matter for the lessee. He knows the undertaking, he knows the period and he knows that at the end of that period he will most likely have to hand the land back although there is always the possibility of course of a re-lease.

Social and educational advancement

The PRESIDENT: The representative of UNESCO has asked to make a statement to the Council in this connexion.

Mr. SALSAMENDI (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) (interpretation from Spanish): I simply wish to say that UNESCO was not in a position to make comments on the annual report of the Administering Authority. This was due to the fact that this report was received by UNESCO at the

(Mr. Salsamendi, UNESCO)

very last minute. That is why we did not even have the minimum time available to us, which would have been necessary to study the annual report and to comment on it.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): My first question in the social and educational fields relates to housing which is dealt with on page 90 of the annual report. I have noticed with some interest the provision under which housing loans up to a maximum of £2,750 can be made to a member of a community for the purpose of purchasing, constructing or enlarging a home. I should like to ask the special representative whether he can give us any more detailed information on the operation of this scheme and to what extent it has been taken advantage of by the people who are constructing or improving their houses.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): So far very little use has been made of this service by the community. I think that one of the reasons that has been put forward and which is under consideration at the present time is that, owing to the very high cost of building within the Territory, the sum which can be made available is quite inadequate to meet the needs of those who really desire to build their own homes.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I should also like to ask the special representative a question about rural housing. It is stated in the annual report, in the same passage:

"There is evidence of a desire to improve the standards of housing in consequence of new needs induced by economic prosperity." (Page 91 of the annual report),

This is something to which my delegation would attach considerable importance both because improved housing is a very important part of social advancement and also because the desire for improved housing may be a very important inducement in economic development and in greater efficiency in production. The annual report states that there is evidence of a desire to improve standards. To what extent are more modern types of housing being built in the rural areas? To what extent is more permanent housing being put up? If so, in what sort of materials? To what extent are such things as corrugated iron sheets being used in more permanent housing?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The improvement in the design and construction of houses in the suburban and rural areas is very noticeable. Actually, one can see the influence even in some of the inland areas, where people who have been absent while working in the coastal areas become used to a better type of housing and have improved their own housing on the return to their villages. It is part of the policy of the Administering Authority to ensure that as the indigenous people progress, they are given the opportunity and encouraged not only to build better homes but to furnish them better and to adopt a higher standard of living.

We feel that that should go side by side with the increased wages which they receive as they become skilled in various work, and that if they do receive higher wages and are not given the opportunity or do not take the opportunity themselves to improve their standard of living, the actual extra money which they are receiving is more or less being wasted. Therefore, it is part of the over-all policy to ensure, as far as we possibly can, and by encouragement and advice, that the standard of housing of the indigenous people gradually improves.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): My delegation attaches considerable importance, not only in this Trust Territory but in all Trust Territories, including those for which we are ourselves responsible, to the development of technical education. Technical education is a subject which has sometimes lagged behind in the general progress of education. There was a time, certainly in certain parts of Africa, when the inhabitants themselves were not sufficiently interested in technical education. To a large extent this is disappearing in the Territories which I know. But I have noticed in the annual report, if I may say so, a rather limited reference to this subject, if I am not wrong. There is a reference on page 100 of the annual report, under the heading of "Other Schools", which states that:

"Facilities for technical training are established at Malaguna, near Rabaul, and Malahang, near Lae."

To what extent does the Administering Authority have plans for extending and raising up to a higher level the facilities for technical training?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The two schools that have been referred to are very large boarding schools. They are actually not yet completed, although they are in operation. The importance of technical training is fully appreciated by the Administering Authority and more emphasis is now being placed on this particular training. The apprenticeship scheme, of course, is a step towards the technical training of the people, and during the year, in addition to the two large boarding schools to which reference has been made, three technical training centres have been opened in the areas where apprentices are in training and who are not able to attend the two centres to which I have referred. The Apprenticeship Board is an active one, with a sub-committee in each district, and enrolment in the apprenticeship class during the close of the year under review numbered another seventy-five.

The trades in which they are being trained are as follows: wood machinists, carpenters and joiners, sewers, painting and decorating, sheet metal and plumbing, fitting and turning, automobile mechanics, panel beating, printing, bookbinding, compositing, operating compositor, and letter press machinist. In all cases, in addition to their practical training, they have been provided with theory training in the technical schools. Every assistance will be given to those young men who desire to enter the trades to ensure that they will have the opportunity of being properly trained.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I should like to thank the special representative for this very interesting answer. To some extent he has anticipated what was going to be my next question, which was about apprenticeship. I have read with very considerable interest the efforts being made to develop an apprenticeship scheme. This is shown both in the annual report and in the statement made by the special representative.

I know that this is not at all an easy process and the progress made is very encouraging. I would like to ask the special representative whether he is satisfied that this scheme is going to develop reasonably and that sufficient co-operation is being given by the employers, who sometimes, in my experience, are rather slow to appreciate the advantages of these schemes.

(Sir Andrew Cohen,
United Kingdom)

As a subsidiary question, I would like to ask whether any apprenticeship in building is being given. I notice that that is not mentioned among the categories.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Mention has been made of carpenters and joiners and I take it that part of their training will be the actual construction of buildings. As a matter of fact, I know it is so because they are receiving training in completing some of the buildings in the two main technical centres. At first there was, perhaps it would not be unfair to say, a reluctance on behalf of some employers. But they were not too sure how the apprenticeship would work. However, owing to the energy displayed by the apprenticeship committees, any doubts they had have been overcome and we are now receiving the full co-operation from employers. I would also add, if I may, that as part of this stepping up of technical training, plans have now been completed for the extension of manual arts classes to the intermediate schools in the Territory, and the necessary tools and equipment have been placed on order; also, staff is now being recruited to give that form of instruction in the intermediate schools. So that they will be prepared and ready to enter apprenticeship when they reach the right age.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I thank the special representative for what he has said. My next question relates to girls' education. My delegation believes that there is no more important sphere in education than the education of girls and women, and it is through success in our programmes of education of girls and women that we can perhaps achieve more rapid progress in societies which are not developed than almost in any other way. It is noticeable, of course -- and New Guinea is not alone in any way in this -- that girls' education is very backward. This is a characteristic of many African societies also.

Therefore, my delegation has been particularly interested in the steps being taken and the broad programme being undertaken, as described in the special representative's report, to try and interest the people in the education of girls. Without that interest, no plans which are made by the Government can hope to succeed.

(Sir Andrew Cohen,
United Kingdom)

It may be too early for the special representative to be prepared to express an opinion as to how far success is beginning to be achieved in these measures. I would like to ask him, however, whether he is prepared to make any statement on this. In particular, I would like to ask him to what extent, in the experience of the New Guinea Administration, the progress of girls' schools and girls going to school, and the willingness of parents to send their girls to school and to allow them to remain there when they get there, is affected by difficulties in travelling and fears for the welfare of girls while they are travelling long distances, as they sometimes have to from their homes to school; to what extent any measures have been necessary or possible to deal with this problem; and to what extent the New Guinea Administration feels that this problem can be solved, at any rate in the interim period, by giving special attention to girls' boarding schools even at the primary stage, in cases perhaps where one would not provide boarding schools for boys; and whether the special representative has any other observations to make about the problems of getting the education of girls to be more accepted by the populace.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): In my opening statement I did give particulars of the plan with regard to stepping up the education of girls and also of the stage of women generally in the Territory, so there will be no need for me to repeat what I have already said.

It is yet too early to judge what the final result will be, but so far excellent progress has been made and our proposals show very promising results indeed.

It is true, as we have said in our report, that there is a reluctance on the part of parents to allow their daughters to leave the village for educational purposes. The parents do not mind if the daughters attend the schools in the villages. That is reflected in the number of girls who have always attended the local village schools, 95 per cent of which are managed by the missions. It is when they reach the stage of post-primary or intermediate education which may not be available in the village that the parents are very reluctant or have been reluctant to allow their daughters to go.

We have, however, broken that down to some extent in the two girls' boarding schools which we have. We have had great success with the Tavui Boarding School. As I mentioned in my opening statement, thirteen of the students from that school have qualified as assistant teachers and have been sent to schools to teach. We do know from experience that there is less opposition from parents to their daughters attending a school away from home if the teachers in that school are women.

The plan of the Administering Authority is comprehensive. We intend to take every step possible to ensure that all girls that so desire will be given the opportunity of obtaining education above the primary level which is available in the village schools.

If I may go back to the question of technical education, I would like just to explain briefly the feelings of the last Visiting Mission in regard to what we are doing in this field. The Mission said:

"The Mission feels that the Administration should be particularly commended for the newly constructed Malaguna Technical Training Centre at Rabaul. With the exception of the Lae Technical Training Centre," -- that is the other centre -- "which will, when fully developed, be its equal in every respect, this centre is so superior to any other school

(Mr. Jones, Special representative)

now giving technical training in the Territory that no comparison with the others is possible. The buildings which house work shops, administrative services and dormitories, are very well built, and the work shops are basically well equipped for the present training requirements. The school serves the four island districts and has approximately 170 students who are given four years' training in plumbing, welding and mechanics or carpentry and cabinet making, according to their desires and aptitudes. The older students will become artisans immediately after they leave the school, and the younger ones will become apprentices. The Mission inspected classes and saw students applying their skills in the shops. It saw dormitories and the furnishings which had been completed as job projects. In the case of the former, the principal drew attention to the high class of work of the students. (Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 5, paragraph 50)

Similar comments are made with regard to the Lae Technical Training Centre. I merely mention this so that the representatives will appreciate that these two schools are outstanding in their class. The other schools which are being established for the purpose of assisting apprentices in other areas, although not so large, will be up to that standard.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): That is a very interesting answer for which I am most grateful to the special representative. I appreciate the efforts which are being made to expand technical education.

My last question relates to community sponsored schools which are referred to on page 99 of the annual report. This is also something in which my delegation takes interest, and we are very glad to see the progress which is being made in these schools through the efforts of the local communities. I would like to ask the special representative to what extent it may be hoped that this movement of local council schools or village community schools will develop and spread and to what extent the actual construction of these schools can be assisted by local voluntary labour, which is sometimes called community development or even fundamental education.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): We have had a lot of the ordinary formal type of community sponsored school, and quite a number of these schools at present being used by the Administration have been built by the people themselves. But the Vunamami Rural Education Centre, the Centre referred to in the report, is a new type of school with respect to which the people themselves supplied a large area of land. In addition to formal education, education is also supplied in agricultural methods, in the growing of crops. The Vunamami Centre has continued very satisfactorily, and some of the students from that school are attending the higher training school at Kerevat. I mention that to show that although there is a certain bias given to agriculture and the school is more or less established along the lines of an agricultural college, it does reach a standard of education similar to that reached in the ordinary schools. We have met with such success at Vunamami that we have now decided to extend that type of school to other areas, in particular where the people themselves desire it. We have established one in the Sepik District on similar lines, as we have also done at Manus. The curriculum of these centres will be varied somewhat to meet the conditions in those areas. We also intend now to establish another big centre as a sort of regional education centre near Kerevat so that it will have the advantage of being adjacent to our big experimental agricultural station. We also plan to establish the fifth in the Central Highlands District at Mount Hagen. We are meeting with such success in this type of school and it is obviously going to play such an important part that more emphasis will now be placed on this community sponsored agricultural college type of school.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): That answer is of very great interest to us. May I thank the special representative for his most interesting and informative answers. I venture to say that my delegation very much welcomes the agricultural bias being given in these rural education centres, which seems to us wholly appropriate. May I make a plea that, for the purposes of comparison and possible application in other areas, including our own, as full information as possible be given in future reports on the detailed syllabus and what is done in these centres, which does seem to me to be of very great interest and of considerable importance.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): As I am sure the special representative will recall, last year the Trusteeship Council recommended that the Administering Authority re-examine the need for maintaining restrictions on the movement of the people in certain towns in New Guinea and recommended that these restrictions be abolished. I have noted from the reply of the Administering Authority this year that it still considers these restrictions to be necessary in the Territory. May I ask the special representative to tell us what the reasons are which still militate in favour of these restrictions?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I really have very little, if anything, I can add to the reply given by the Administering Authority. The question is continually under review. The matter is discussed with the Administration and also, I understand, with members of the councils, where there are councils, and other people, and the general consensus of opinion apparently is that for the time being some restrictions should remain. If and when the Administering Authority thinks that the time is propitious to remove these restrictions I am quite confident that it will do so.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): Obviously these restrictions have an end in view. I was just wondering whether the reasons are the maintenance of peace and order during certain hours of the night or something else. I should have thought at any rate that with the improvement of these conditions it might become less necessary for the Administering Authority to continue these restrictions or possible to mitigate them, to render them less strict. Anyway, this is our opinion, and it is a recommendation of the Trusteeship Council. I am sure that the Administering Authority will look into it again and keep it under review.

My second question relates to another recommendation of the Trusteeship Council. That recommendation was based on the view of the Visiting Mission that the wage rates in the Territory, despite recent increases, were still very low. The Administering Authority tells us this year that this view of the Visiting Mission is going to be taken into account when the drafting of the new labour legislation is undertaken in the Territory. My question is the following.

(Mr. Rifai, Syria)

Are wage rates dependent on legislation or can they be fixed by administrative orders? Does the Administering Authority have to legislate in that regard or can it fix these wages simply by administrative orders, in which case it could become a very easy thing to readjust them as the cost of living changed or as the need might arise?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The minimum wage rate is fixed by ordinance, that is, by the Labour Ordinance, but it will be seen from Appendix XVII that the majority of workers receive far more than the minimum wage. It is really a matter for themselves; if they increase their skills, of course, they can demand higher wages. From a quick look at that you can see that the wages vary. The wage of the general labourer appears here to be below the present minimum wage, but that is because it was taken over part of another year; but when the minimum wage was, I think, fifteen shillings, even the average wage of the unskilled labourer was always well above that. It can be seen that they can go as high as £20, and there are quite a number at £6, £7, £12 and so on. Again, as is explained in the note at the bottom, all workers are provided with rations, clothing, equipment and hospital services, and if they have their wives and families with them they are also provided free of charge with food and clothing. Fares are also paid to and from places of employment. That has all to be added to the wage shown here, which is the actual cash wage paid.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): My next question relates to the number of medical personnel in the Territory. I notice that there has been a decrease in the non-European medical personnel of 171 persons since last year. Could the special representative tell us the reason for this rather substantial decrease?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I have not the reply to that question immediately but I shall go into that and see whether I can discover the reason and reply at a later meeting.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): My next question relates to the conditions which are offered to non-indigenous medical officers. The special representative will recall that there has been in the last few years a complaint on the part of these medical officers who are recruited for the Territory from abroad about their pay and the general conditions of remuneration. In this connexion I should like also to draw his attention to the fact that the Trusteeship Council at its eighteenth session recommended to the Administering Authority to review their salaries and their general conditions to give these medical officers some satisfaction, in order to attract them to the Territory. I have failed this year to see any sort of indication as to whether the Administering Authority has done something in this regard or not. Could the special representative tell us what steps have been taken in this direction?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): As I mentioned in my opening statement, the whole of the Department of Public Health has been reclassified, and the number of positions has been increased by about 400. I cannot find the particulars, but there has been a large increase. In addition to that, the conditions, particularly with regard to the technical and professional staff, have been improved, and there has been an increase in the salaries. I have not the actual increases, but I have all the other particulars. Apparently they are still to be finalized, but I know that they have been increased. We feel that under the new conditions we shall have no difficulty in filling all the vacant positions of medical officers.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): My next question pertains to the educational field and relates to primary education. I note that in New Guinea there are two types of students in the primary schools. The groups living in contact with the Europeans have a seven-year course to follow in their primary schools; the groups living in rural areas must take a four-year course, followed by another four-year primary course. In one case, the language of instruction is English; in the other, it is the vernacular. I understand the latter to mean that it is the language which is used by those students in their daily lives -- that is, their mother tongue. Would the latter group, those who live in the rural areas, be eligible for the secondary schools, which seem to be uniform in the Territory or at least to follow the same curriculum as in Australian secondary schools? As far as I can see, there would be great difficulty for these students in following the secondary education.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I think the nomenclature of the schools is still somewhat misleading, although it has been simplified now. There is the primary school, which comprises a village school; that is four years, in class 1, class 2, and standard 1 and standard 2. Then there is the village higher school, which is a four-year period, and that covers standard 3 to standard 6. So they go through an eight-year course, from class 1 up to standard 7. They are primary schools at the village level. The station school goes from standard 1 to 6. It is normally a seven-year course. There is only one preparatory class; that is in the first year.

The reason that the station school is different is that the children have been living with their parents within a town area or within a station area, have acquired a certain knowledge of English, and have generally advanced more than the children who have been in a village all their lives. They therefore have a different sort of curriculum to meet their needs.

The diagram which I have here explains the organization of the school. It shows the two sections of the village school catering for children from 6 to 13, whereas the station school is for children from 7 to 13. It is optional: if they desire to commence at 7, they can do so. But, for some reason which I am afraid I cannot explain, that is the training period.

(Mr. Jones, Special representative)

From those two schools, they go to the intermediate schools, which are classified as post-primary. That is, after eight years in the village school and the village higher school, or seven years in the station school, they are at the same level and are eligible to go on to the intermediate schools, which are co-educational. That is what is called the post-primary section -- and there the ages are from 14 to 16.

From the intermediate schools, there are three schools to which they can go. There is the secondary school, which will take them to the Queensland junior public certificate; or they can go to the manual and domestic arts school; or they can go directly to one of the technical colleges at Rabaul or Lae. Those who so desire, on completion of their intermediate education, instead of going on to the secondary proper, as it were, and to obtain their public certificate, or to the technical college, can go straight to courses of teacher training -- that is, the B and C courses, the senior courses of teacher training, instead of going to any of the other colleges -- and, from the technical college, they can go for training as technical instructors.

What I am trying to show as clearly as I can is that the whole of this system now set up enables them to undertake secondary education at the age of sixteen if they so desire, and the facilities are available to them. So far, there have been limited facilities available, and we have sent them to Australia, as is known, to continue their secondary education. But the Administering Authority now plans to provide more and more for their secondary education in the Territory. One of our plans is to build a school in the Trust Territory, which will probably cost £500,000, so as to provide additional facilities for secondary education.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): I should like to ask the special representative whether the students in the rural communities who have taken the eight year course of primary education have been as successful when they enter the intermediate schools after graduation as the students who have taken the seven-year course in what are called the station schools.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I am afraid that I cannot answer that question. I do not know what the relative competency of the graduates of the two kinds of courses is. I should, however, like to make this clear: Although the facilities are available, it is very difficult to get the children to continue their schooling past the primary stage, and it is even more difficult to get them to go on after the intermediate stage. Many of them want to be able to read and write, but once they have acquired that knowledge they are not keen to obtain any further education. They feel that the key to success is an ability to read and write, that such an ability will enable them to go out into the world and make their own living. We do have great difficulty in trying to make them understand that learning to read and write should really be only the first step in their education.

Of course, a considerable number of the children just are not capable of going any further than primary school. Some of them cannot even reach the top standard, as it were, in the primary schools. We do hope, however, that as time goes on we shall be able to persuade more and more of the children to proceed at least to intermediate education.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): I should like some clarification on the following point. We know, and the special representative has just stated, that it is one of the Administration's primary aims to provide sufficient facilities for secondary education in the Territory. Could the special representative give us an estimate of the number of years that will be required to achieve that aim? When does he think that there will be sufficient facilities to meet the Territory's needs in the field of secondary education?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The facilities which we provide in Australia and the limited facilities at present available in the Territory itself are sufficient to meet the present requirements. We appreciate the fact, however, that we must take steps to increase the facilities. The intention is that as the needs increase the facilities to meet them will be provided.

Mr. RIFAI (Syria): Actually, the purpose of my last question was to ascertain how many years, in the Administering Authority's view, would be needed to provide sufficient facilities for secondary education in the Territory itself, not in Australia. I fully understand that it is necessary at the present time to supplement the Territory's facilities with facilities in Australia. I was, however, inquiring whether the Administering Authority does not intend to provide sufficient facilities for secondary education in the Territory itself. I fully appreciate the special representative's answer, however, and I have no further questions to put to him.

The meeting was suspended at 4.05 p.m. and resumed at 4.25 p.m.

Dr. COICENEY (World Health Organization) (interpretation from French):

I am very grateful to you, Mr. President, for giving me the opportunity to make a few comments on behalf of WHO with regard to the Trust Territory. My comments relate to the chapter on Public Health in the report of the Administering Authority and to the observations made in this connexion by the special representative in the course of his introductory statement.

First of all, I should like to say that, in view of the serious difficulties encountered by the Administration in the Territory, WHO fully appreciates the progress which has been made in the organization and improvement of the services in curative and preventive medicine which are described. The special representative informed the Council of the substantial increase in budgetary allocations for health services in the Territory, and this is clear evidence of the growing interest shown by the Administering Authority in the development of those services.

In the past, the inadequate number of hospitals was a subject for justified comments. Today, we are happy to note the increasing amounts allocated for the purpose of improving existing hospital facilities and for the building of three new hospitals, as well as two sanatoria. Malaria is, quite rightly, considered one of the major health problems in the Territory. This is a health and socio-economic problem in New Guinea. In view of the complex technical and physical problems which have to be overcome, the plans for a campaign against malaria, which include health education of the population, implementation of sanitation engineering projects and spraying with insecticides, seem to us to have been studied thoroughly.

The dearth of qualified personnel is one of the reasons which, so far, has prevented the Government from effectively organizing a malaria campaign. In 1955-1956 WHO granted a scholarship which made it possible for a malariologist from the Territory to study this problem at the Malaria Research Institute. Upon returning to the Territory, the malariologist trained health officials, who will assist him in the intensive campaign which, we trust, will succeed in eradicating this disease from the Territory.

(Dr. Colman, WHO)

All health officials, agriculture officials, indigenous and district officers, are required to follow courses at the Malaria Control School, referred to on page 86 of the report. On returning to their posts, the health officials must then carry out measures for malaria control which have been taught them at the Malaria Control School. There is constant co-ordination with the Malariology Bureau of the Pacific Regional Office of WHO.

A WHO expert visited the Territory at the beginning of 1957 and had many consultations with the Director of Health Services.

The anti-tuberculosis campaign is progressing satisfactorily, thanks to the measures described in the statement of the special representative. May I add that in 1956 WHO granted a fellowship in the field of anti-tuberculosis measures.

With regard to yaws, the campaign to eradicate this disease is being vigorously and successfully carried out.

(Dr. Coigney, WHO)

A new centre for the treatment of 500 lepers was set up in the Territory, which makes it possible in the leprosaria in the Territory at the present time to treat 2,000 patients suffering from this disease.

Control measures have been set up in the Territory for canned goods and as regards the labelling of such goods. Other sanitation measures have been taken.

In 1955-1956 WHO granted a fellowship in public hygiene and health education. To conclude this statement I should like to point to the great importance which the WHO attaches to the training of health personnel in the Territory and to the increase in the number of such personnel as described on page 88 of the report. The special representative has as a matter of fact particularly stressed this point. A growing number of young women are following courses which will make it possible for them to become assistant midwives and assistants in the field of maternal and infant welfare.

A certain number of students who have been carefully selected are continuing their secondary education in Australia. We hope that they can proceed with their medical studies before they return to the Territory. The system of medical cadetship seems to us should contribute to a substantial improvement in the status of doctors in the Territory in the future.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In the report of the Administering Authority we see that the overall figure of workers increased by 150 persons during the period under review. Could the special representative tell us the reason for this very slow growth of the employment rate? Is this not a token of the absence of increased production in the Territory?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): No, I do not think that can be taken to indicate a decrease in production. I think that the figures actually given in the report with regard to production in the Territory show, if anything, that there has been an increase. I think the number of workers employed at the present time represents the requirement for the production and for the industry of the Territory. The bulk of the workers enter into agreements for a period of eighteen months or two years after which they return home. So it will be seen

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Special representative)

that there is a continual changing over of workers. We consider it in the interests of the indigenous people that they should not remain away from their homes for long periods, and there is no such thing in the Territory as an established labour force. There are, of course, quite a number of people who have acquired skills and who do remain in employment, but they represent but a small number of the total.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): An additional question arises. Since you need a definite staff for the maintenance of a given volume of production, of personnel employed in this type of production, what happened during the period under review? We see that the figure of employed persons increased by only a given number of persons compared to the earlier period. Therefore, we have some idea thereby how production is growing or at least what the rate of growth of production is. The report says that the number of indigenous inhabitants employed in the gold mines has increased. What percentage of the 150 persons who joined the ranks of the employed are employed in the gold mines? Does the special representative have this figure?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I do not have the figure available to give it immediately, but it can be ascertained by an examination, I think, of the labour statistics given in the appendices.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): My next question was partially covered by the representative of Syria. The Administering Authority points out that it is impossible under existing conditions to repeal some of the restrictions that exist with regard to the freedom of movement of the indigenous inhabitants. I should like to know whether these conditions are identical throughout the Territory. What are the reasons for such restrictions in such areas as those in which local self-government councils have been established and where, in the words of the Administering Authority, the population has already achieved an adequate degree of development?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): If I were able, I would give information additional to what I gave to the representative of Syria and to the considered reply given by the Administering Authority to the resolution of last year. I really have nothing to add to that that would in any way, I am sure, assist the representative of the Soviet Union or the Council generally.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I regret that the special representative does not have information which could describe the situation in individual areas, but it would seem to me that conditions are not identical throughout the Territory. In a number of cases, therefore, it would seem rather difficult, even for the reasons advanced by the Administering Authority, to justify these restrictions.

(Mr. Lobanov, USSR)

My next question bears on health services. How is medical assistance being extended to the population of the Territories or areas that are only under the partial control of the Administration?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I think I mentioned before that when a patrol enters into a new area, it is the usual practice for an officer of the Department of Public Health to accompany the patrol. There are several reasons for that, the first of course being to ensure, as far as it is possible to do so, that no new diseases are introduced into the area and also so that the officer can be the spearhead of the extension of health services into that area. This officer, with the patrol officers, gets to know the people and as soon as it is possible to do so, the first part of the health services is extended to the area. Temporary hospitals are erected; staff is brought into the area and the hospitalization and treatment of people begins. As the area becomes more and more under our influence, these original services are improved and consolidated throughout the area.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I would like to have clarification on one further point. Does the health personnel remain in these areas under control or, having gone in, do they only return from time to time? In other words, are any permanent installations set up in those areas or do visiting teams go in on a certain schedule?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): No. Posts are established in the area and the medical staff remains and is built up as the conditions permit.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I would like to clarify a few points in connexion with public education. During the eighteenth session of the Trusteeship Council, it was pointed out that more than 90 per cent of the children of the Territory were attending Mission school and less than 10 per cent were being educated in schools of the Department of Education.

(Mr. Lobanov, USSR)

I know that a few new schools were built since then, but what is the ration of children attending Mission schools and those attending State-operated schools?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The actual figures are given in the appendices relating to education. That shows the exact number of children attending Mission schools and Administration schools. We could say perhaps that between 90 and 95 per cent of primary education is undertaken by the Missions in the villages, and the Administering Authority, of course, subsidizes the Missions to a certain extent to assist them in carrying out this work. It is the intermediate schools and the station schools and the higher education schools where the Administration more or less enters into the field, and of course the numbers in that category will increase more and more as the years go by.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Could the special representative tell us the percentages as regards the wastage of students. What percentage of students complete primary school and high school and what percentage is wasted?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I have not worked that out, but I feel sure that the representative of the Soviet Union could do so if he compares the tables. It would be necessary to refer back to previous figures as to the number attending the primary schools and those that go on to the other forms of post-primary education. I regret that I do not have the figures before me.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I thank the special representative for his clarifications. I can assure him that I attempted to make these compilations myself, but in vain. I feared that I would make mistakes and that my conclusions would be highly unfavourable to the Administering Authority, and I would not have wanted that. Therefore, I asked the special representative to provide this clarification. I thank him for his clarifications.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): Some of the questions which I had planned to put to the special representative in the social and educational fields have already been answered and I shall therefore confine myself to raising some points on which I felt doubt when I read through the annual report and the other relevant documents.

When reference is made to minimum wages in the report, it is stated that wages are paid on a daily basis or on a weekly basis. Could the special representative tell us how long the working day is. How many hours are included in the working day and how many days are included in the work week?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): If my memory serves me correctly, and I should remember this, we have given full details in previous reports if not in this report. But I think the working day is eight hours and they work five and a half days a week. However, I am not sure of that point and I will confirm it when I have had an opportunity of examining the ordinance again.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I would like to ask the special representative whether, on the basis of a five and a half day week, the worker is paid for the seventh day of the week and for the half day of the week during which he does not work?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Probably 98 per cent of them are employed on a monthly wage. They work the hours which are set out in the ordinance and if they work any overtime, they are paid at overtime rates. There are a few who work on the daily or weekly wage. Where they work on the daily wage, and of course it is mentioned here, it is two shillings per working day with full ration issued free of charge, and where they work on a weekly basis, -- which is most unusual, for it is usually a daily basis -- they are paid for the five and a half days.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): Can the special representative tell me whether the new Labour Ordinance, which it seems will be taken up by the first session of the Legislative Council after 30 June of this year -- that is, within a few days -- includes a provision prohibiting compulsory labour since it seems that such compulsory labour is still practised at certain plantations?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): There is no compulsory labour in the Territory. The remark by the representative that compulsory labour is still practised at some plantations is news to me. I will be very pleased if he can advise the Administering Authority where he obtained that information.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): I found this information on page 82 of the annual report where there is a paragraph entitled "Compulsory Labour." Here the reference seems to be to the existence of compulsory labour in the planting and cultivation of certain crops. Apparently a carrier must not carry a load greater than forty pounds in weight. This is a type of restriction on the compulsory labour mentioned in the annual report.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): There seems to be some misunderstanding. The interpretation I got was that there is still compulsory labour on plantations. The provision which has just been referred to is, I think, self-explanatory. It states:

"The ... Act... prohibits forced labour except in accordance with the provisions of the Convention Concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour." That, of course, is in order because it is in line with a convention. I think the representative is probably familiar with the Convention. The paragraph continues as follows:

"The Native Administration Regulations provide for the compulsory planting and cultivation of crops in an area which has been declared by the Administrator to be liable to a famine or deficiency in food supplies." That is the authority given to the Administrator in any area where he thinks there may be a shortage of food or a famine. So as to ensure that that will not happen, the Administrator has the right to order the planting of certain food crops

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for local consumption. I might add that as far as I can recollect it has never been necessary to use that particular provision. The mention of forty pounds in weight is not a compulsory carrying in any way at all; it is a protection to the worker. If he is employed as a carrier he must not be given a load of more than forty pounds.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): On page 80 of the annual report, I read that marriage between an indigenous person and a non-indigenous person cannot be carried out without the written consent of a district official. Can the special representative tell me whether this practice still exists? Can he tell me the reasons for such regulations?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The law still stands. It is still necessary for a non-indigenous person to secure the permission of a district officer before a marriage can take place between that person and an indigenous woman. The reason is to protect the native people. It will be appreciated that in many areas it is difficult for the people to understand the entry into a marriage which is not by native custom but according to the laws of the country. The sole reason is to protect the native people concerned and to make sure that they really understand what they are doing and that the person concerned is not merely making this a marriage of convenience.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): The special representative told us in his introductory statement that a Central Advisory Committee would be set up with district branches to represent the interests of women in the Territory and that at least one indigenous woman will be a member of such bodies. Can the special representative give us any additional information on this subject? Can he tell us, if possible, who will be the other members of such committees?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): This is a scheme which is more or less in its infancy. As far as I know, the District Committees will comprise the Senior Education Officer of that district, a member of a Department of Native Affairs, I have no doubt, and there will probably be other people outside the

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Administration who are interested in the development of women. I have no exact information on who will actually be the members of these committees. That is yet to be decided. But it is intended that on each one there will be one indigenous woman.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): I raised the question of the Central Advisory Committee because I was wondering whether these would be women's committees. I see now that they will have a membership of both men and women.

Now I have a question in connexion with public health. In his introductory statement, the special representative stated that there are plans to establish a medical school for the training of certain medical practitioners. We were told that this school is to be set up at Port Moresby and that the plan is to open it in 1959. Can the special representative tell me the reasons why the Administering Authority established this school in this particular place? For I believe that Port Moresby is located in the Territory of Papua. Would it not have been possible to set up this training school in the Territory of New Guinea?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Yes, I suppose it would. It would also have been possible to set up some of the institutions which we have in New Guinea serving both Territories in Papua instead of New Guinea. In setting up an institution which is going to serve a dual purpose, in other words, to serve the needs of two Territories, all factors must be taken into consideration as to which would be the most advantageous place to locate the particular institution. Having it in Port Moresby, where we have the headquarters of the medical services, means that they can draw upon the specialist staff available there to give tuition in the school when it is opened, and I think that has been one of the influencing factors in locating the school in Port Moresby.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): We note that Administration hospitals are under construction at Lae and Wau in the Morobe District, and Nonga in the New Britain District, and that two small hospitals were built at Wasu and at Telefomin. Could the special representative tell us whether these hospitals are designed to serve specifically indigenous people? I put this question because in the report a distinction is drawn between indigenous hospitals and European hospitals and even Asian hospitals.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Up to the present, most of the hospitals have been more or less designed to meet the needs of the people of the various races, and most of the hospitals classified as native hospitals are of course in the areas where the native people are in the majority. The European hospitals are usually small hospitals of the cottage type in towns where there are mostly European residents, and the Asian hospitals are of course located in the centres where the Asians reside.

As regards the permanent structures now being erected, as distinct from the two small hospitals to which we have referred and which are of course in areas where the indigenous people only are concerned, there are, as I mentioned last year, to be composite hospitals which will provide facilities for members of all races.

(Mr. Jones, Special representative)

While we are on the question of hospitals, I might give some of the latest information which I have recently received, which may be of interest to the Council. The first stage of construction of the composite hospital at Lae, which when completed will cost £750,000, has been completed, and £308,000 has been expended on that hospital up to date. The Wewak hospital, also a composite base hospital, is estimated to cost £640,000, and the first stage, which will cost £140,000, will be completed by June 1958; the second and final part of that hospital will commence towards the end of this year, and we expect to have it completed in 1960 or early in 1961. The Nonga hospital, another major base composite hospital, will be built at an estimated cost of £470,000 and will be completed in January 1959; and the expenditure for 1957 on this particular hospital will be £50,000.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I should like to put one last question in the educational field. On page 104 of the report the Administering Authority mentions linguistic difficulties which are encountered in the Territory. It seems that the Visiting Mission last year gave its views on the use of Melanesian Pidgin, and we know that the Administration has plans to publish readers and text-books in Melanesian Pidgin. It proposes to provide a new orthography of this language and to standardize the spelling. Could the special representative bring us up to date on the progress that has been achieved along these lines?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I take it that the question refers to the Melanesian Pidgin orthography. The new orthography has been prepared with a view to standardizing the spelling of Melanesian Pidgin. As mentioned before, of course, the purpose is to further the aim of teaching all children in the Territory to read and write English. Although this orthography has been prepared and some text-books in Melanesian Pidgin have also been prepared, they are to be used only as a medium of instruction, and then only in schools in areas where Melanesian Pidgin is in general use. It has been laid down as the policy -- and the Education Department is following it, of course -- that the production of the orthography and the primers, readers and

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other text-books in Melanesian Pidgin is not to be allowed to prejudice or limit the production and distribution of similar material in English for use in all phases of school work.

I might follow that up, to clarify the matter for the representative with regard to the steps taken in the teaching of English, and at the same time to add to the reply I gave to the representative of Syria before the recess. Right from the beginning of the education of the indigenous children, English is a subject. It is a minor subject, of course, in the first one or two years in the primary schools and then it increases in importance. The intention is that after the fourth, or at the latest the fifth year, all instruction in the primary schools will be given in English so that the children will be competent and quite able to enter the intermediate schools and so that the language will not be any bar to their taking higher education.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I take it from the reply given by the special representative that the text-books in Melanesian Pidgin to which I have referred are already published. Is that so?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I take it from the information I have just received here that the books have been prepared.

Mr. YIN (China): Some of the questions which I wished to ask of the special representative in the field of social advancement have already been taken up by preceding speakers. At this stage, I am left with only two very minor points as far as the field of labour is concerned. On page 81 of the annual report, we read the following:

"Consideration is being given to the introduction of legislation to provide for the employment of indigenes on vessels engaged in local trade to be on ships' Articles of Agreement."

I wonder whether the special representative could tell me whether the introduction of this proposed legislation has already taken place.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): No, not yet. That will come in at the same time as the new labour ordinance.

Mr. YIN (China): Also on page 81 of the annual report, it is stated that the Administering Authority proposes to establish a School of Nautical Training. I would be grateful if the special representative could indicate when that school will actually be opened.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The school has not actually been established, but the preliminary steps are in hand now, and we hope that the school will be ready to receive students in the not too distant future.

Mr. YIN (China): I now pass on to the field of education. We note from the annual report that the Education Ordinance of 1952 provides, among other things, for the declaration of compulsory attendance of children at schools in specified areas. I wonder whether the special representative is in a position to throw more light on this particular provision -- whether this has in view the introduction, at some appropriate time, of the compulsory education of children, or whether it is merely aiming at enforcing the attendance of school children already enrolled in the schools.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The intention is, of course, to bring in compulsory education and apply it to areas which are more less settled and in which there will be no difficulty in connexion with the attendance of children at school -- where there is suitable transport or where the school is sufficiently close to the area where the children live. It has not yet been applied to any particular area, but the Administration is now giving serious consideration to its application in one or two of the more settled areas.

Mr. YIN (China): Under the heading "Inspection of Schools", on page 95 of the annual report, we read:

"Inspection of all indigenous schools including mission schools is carried out by district education officers."

Could the special representative tell me how many such district education officers there are at present in the Territory and whether the Administration is satisfied that their number is sufficient to cope with the prevailing needs? The purpose of my question is to find out whether the Administration is experiencing any difficulty in the way of a shortage of inspection personnel at the present time.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): There is one such officer in each district. Also, provision has been made now in the classified positions of the Department of Education for an increase in the number of inspectors. At the present time, I think, there are only two, who assist the district education officers. Actually, that number is not sufficient; the Administering Authority appreciates that and is taking steps to increase the number. But the officers of the Department of Native Affairs are also authorized to make inspections of village schools, which are mainly mission schools, during their patrols, and they submit reports to the Director of Education.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I should like to go back to one or two points which have already been raised in the Council during the previous questioning.

One relates to the restriction of movement of the population in towns. In 1956, the Trusteeship Council recommended to the Administering Authority that

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these restrictions should be removed. In reply to the Council's recommendation, the Administering Authority has stated that these restrictions should be continued "because of the conditions obtaining in the Territory". I should like to ask the special representative whether he could elaborate on this statement and say what exactly are the conditions which the Administering Authority has in mind.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I have nothing to add to the reply given by the Administering Authority and the reply made to the representative of Syria.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I should like to ask one more question in that connexion. Would the special representative like to comment on the Administering Authority's conclusion that there would be little value in abolishing the restrictions even on a trial basis?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The Administering Authority has apparently given full consideration to this question and is firmly convinced that the restrictions referred to should be continued for the time being. As the Administering Authority has done this after serious thought and with a full understanding of the position, I presume that it considers that to abolish the restrictions on a trial basis would be more or less to admit that it had not given the matter the fullest consideration and was not firmly convinced that it was necessary to continue these restrictions. I would draw attention to the final sentence in the reply of the Administering Authority, on page 108 of the annual report:

"The Administration has the matter closely under consideration and plans a process of relaxation coincidental with the growth of civic responsibility among the indigenous population."

Mr. CHACKO (India): I wish to pursue this matter a little further because the Trusteeship Council has in the past attached considerable importance to the abolition of these restrictions. I would refer to the following statement in the report of the last Visiting Mission:

"The Trusteeship Council has in the past criticized the existence of these curfew regulations and has recommended that they be abolished as soon as possible. The Mission strongly agrees. In its view there is no justification for the restrictive regulations and it urges their immediate revocation." (Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Eighteenth Session, Supplement No. 5, paragraph 264)

That was a unanimous recommendation by the Visiting Mission and was endorsed by the Trusteeship Council. What I have been trying to find out is whether there are sufficient reasons for the Administering Authority not to implement the recommendation. I would only say at this stage that my delegation will have some comments to make on this matter in its statement in the general debate.

My next question relates to labour. In reply to a question by the representative of Syria, the special representative said that regulations concerning labour are issued in the form of ordinances. I should like to ask whether these ordinances are executive orders or legislative orders. In other words, are these ordinances issued as orders by the Administrator, or do they have to be passed by the Legislature?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The labour ordinances are Territorial ordinances and must be passed by the Legislative Council. They are not executive orders.

Mr. CHACKO (Syria): The following statement is contained on page 108 of the annual report:

"The Administering Authority notes the views of the Visiting Mission and will take them into account in drafting the new labour legislation." I should like to ask the special representative what stage has been reached in the drafting of that legislation.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I have already given the Council the latest information in this regard -- namely, that it is expected that the new ordinance will come before the first meeting of the Legislative Council which is held after 30 June of this year. Elections to the Legislative Council are to be held within the next few weeks. The ordinance will come before the new Council when it meets.

Mr. CHACKO (India): My next question relates to New Guinean medical assistants. I should like to ask the special representative how many Suva-trained medical assistants are now employed in the Territory.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I am not sure of the answer to that question. I know that one person has been so employed, but I believe that some people have returned from Suva recently, and I do not have the latest information available. It is possible that since the compilation of the present report one or two additional persons have been employed, but I am not sure of that. I believe that we do give in the annual report information on the number of persons from New Guinea who are taking the course at Suva, but I do not know how many of them have graduated and returned to the Territory.

Mr. CHACKO (India): Yesterday, in answer to one of my questions concerning the public service, the special representative said, I think, that more than one of these medical assistants had been assigned some special position in the public service. I should like to know exactly where in the public service these persons have been fitted in. In that connexion, I would refer to the figures on the Department of Health appearing on page 127 of the annual report.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I was referring to an assistant medical practitioner who, I had been informed, had been appointed as an exempt officer of the Third Division. This person was given a position for which his qualifications suited him, pending the time when final arrangements could be made for fitting him into the public service.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I should like to know exactly what position the Administering Authority has found suitable for this Suva-trained medical assistant.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Although he is an exempt officer, the person to whom I have referred is, so far, the only member of the public service who has the qualification of assistant medical practitioner. I take it that the position will be listed as "assistant medical practitioner" when the classification is finally amended to make permanent provision for such a position. For the present, the salary scale for this person is the same as that for a European medical assistant.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I do have some purpose in pursuing this matter. The Suva-trained medical practitioner is the highest qualified New Guinean in the Territory. I am trying to find out exactly where in the public service he is fitted in. The special representative has just said that this person is considered as equal to a European medical assistant. Now, even among the European medical assistants there are different grades. I should like to know exactly what grade this person has.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I do not know. Since, however, the representative of India is very much interested in this appointment, I shall see to it that full information is included in the next annual report on the appointment and that of any other assistant medical practitioners who may qualify in the meantime.

Mr. CHACKO (India): My next question relates to some information contained on page 88 of the annual report concerning training and health education. We read there that fifteen students are attending certain courses. I should like to know whether all these students are from New Guinea, or whether the figure includes students from Papua, also.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): They are all students from the Trust Territory and, in addition to the fifteen mentioned there, five girls have gone to the Central Nursing School at Suva, and an additional six boys to the Central Medical School at Suva, for training. Since the completion of this report which is now being examined, one laboratory assistant has returned from Suva and taken up duties in the Territory, and nine others have returned after completing part of their sanitary inspectors course. The balance of this course is to be completed in the Territory.

Mr. CHACKO (India): My next question relates to education. Last year the Administering Authority stated that it was considering the question of giving the names "primary", "post-primary" and "secondary" to the schools existing in the Territory. Has this proposal been finalized, and have instructions been issued to the schools concerned? In this connexion I would refer the special representative to paragraph 287 of the Visiting Mission's report on its visit to New Guinea in 1956. This paragraph mentions the discussion which the Mission had with the Australian Government officials in Canberra, when it was told about this proposal and what the Administration was going to do about the matter.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I should like to reply as fully as possible to the question of the representative of India, but I am not clear as to what he means by: "... have instructions been issued to the schools concerned?" Instructions in regard to what?

Mr. CHACKO (India): My question is: Has any action been taken on this statement which was made to the Visiting Mission?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I believe that, in answer to a question asked by the representative of Syria this afternoon in regard to schools, I explained in detail the new nomenclature which is now in use, and I also explained the various ages and groupings in the different schools. "Primary" now comprises the village school and a station school.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I am aware of the reply which was given to the representative of Syria. My question was very specific, namely, whether any action has been taken in regard to this matter of classifying the schools, whose names are somewhat confusing.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The action that has been taken is as I described to the representative of Syria, which the representative of India apparently followed and quite understood.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I must confess that I have not understood. I do not wish to pursue this matter further; I presume that the point has not received proper attention.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I am sorry, but I missed this last comment of the representative of India. Would he be prepared to repeat it?

Mr. CHACKO (India): My comment was that, from the replies given to the representative of Syria, I did not get the answer to the question which I asked; I was not satisfied with the reply so far as my question was concerned.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The last thing I want is that any representative should not be satisfied with any reply which I give. If my reply is not lucid, it is because the question is not understood by me. Before this change, which I explained to the representative of Syria, took place, quite a number of names were given to the schools and, in accordance with the general desire of the Administering Authority itself, and, as also mentioned, of the Visiting Mission, these names were simplified in the way that I have explained. That is, they are now divided into primary, post-primary, secondary, technical and teacher training. Those are the five divisions in the educational system of the Territory. I have described the schools which come within "primary" and the classes which they include, as well as the ages of the students attending them. I explained also the schools which come under "post-primary", "secondary", "technical" and "teacher training". If that does not answer the question, I should be very happy at any time to discuss this further with the

representative of India in an effort to clear his mind and to give him any further information which he would like to have on this particular subject.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I should like to thank the special representative for his last answer, which clarifies the point somewhat. I think that it can be clarified fully if I ask another question. The reason for this recommendation last year was that the existing schools had all sorts of names: village schools, higher village schools, station schools, elementary schools, area schools, primary schools, central schools, intermediate schools, colleges. From these names no one could find out exactly what was the maximum standard of education offered in each school. May I take it from the last reply of the special representative that these names have now disappeared and that the existing names are only "primary", "post-primary" and "secondary"?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Yes and no. In the primary stage there are various main headings. There is primary education, but they still persist with the names "village schools" and "station schools". I think that is the point which is causing confusion in the mind of the representative of India.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I am sorry to pursue this point, but it is a matter which confuses me. I should like to say one more thing in that connexion, and that is that, normally, when a school is called an elementary or elementary secondary school, it gives an idea of the standard of education in that school. The Visiting Mission was somewhat confused about it and that is why we made that recommendation -- which was, I think, well received by the Administering Authority in Canberra. That explains my interest in pursuing this matter, and I should like to clarify the point further with the special representative when I have an opportunity.

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I have one last question. Could the special representative tell us the number of New Guinean students who are now getting an education in Australia?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I think that information is given somewhere in the report. I regret that I cannot keep all these figures in my mind. If the representative of India will permit me, I would be happy to look up the actual number and let him know privately after the meeting.

Mr. CHACKO (India): Could the special representative tell us whether there is any student from New Guinea who is studying in any university in Australia?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): No, none of them have reached that stage yet.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I should like to know: What is the maximum stage reached by any student?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Some students have reached the intermediate standard. But I do not have a complete list before me showing the stages of advancement that have been made up to date.

Mr. CHACKO (India): If it is possible, I should like to get the information as to when at least one New Guinean student will be able to reach the stage of university education, as to how long it will take before one student can reach that stage. I should like to have that information at some later stage if the information is not available now.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I would be only too happy to provide the fullest information I can obtain on the matters which have been referred to.

Mr. CHACKO (India): I have one last question relating to information about the United Nations in the Trust Territory. We were told last year that a special pamphlet was under preparation. I should like to know whether this pamphlet is now ready or if it is still under preparation.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Actually it has been completed but, as I mentioned, it has been incorporated into a book of social studies for the use of teachers and students. I have seen it myself and it is very well prepared; it is most comprehensive and covers every aspect on the functioning of the United Nations and its associated agencies.

In addition to that, there is another pamphlet entitled "The United Nations in the Classroom", one which I think has been used extensively in New Zealand. We have managed to obtain copies of that. It is a most suitable publication, and we are now making that available for distribution for the use of schools and libraries.

Mr. CHACKO (India): Does that pamphlet to which the special representative just referred, apart from dealing with the United Nations in general, contain any chapter on the status of New Guinea as a Trust Territory and the functions of the Trusteeship Council in relation to it?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I do not think it actually mentions the direct relationship with New Guinea as such, but it does give details and explains quite fully the functions of the Trusteeship Council and what constitutes a Trust Territory.

Mr. TOUROT (France) (interpretation from French): I have no major questions to put. I just have a few minor points since most of my major points have already been covered.

Although the delegation of France attaches considerable importance to the educational programme, I only have one question on this subject. It concerns adult education. This is all the more important since it deals with illiterate people who comprise over 90 per cent of the population. My first question is: Are there any evening classes in the District and Village Schools? Are these classes well-attended? How does the Administering Authority use radio facilities for this purpose?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): In quite a number of districts night classes are available to adults. Sometimes the response is encouraging. At other times in other areas there seems to be little interest shown in the formal education which is available in classes. For that reason we give greater emphasis to the formation of clubs and sporting bodies where they can meet and discuss various matters and in a general way educate themselves. The plan I mentioned with regard to the advancement of women and to raise the status of women in the Territory -- that part, adult education -- will be covered thoroughly. And it is hoped that by that means a greater interest will be taken in adult education.

As far as films are concerned, the greatest use of that is made in adult education. On page 103 of the report we give the particulars on adult education. First, there is the broadcast programme which is broadcast over Station 9PA and we have distributed 500 or 600 receivers to various bodies and councils throughout the Territory so that they can receive these programmes. Eight of these programmes are in the vernacular and there is one in simple English. There are also quite a number of newspapers which circulate throughout the indigenous population of the Territory. Some of these are in the vernacular, some are in simple English; others combine the two. It is through these media that we are trying to extend education to the adult population. We also have a 16-mm film service which patrols throughout the Territory and visits the villages and other places. Educational films are shown.

Mr. TOUROT (France) (interpretation from French): I thank the special representative. In 1950 a public works programme of £4,500,000 was provided for the building of hospitals. Because of certain difficulties, approximately one-quarter of this sum was used. The Director of Public Health, who was consulted on this score, stated last year to the Visiting Mission, as I understand it, that it would be necessary to provide for a ten-year building period because of the shortage of funds. Could the special representative offer some clarification as regards these difficulties and could he also tell us what measures are being taken by the Administration to obtain additional funds?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): I have given particulars of the hospital building programme and I think it will be appreciated that some of the difficulties have been overcome. It will be appreciated that in a territory that was completely devastated during the war, where not one single building remained standing, where there was not one road, no wharves and all installations completely destroyed, that the work of reconstruction was a major one, and that particularly during the first few years following the war, when there was a world-wide demand for materials and artisans, we had to take just what we could get. Over the last few years, fortunately, we have been able to obtain more materials and more artisans, and we have been able to attract more contractors to assist with the building of the Territory. Although the rehabilitation is not yet completed, we have reached a stage where the tempo of the erection of permanent hospitals, permanent schools and other buildings is now increased. Although the Director of Health mentioned a ten-year period, we are quite convinced now that the hospital programme will be completed in a much shorter period.

The major combined hospitals to which I have now referred will cost several millions of pounds and will be completed by 1961. There are others to be built, of course, more or less sub-regional hospitals. But we do hope and anticipate that in a few years, following 1961, we will be able to complete that building programme. But I would like to emphasize that the lack of permanent hospitals has not unduly affected the work of the Health Department. The services have been made available to the people and it has not in any way retarded the extension of health services throughout the Territory.

Mr. FELD (United States of America): Since most of my questions have been anticipated by other representatives in their questions, I only have one question in the educational field. In his opening statement the special representative said that secondary classes are being developed gradually in New Guinea as the need arises, and that such classes have been operating in the schools at Rabaul where education up to the Queensland Junior Certificate examination is available and are now being introduced into the school at Keravat. What plans has the Administration for extending secondary classes to other areas in the Trust Territory and does it contemplate that eventually the use of facilities in the Territory will make it unnecessary to have indigenous students undertake secondary education in Australia?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): The policy is to extend secondary education facilities within the Territory and eventually all of the secondary education of the indigenous people will be given within the Territory itself.

Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy): I note on page 87 of the report that pneumonia is the disease which is still the principal cause of death in the Territory. In this connexion, I would like to know whether the special representative can tell me the reason, if there is any reason, for such a widespread morbidity from pneumonia and if there has been an investigation as to the reason why such a high number of people die of it?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): Being only a layman, of course I cannot offer any reason why the deaths from pneumonia, which are quoted as deaths in Administration hospitals, should be as high as they are. I could submit that question to the medical authorities and perhaps if the high percentage rates persist, arrange for some explanation or clarification to be given in next year's report.

Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy): My next question relates to the medical service outside the Administration, which is dealt with on page 84 of the report. I note from the report that there are medical services which are carried out by the missions. Since the missions are benefiting from grants-in-aid from the Administration because of this medical assistance which they give to the people,

I would like to know if there is any form of control over the medical services of the mission, just as there is control over the schools of the missions to which the Administration likewise gives grants-in-aid. Is there any parallel scheme? The missions have schools and medical services; they receive grants-in-aid for both from the Administration. Whereas we know that the Administration carries out supervision over the mission schools, no word of analogous supervision is mentioned in the report as far as the medical services of the missions are concerned.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): There is no statutory provision for the inspection of the medical services of the missions as there is for the inspection of schools. But in all cases where a mission applies for a grant-in-aid, specific information has to be provided to the Administering Authority before the aid is granted. They have to explain the purpose for which it will be used and give other relevant information. In regard to the Hansen colonies and tuberculosis hospitals which are staffed and managed by the missions, but financed by the Administering Authority, in those cases, of course, the Director of Public Health is more or less responsible for the efficient management of those hospitals and they are regularly visited. In practice, all of the medical institutions of the missions are visited at some time or other during the year by medical officers of the Administration.

Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy): I have only two more questions. One relates to the religious instruction which is given in Administration schools. This matter is dealt with on page 97 of the report.

Since there are ministers of various Christian denominations in the Territory and the courses in religious instruction are usually conducted by ministers of religion or authorized laymen; I should like to know how the Administration chooses from among the ministers of the various denominations those to give instruction in the Administration schools.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): As there is usually only one minister of each denomination stationed in the same area, he naturally is the one who comes to the school to give religious instruction to the members of his particular religion.

Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy): As a matter of fact, that is exactly the answer I expected.

My last question relates to adult education. I see from the report that in addition to schools there are broadcast programmes and film services and that the Administration has distributed about 600 radio receivers. I should like to ask how this distribution was made. Were these receivers distributed to individuals or to groups or associations?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): They are distributed to schools, clubs and other societies. They are not given to any particular individual for his own personal use. They are distributed so that the greatest number of indigenous people will have the opportunity of listening to the programmes.

Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy): I still have a small point. I apologize for keeping the Council.

I see that the broadcasting service provides an eighty-five minute programme of news and information each weekday for adults. This service usually covers topics related to local affairs and Administration activities in the Territory. Is there any intention on the part of the Administration to widen such programmes so that they will eventually include news from abroad, from other countries?

Mr. JONES (Special representative): This is a special session which, as is stated here, is designed to interpret local affairs and the activities of the Administration to the indigenous population. Also, lectures are given on sanitation and hygiene and on quite a number of matters which are of direct and local interest to the people.

So far as general news is concerned, that is broadcast four times a day. Of course, the indigenous people who understand English are free to listen if they so desire, and quite a number of them do. Those that are unable to understand English are usually told the news by those who can.

Mr. SALOMON (Haiti) (interpretation from French): I do not propose to detain the Council for any length of time in view of the late hour. I have only one question. The special representative recalled a few moments ago that the Health Department was reorganized and that the number of posts was increased due to an increase in the number of hospitals. The report this year points to an increase by thirty in the European medical staff, but to a decline by 171 in the non-European medical staff. Can the special representative give us some clarification on these very important variations in the number of medical staff? He will find these mentioned in paragraph 40 of document T/L.776.

Mr. JONES (Special representative): This matter has been referred to earlier, and I said then that I regretted that I was unable to give any explanation for the variation in the figures. I did note that medical assistants decreased by ninety-seven, whereas medical orderlies increased by 115. There was also a decrease in other medical (includes storemen, clerks and other employees) by thirty-two, and I note that there has been a decrease of 225 under the heading of sanitation. I regret that I am unable to give any explanation to the Council for this variation in the figures. But I will endeavour to ascertain the reasons and, if I can obtain them in time, I will include that information in my final statement.

The PRESIDENT: This concludes the questioning of the special representative. Tomorrow there will be one meeting of the Council at 2.30 p.m. We shall open the general discussion and I hope that members of the Council will be in a position to make good progress on this matter. As members will have observed from the tentative time-table circulated by the Secretariat, which has been slightly revised, the general discussion I referred to is fixed to conclude also on the following day.

In relation to the tentative time-table in general, I draw the attention of members to the fact that we have set a schedule which will allow the Council to adjourn on 12 July. I think it is a feasible schedule, and naturally members will do their utmost to ensure that it is carried through.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.