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INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES:  
SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION TRANSMITTED  
UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER. REPORT OF THE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL

Review of general trends in the Territories administered by France<sup>1/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> This review is submitted also to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

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Review of general trends in the Territories administered by France

1. In the Explanatory Preface, Section C, to the Revised Standard Form, Members are invited to provide a survey of the principles and practical measures showing general trends in the Territories concerned. In response to this request the French Government has transmitted a special note on this subject with reference to the Overseas Territories. The note has been summarized in this review, which quotes some passages from it verbatim except where another source is indicated. With reference to Morocco and Tunisia a suitable summary has been prepared from information transmitted under article 73 e of the Charter.

I. INTRODUCTION

2. The work France has been doing in the Overseas Territories for the last fifty years has been resumed in intensified form since 1946 through economic and social development plans designed to co-ordinate the activities already in hand. The work has been carried out by means of direct financial assistance to the Territories, together with the provision of manpower, capital goods and consumer goods. It was necessary to adapt the plans to the different social conditions of each Territory, as also to take into account various economic factors. Economic action to raise the material standard of living was accompanied by social action, which, by improving the physical and mental powers of the population, affects, and is indeed essential to, economic advancement. The contribution made to social development by the Education, Public Health, Labour inspection and Social Affairs Services has had an undoubted impact on economic life.

3. Progress in education is reflected by the steady increase in school attendance, which amounts to, and in some cases exceeds, one-third of the school-age population; adult needs, too, are catered for by the development of fundamental education.

4. The Public Health Services have been instructed to introduce, in place of the burdensome system of medical treatment at fixed stations, a system of medical care for the masses, which, through investigation and treatment teams really reaches the rural communities, and to continue to educate the people in health matters through mobile health and prophylactic teams.
5. The Labour Inspection Services, besides applying the Labour Code (Overseas Territories) in the Territories, develop trade unions and social institutions in order to effect a steady improvement in the wage-earner's material and spiritual welfare by giving him, through vocational guidance and training, an increasing share in the benefits of modern methods of work.
6. The Social Affairs Service, through the education of women and children, touches the very basis of the social structure and helps the indigenous communities to adapt themselves to the problems encountered in the transition to more advanced ways of life.
7. Thus the general trends of economic and social development in the Overseas Territories are towards mass action: mass medicine, mass education, labour legislation and the social education of women and children. Such social activity, however, which absorbs 31 per cent of the budgetary resources of the Territories, places a very heavy burden on the basic economic structure and the best course now is to continue the work in hand by developing economic and social life side by side, to avoid hampering the advancement of these countries.

## II. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

### General review

8. The economy of the Overseas Territories is still based on agriculture. The expansion of agricultural production has been and remains fraught with problems owing to the mineral composition of African soils and the customary agricultural methods. Unless these defective farming conditions are remedied by suitable measures, the result is instability of both the quantity and the quality of the produce, over and above the price instability common to all agricultural economies.

9. France has endeavoured to instil new methods of cultivation and to bring the whole system of production up to date. Schools have been opened, specialized staff have been trained and experimental centres have been established to study the adaptation of advanced agricultural techniques to the rural environment and to instruct the indigenous peasants in the techniques. This work of popularization has to be done with great care. Deep ploughing, mechanization and even the use of fertilizers may entail woeful miscalculations unless experiments are carried out beforehand to determine how they should be applied. Such experiments have been and are still being made and when satisfactory solutions are found they are immediately brought into general use. By dint of persevering instruction, local farmers have been taught how to combine tillage with stock-breeding and have been instructed in crop rotation, the use of green manure and the care of cattle.

10. Equally important was the need to modernize the customary structure of rural communities without destroying the traditional collective method of farming. This is the aim of the provident societies, co-operative associations and agricultural modernization centres. The recent reform of co-operative bodies to make them more democratic was designed to enable them to give their members more effective technical aid than in the past and to provide them with adequate financial assistance and security for their trading operations.

11. With the same end in view, producers have lately been called upon to play a leading role in operating the various agricultural produce stabilization funds, which have been converted into public institutions designed to protect the indigenous farmers from the impact of temporary fluctuations. Since 1945 these various measures have brought about a considerable increase in production, which had fallen to a rather low level during the war. This increase can be measured both in terms of the rise in local consumption of output and in terms of the expansion of exports.

12. Cereals, which are the basic foodstuffs, are being produced in increasingly large quantities. Particular mention must be made of rice, which is gaining ever greater popularity. In some Territories rice production has increased five-fold

as compared with the pre-war period and it is all consumed locally. Great progress has been made, too, in the local utilization of ground-nuts. In Senegal one-third of the output is now used locally as food, while in the other Territories - Madagascar, for example - ground-nut cultivation is steadily increasing. Meat consumption is also on the rise as a result of the increase of livestock in the traditionally pastoral regions and the formation of herds in areas formerly infested with tsetse fly and now reclaimed. In fisheries the main effort has been concentrated on spreading the use of artificial ponds, the high yield of which makes a substantial addition to the catch from seas and rivers.

13. The improvement of farming methods and the continuance of a heavy demand for tropical products even after the end of the Korean War have led to a rise in exports to beyond the pre-1940 levels. Coffee exports have trebled as compared with the 1937-1939 period and banana and cotton exports have more than doubled. Sales of wood have increased by one-third. The only exports to show a decline have been the oil-bearing products. In the case of the ground-nut this drop is chiefly due to the increase in domestic consumption. Statistics for the first nine months of 1954 show that exports have again soared and confirm the general trend towards expansion. Despite the increase in domestic consumption and notwithstanding temporary fluctuations, the volume of exports has steadily risen, thus helping to balance a volume of imports which is far above the pre-war level.

14. The output of some traditional mineral products, such as gold and tin, is stationary or declining, while others, such as lead and diamonds, are on the increase. The most noteworthy change in this direction has been brought about by the opening up of new deposits of phosphates, bauxite and iron ore and the development of geological research, which has led to the discovery of sizable deposits of bauxite in Guinea, copper and iron in Mauritania and manganese in Gaboon.

15. The expansion of exports, the rise in the market prices of tropical products and the provision of French capital for large-scale investment have led to a considerable increase in imports. Great progress has been made in the import of foodstuffs. Rice imports have doubled and flour imports have increased fivefold. Purchases abroad, particularly of milk and sugar, have more than doubled since 1938. The same applies to household articles and, despite the development of local textile industries, to clothing. Three times more hardware is being bought, and purchases of cotton goods have doubled. This development reflects a double phenomenon: the increase in per capita income of the inhabitants and a certain degree of Westernization in their way of life. The most spectacular rises, however, are in imports of cement, ironware, transport equipment and capital goods as a whole. This increase is the result of the putting into effect of an equipment plan designed to foster the expansion of the economy and to improve living conditions.

16. This investment effort explains the standing deficit in the balance of trade of the Overseas Territories since 1946. Before the war the Territories sold only raw materials and imported only as much as their own means allowed. The capital supplied by France is now used to pay for additional imports. Basic equipment is thus the main cause of the current payments deficit. As exports increase, however, this deficit shows a clear tendency to fall. It can be estimated at some 90,000 million francs for 1952, and only 55,000 million francs for 1953. It will be much smaller in 1954; indeed, the statistics for the first nine months encourage the hope that some Territories will show a surplus in their balance of trade. The same applies to foreign exchange. Since 1945 France had been obliged to make up from its own foreign exchange resources the exchange deficits of these Territories with countries outside the franc area. This deficit, however, has steadily fallen, dropping from some 35,000 million francs in 1952 to less than 10,000 million francs in 1953. For the first six months of 1954 a credit balance has for the first time been achieved in all Territories, the surplus with the dollar area being particularly marked.

17. Thus, in both production and the foreign exchange situation, present prospects are very encouraging.

#### Equipment plan

18. There has been a great deal of investment in the Overseas Territories since the end of the Second World War in order to foster their economic expansion and improve the living conditions of their inhabitants. Most of this investment has been financed from French public funds.

19. The Act of 30 April 1946 established a special fund, known as FIDES (Fonds d'investissement pour le développement économique et social), which is fed from the French Treasury and is devoted solely to the financing of operations in the Overseas Territories. Most of the money thus made available to the Territories is provided in the form of non-repayable grants from the metropolitan country. The remainder consists of long-term loans at a very low rate of interest.

20. The percentages of the contributions supplied under the Modernization and Equipment Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the Overseas Territories are given in the following table<sup>1/</sup> (the figures given in this table cover all the Overseas Territories, including New Caledonia, St. Pierre and Miquelon and the Trust Territories of the Cameroons and Togoland, but not Morocco and Tunisia):

<u>Contributions from the State</u>		<u>Local Contributions</u>	
	Per cent	Payments from the Central Fund for Overseas France	Territory's own resources
		Per cent	Per cent
By 31 December 1951	59.5	38.4	2.1
By 31 December 1952	59.9	38.7	1.4
By 31 December 1953	61.7	37.0	1.3
By 30 June 1954	62.2	36.6	1.2

<sup>1/</sup> Prepared from the table published in the Bulletin mensuel de statistiques d'outre-mer, September-October 1954, page 63.



21. Private investment has proved slow. Capital transfers from France and abroad have been small and local business has been developed mainly by the self-financing of undertakings already established. The authorities have, however, taken certain steps to encourage the inflow of private capital. A number of tax privileges have been granted, such as exemption from profits tax for the first years of operation, no tax on the income from movable capital, reduced import duties on raw materials and capital equipment for industrial undertakings, etc. The 1954 Finance Act went so far as to authorize local assemblies to grant productive undertakings special taxation arrangements which would guarantee stable rates of tax for the first fifteen years of operation.
22. The infrastructure has been improved, so as to provide the Territories with the common facilities which are essential to the operation of private undertakings. Finally, through their participation in mixed capital corporations (sociétés d'économie mixte) the authorities have supported any initiative they considered to have genuine economic value.
23. France has also called on international assistance. Agreements have been made with the United States Administration of Technical Assistance for the execution of a programme of pasture irrigation in the Chad and of increased rice cultivation in the basin of Lake Alaotra in Madagascar, and for the working of the copper mines of Mauritania. A loan has been obtained from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for the purpose of modernizing the railways of French West Africa.
24. From 1946 to 1953, the distribution of investment was chiefly in favour of capital equipment. Sixty-three per cent of the funds were devoted to the infrastructure and to the development of power resources, twenty per cent to health and education equipment and seventeen per cent to production. Existing harbours were enlarged and new ones constructed. Railways were modernized and new tracks laid. Thousands of kilometres of highway were built, including 2,000 kilometres of roads for heavy traffic. Airfields were constructed or improved to receive aircraft of all types. New hydro-electric and thermal power

- stations have considerably increased the power resources of the Territories. Their installation has made it possible to start the process of industrialization.
25. Equipment for social purposes has not been neglected. About 18,000 million francs have been devoted to increasing facilities for medical treatment and developing health research. Modern hospitals, dispensaries and maternity centres have been opened in all the Territories. The scope of the prophylactic services has been extended.
26. There has been a similar effort in education. Many secondary schools and colleges have been opened and higher educational institutions have been established at Dakar and Antananarivo. The number of students receiving technical instruction doubled between 1946 and 1953.
27. In addition, a sum of 100,000 francs has been devoted to urban development, highways, water supply and housing, to improve the living conditions of the indigenous people.
28. The second Four-Year Plan (1953-1957) provides for fresh funds amounting to approximately 347,000 million francs for use in the Overseas Territories.<sup>1/</sup> In order that local budgets may not be overburdened, 75 per cent of this sum will be provided by a non-repayable grant from France. The remaining 25 per cent will be financed by a loan to the Territories from France, at a very low rate of interest.
29. The main feature of this second plan is an increase in the funds to be applied to the development of production, which will absorb 40 per cent of the total amount of budgeted investment. It is expected that the expansion will be achieved mainly by increased efforts in agricultural research, civil engineering in the rural areas and financial assistance to indigenous farmers.

#### Industrialization and standard of living

30. There has been a special effort in the matter of industrialization. It has been a limited effort, inasmuch as the development and spread of industry is dependent on a number of prerequisites, such as the availability of power resources, an inflow of capital and the training of technicians and skilled

<sup>1/</sup> See table in appendix.

labour. It has therefore been necessary to proceed in stages. The equipment plan undertook to provide power resources and to speed up the training of skilled workers. It has been difficult to start the flow of capital. The authorities have not been able to do everything required in this field and have been obliged to leave some unavoidable risks to private individuals. In view of the complete absence of local savings, capitalists outside the Territories have to be encouraged to take an interest in a new type of investment, with higher costs than in Europe or the United States and with what is often a long-term yield.

31. Industrialization entails a certain amount of preliminary selection.

Preference has been given to the processing of local produce, either for export (oil mills) or for local consumption (textiles, cement works, footwear factories etc.). On those lines, various types of industry have been established in the different Territories, such as food industries (oil mills, canning factories, sugar refineries, fruit-juice factories etc.), textiles, lumber and building industries, and such projects as the development of the oil works at Dakar and the establishment of a large sugar industry in Madagascar and in the Niari Valley. In view of international competition, the most promising way of ensuring the development of a network of industries is to expand the local market: in other words, to increase the purchasing power of the indigenous people.

32. It is difficult to estimate the rise in the indigenous standard of living, as it cannot be expressed in measurable terms. It is, however, quite certain that a large part of the flow of public or private capital which has been pouring into the Territories since 1946 has been redistributed in various forms to local producers of goods and services. The work done on the social infrastructure, too, has contributed appreciably to the welfare of the indigenous inhabitants. There are two indices by reference to which an approximate quantitative estimate of local standards of living can be made: the increase in the real income of wage-earners and the increase in domestic consumption.

33. The statistics of the Office of the Inspector General of Labour show that since 1946 the wage index has been rising more rapidly than the price index.

This trend has been accelerated during the last two years as a result of the application of the Labour Code and of a vigorous and successful attack by the local authorities on price increases. There has been a considerable increase in the consumption of imported goods compared with the pre-war period, showing that there now exists an indigenous purchasing power which was not there before 1940. This factor is more often than not accompanied by an increase in local food production, which is difficult to compute but none the less genuine. This tendency should increase as the second Four-Year Plan is carried out.

#### Morocco and Tunisia

34. The general increase of trade in Morocco which had been constant since the War came to a halt in 1953. Imports, which had reached their highest point in 1952 at 180,500 million francs, fell by 8,500 million francs and exports were 2,000 million francs lower than they had been in the previous year. The foreign trade indices for 1951 to 1953 point up the fact that the reduction of the total figure for both imports and exports is a result of the drop in the average value per unit. On the other hand, there has been a large rise in the volume of agricultural exports for human food, accompanied by sagging average export prices. The fact that the deficit in the balance of trade, amounting to 77,357 million francs in 1953, is lower than in 1952, when it was more than 85,000 million francs, "is not a reliable indication of a lasting improvement in the foreign trade of Morocco. On the contrary, this result seems to be attributable to reduced purchases of raw materials and capital equipment, because of the industrial level achieved by Morocco, and in particular to a slackened rate of production and sales in the most affected industries".<sup>1/</sup>

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<sup>1/</sup> Official Gazette of the French Republic, Avis et Rapports du Conseil Economique, 1 July 1954, page 519.

35. In Tunisia, the balance of trade figures for 1953 show an improvement in the percentage of imports covered by exports. The total volume of trade has, however, fallen appreciably. The information submitted explains the continuance of this state of affairs by the fact that "in the case of some farm produce, development tends to make the exportable surplus become smaller as a result of the growth of local needs, which at the same time tends to increase the volume of imports; in 1952, 32,000 million francs were spent on the purchase of consumer goods". Further, "each ton of imports is worth six times as much as each ton of exports". This tendency towards trade imbalance has not been overlooked by official circles, which, faced with the growing needs of the country, that will maintain imports from abroad at their present level, are turning their attention to the development of exports.

#### Equipment plan

36. The essential task to be carried out during the second four-year section of the Modernization and Equipment Plan in the North African countries is to find the best means by which the needs of these countries can be satisfied without aggravating the unfavourable balance of payments with foreign countries and to recommend the steps necessary to stimulate exports, especially to countries outside the franc area. To satisfy the needs of the population, which is increasing at the rate of 2 1/2 per cent yearly, it is imperative that the natural resources of these territories should be developed.

37. In areas with a mainly rural population, rapid economic progress depends in the first instance on increasing agricultural production. An economic upsurge of this sort would, however, necessarily be dependent on a parallel development of manufacturing industry sufficient to absorb the surplus agricultural labour made available by improvements in agricultural techniques.

38. The equipment effort in Morocco has been increased considerably. Between 1947 and 1953, 40 per cent of the resources of the State were devoted to investment expenditure. Half this expenditure was met by assistance from France in the form of advances on favourable terms from the Modernization and

Equipment Fund. The equipment programmes are taking a constantly increasing share of expenditure devoted to raising the people's standard of living, and especially of expenditure for cultural and social purposes. This type of expenditure already amounted to 24 per cent of the total in 1949 and rose to more than 30 per cent in 1953. The first stage of the equipment plan for Morocco, which was completed in 1953, was directed mainly towards the provision of the essential infrastructure in Morocco, while the second stage, which provides for investment of public money to a total of approximately 156,000 million francs,<sup>1/</sup> places the main emphasis on agricultural equipment with a view to ensuring a direct increase in production.

39. Of the 118,000 million francs spent in Tunisia under the first development plan between its inception in 1947 and the end of 1953, 10 per cent came from Tunisian resources (budgetary revenue and capital equipment bonds); as funds from abroad accounted for little over 3 per cent, France has in fact financed practically the whole of the equipment plan. The first equipment plan for Tunisia was mainly directed towards reconstruction in the broad sense of the term, the improvement of the infrastructure and the launching of large-scale works which would make for a subsequent increase in production. The second equipment plan, which is to cover the four years 1953-1956, is directed towards the production of goods for immediate consumption. School and hospital equipment alone retains the emphasis that the constant development and expansion of the population demands.

### III. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

#### Overseas Territories

##### Labour and employment

40. Since the beginning of the nineteenth century, the conditions of paid labour in French Overseas Territories have been governed by a variety of laws. These laws, which were at first few and fragmentary, have gradually increased in

<sup>1/</sup> French Republic: Second Modernization and Equipment Plan - General Report of the Commission d'Etude et de Co-ordination, Morocco, June 1954.

number, have developed and have become more detailed. Enactments between 1922 and 1925 set up a system in French West Africa governing, among other things, employment terms, working conditions, compensation for accidents etc. This system, which was frequently amended and improved, constituted the basis of the labour legislation in force in many Territories up to the eve of the Second World War.

41. A number of laws were enacted in 1936, 1937 and 1938. In French West Africa in particular, regulations governing trade unions and collective agreements were introduced, supplemented by a minimum wage fixing system and by conciliation procedure for labour disputes. This legislation introduced into tropical Africa the basic essentials of modern labour law and at the same time laid the foundations of an evolutionary movement which finally led to the Labour Code of the French Overseas Territories.

42. The International Labour Standards established by the International Labour Organisation at Geneva were also bound to receive the attention of Government authorities. Thus in 1937 four international conventions of particular importance were made applicable to the Overseas Territories; these were the conventions on forced labour, night work (women), night work of young persons (industry) and the use of white lead in paint. At the end of the Second World War, the question of labour legislation received the attention of the Brazzaville Conference of 1944. Two important orders published during the same year, as a result of this conference, introduced a statute on trade unions into several of the Territories and established a trained force of labour inspectors. In 1946 an Act was passed confirming the prohibition of forced or compulsory labour.

#### The Labour Code

43. The Labour Code in Overseas Territories was promulgated by the President of the Republic on 15 December 1952. It introduces into Overseas France a set of regulations which are based on certain principles laid down in the Constitution of the French Republic and the International Labour Conventions

ratified by France and correspond both to the development of the economic and social situation and to the aspirations of the working people. The Overseas Labour Code was mainly inspired by certain great principles, enshrined in the social freedoms, such as freedom to work, the right to work, the right to just remuneration for work and freedom to form and join trade unions.

44. The Code reaffirms the absolute prohibition of forced labour, already proclaimed by the Act of 11 April 1946, and, to ensure the enforcement of the prohibition, prescribes appropriate penalties.

45. The principle of freedom to work would lose most of its force if it were not accompanied by an employment policy in keeping with the new economic conditions of the Overseas Territories. The Labour Code introduced a labour exchange system, comprising a labour office in Paris to deal with the employment of workers proceeding to the Overseas Territories and labour offices in the Territories dealing with employment within their areas. It was the intention of the legislature that workers and employers should be closely associated with the activities of the labour office and for this purpose the offices have been provided with a management board on which workers and employers are equally represented. The labour offices perform very extensive functions and, apart from employment as such, they are responsible for all matters concerning the use and distribution of domestic and immigrant labour.

46. The fundamental idea which introduces Title IV of the Code, which concerns wages, is worded as follows: "In equal conditions as regards work, skill and output, the same wage shall be payable to all workers, irrespective of their origin, sex, age and status". Furthermore, in order to take into account the special conditions of labour in the Overseas Territories, the Code prescribes the obligation to provide accommodation and essential foodstuffs, wherever necessary, and to grant allowances to offset additional expenses and risks incurred by the worker on coming to his place of employment when he is employed in an area where the climatic conditions are unlike those prevailing at his normal place of residence.



47. A number of important developments in the social field should also be mentioned, in particular, the establishment of community restaurants, pilot shops and workers' housing.

Community restaurants have been established on the initiative of the Administration in French West Africa (Dakar and Bobo-Dioulasso) and in French Equatorial Africa (Pointe Noire and Brazzaville). Despite their novelty, and although they were not well-known and had to face competition from private restaurants, the community restaurants have enjoyed considerable success from the beginning. At Brazzaville an average of 700 meals a day are served and more than 600 meals a day at Dakar.

Side by side with these community restaurants, pilot shops have been established in the large towns such as Dakar, Brazzaville and Douala. Their function is to sell at the lowest possible price basic foodstuffs that are essential for a properly balanced diet, such as rice, manioc, certain dried vegetables, dried or salted fish etc.

Workers' towns have also been built in various territories, on the initiative of the management of the firms concerned or of the Administration. They usually consist of groups of bungalows, with a living room and two bedrooms, kitchen, wash-room, shower and w.c.. The houses are built of reinforced concrete or cement blocks and have roofs of insulating sheet-iron. Running water and electricity are laid on and each room has a sewage system.

48. The free exercise of trade union rights is guaranteed by the Overseas Labour Code, subject to the same regulations as are in force in France.

49. Employers' and workers' organizations play an important part in the work of the labour advisory boards and the Central Labour Council. Under the Code labour advisory boards are attached to the inspectors-general and territorial inspectors of labour and social legislation and meet under their chairmanship. The boards are joint bodies composed of an equal number of representatives of workers and employers appointed by the employers' and workers' organizations. The boards make recommendations on many matters, especially in connexion with the establishment of wage rates.

50. Finally, a Central Labour Council has been established under the Minister for Overseas France and is composed of members of the National Assembly and of representatives of employers' and workers' organizations. The Council is responsible for studying general overseas labour problems and giving opinions and formulating proposals and resolutions respecting the making of regulations in these matters.

51. The Code extends the legislation on the 40-hour week which has been in force in France since 1936 to the Overseas Territories and additional pay must be given for any time worked in excess of the statutory hours of work. The Code also contains detailed regulations regarding night work, the employment of women and children, maternity leave, weekly days of rest and annual holidays, which are generally speaking compulsory. Other provisions relate to the notification of industrial accidents, hygiene and safety, and the medical and health services required to be provided in all undertakings.

52. Under the Code an "inspectorate of labour and social legislation" is responsible for all matters relating to the condition of the workers, industrial relations and the employment of workers. The legislation provides that the inspectorate should be assisted by a body of medical inspectors of labour and labour supervision officers.

53. The Code is designed to insure the equitable settlement of labour disputes, whether individual disputes, for which labour courts are provided, or collective disputes, which are subject to conciliation procedure before any strike or lock-out takes place.

54. The Labour Code lays down the principle that a system of family benefits should be provided and the heads of territories are empowered to take appropriate measures to that end, having regard to economic and social conditions in the territory concerned.

55. "Now that two years have elapsed since the Overseas Labour Code entered into force, it is reasonable to take stock of the situation and to determine as exactly as possible what influence this fundamental legislation has had on the economic and social development of the Overseas Territories. It can be said that the Overseas Labour Code, far from suddenly introducing new regulations which might have endangered the economy of the Overseas Territories and thus harmed the

interests of the workers it was intended to help, has provided for the establishment of a transitional system, which has made it possible to pass from the old regulations to the new without undue difficulty... The Code has resulted in many beneficial changes in undertakings, to the extent that employers have been encouraged to make better use of their labour force and have tried to improve their equipment and review methods of organization. The employers, assisted by the authorities, have realized the need for increased vocational training. In addition to the increased development of technical education, centres providing shortened vocational training courses have been set up in various territories... The centres have yielded excellent results in the training of skilled building workers, motor repairers and electrical workers. The wage position has been greatly improved as an outcome of the discussions freely entered into between employers and workers in the labour advisory boards. Systems of payment have also developed as a result of the employers new concern with problems of efficiency and productivity. Psychologically, the entry into force of the Code has done much to improve industrial relations by giving workers and employers a sense of security within the framework of an equitable system".

56. The entry into force of the Code has also made possible the ratification and extension to the Overseas Territories many International Labour Conventions. The Convention on social policy in dependent territories, the right of association in non-metropolitan territories, labour inspectorates in non-metropolitan territories, the employment of women before and after confinement, minimum age in industrial employment, weekly rest in industry, minimum wage fixing machinery, minimum age in non-industrial employment, and freedom of association and the protection of the right to organize were made applicable in the Overseas Territories in 1954. The French services concerned are now studying the texts of other International Labour Conventions which it may be possible to make applicable in the French Overseas Territories in the very near future.

57. "The Overseas Labour Code may be regarded as a measure of social progress in the fullest sense of that term. It is the only legislation applicable to all workers without distinction as to race, religion, sex, nationality or status. It would be wrong to suppose, however, that the entry into force of the Labour Code

has resulted in a static situation. The French authorities have always considered that the Code, important and vital though it is, is merely a stage. Attention should be drawn in particular to the work in progress on new legislation on compensation for industrial accidents and occupational diseases (which is now dealt with differently in the various territories)".

#### Social welfare and social service

58. Until 1946-47, the work of the Overseas Social Service, which was set up in 1943 by an Act of 19 November, was confined to the assistance in France of colonial residents and indigenous inhabitants who were stranded as a result of the difficulty or interruption of communications between France and the Overseas Territories. During this initial period, it was therefore exclusively concerned with the provision of immediate assistance.

59. The extension of the social service to the Overseas Territories had been provided for in the Organic Act of 19 November 1943, but when local social services were set up, their commitments were so heavy and the problem facing them so serious and urgent that the assistance for individual cases originally intended was transformed into a programme of mass action. The services were initially established in African towns and centres and were thus confronted from the outset with the very serious problem of assisting the detribalized masses in the large urban centres whose needs were not wholly covered by the work of the other welfare services. The Social Affairs Service is seeking to develop a comprehensive programme by the introduction of appropriate methods and facilities.

60. In a third period, the Social Services, having determined the principles on which such a programme must be based and the methods to be used, are extending their activities to the study and co-ordination of social action to deal with the social problems arising in Overseas France. In the belief that it is better to prevent than to cure social problems an attempt has been made to adjust the individual to his changed living conditions, by educational action. It is considered to be the function of the Social Service to continue health and education action at the family level and to take specific action to promote the welfare of women and children in rural and urban centres.

61. In pursuance of the Act of 19 November 1943, instructions were given to the heads of Territories to set up a social service in each federation or territory, to study and solve the various problems involved in the material and moral betterment of the individual and the family; to co-ordinate, supervise and encourage voluntary social agencies; to guide and co-ordinate family and child welfare work; and to recruit and train the local personnel required to this end. The development of social services was at first hampered by financial difficulties but services have gradually been established in the great majority of the African Territories and even in small possessions where budgetary stringencies sometimes prevent the introduction of comprehensive schemes.

62. In view of the scope of the problems which must be dealt with, the Service, which soon became the Social Affairs Service, has been able to expand its activities, having regard to the specialized functions of the other welfare services, and to concentrate on the educational aspects of the work assigned to it by the Act. To this end, the Social Service is developing the principles which will guide its programme for the replacement of the traditional customary assistance, which is tending to disappear, by assistance provided by the Administration and the social education of women and children, in order to reach the family and thus the basic social structure. To achieve these ends, the social services are directing their efforts towards general assistance and mass social education combined with specialized educational work in many fields. General assistance and social education are provided through social centres, kindergartens, homecraft courses, home visits by social welfare workers and assistants, advice and relief.

63. Assistance and social education for the detribalized are provided through the "social centres". In the initial stages a general educational programme is provided through family meetings in the district "social huts" (Douala, Brazzaville). In order to direct and co-ordinate this first stage, the Services set up "social centres", which provide the people of a town district or township (a geographical unit with an average of 15,000 inhabitants) with premises for various activities, such as homecraft training, a kindergarten and a room for meetings and film shows. Social welfare workers are always in attendance at the centres which are directed by one or more social workers who are responsible for the geographical unit.

64. The specialized educational programmes are specifically concerned with the rehabilitation of neglected and delinquent children, the training of indigenous social workers, infants' centres, medico-social centres, the control of venereal disease and the encouragement of temperance. Substantial results have been achieved in this field in Madagascar, the Cameroons, French West Africa, French Equatorial Africa and French Somaliland. Schools for assistant social workers have for instance been set up in Madagascar, the Cameroons and the Ivory Coast and are being set up in the Sudan and in French Equatorial Africa and in small territories unable for financial reasons to recruit social workers from France. Social workers and assistants are being recruited locally. Sixteen young women from the Overseas Territories are attending courses for social workers and nurses in France, in order to provide the overseas peoples with social staff better able to understand their needs and better informed of their wishes, spoken and unspoken and their interests.

65. "Within the limit of their financial resources at their disposal, the social services of the Territories have provided material and moral assistance and carried on institutional and social education programmes which will be continued and intensified and will be extended to the rural populations."

66. The outstanding feature of the present situation are the population growth in the suburbs of towns in the process of industrialization, the disintegration of the traditional family and the marked difference in the degree of development of men and women, the latter being more strongly influenced by custom.

"Nevertheless, despite the growth of the towns, the bulk of the population of the Overseas Territories is, and will for many years to come continue to be, rural. Because the population is predominantly rural, it is essential that more attention should be devoted to the rural areas, in order to check the drift from the land and reduce the attraction of the towns, by developing the institutional activities and family benefits which are at present in practice available only in urban areas... The outstanding fact about the rural population is its poverty and lack of resources. The primary task is therefore, to raise its level of living by means of economic action integrated with social action. It accordingly seems desirable to establish a closer link between economic and social action, which are

closely interdependent, within a regional framework. With economic and social institutions adapted to the populations concerned, such a programme will contribute to social well being by the improvement of levels of living, as in the case of the modernized indigenous rural communities in Madagascar or the rural cantonal centres in French West Africa".

67. Although the work of the services concerned with social progress (education, health, and labour inspection) is of vital importance, they cannot, because of their specialized functions and the extent of their commitments, cover the entire social field, especially in its educational aspects. The Social Service, acting through the co-ordinating bodies (the Central Advisory Councils of Social Affairs) established in all the federations and territories, ensures co-ordination and provides guidance in the solution of social problems in the Overseas Territories, stressing the human factors involved in the solution of each problem. Social policy in the Overseas Territories is based on knowledge of the communities concerned, the adaptation of programmes to these communities, assistance to enable the indigenous inhabitants to become aware of their capacities and to find their own place in society, the correction of social maladjustment in communities and individuals and the priority of educational action. The assistance given to relieve individual "social cases" is thus merely an adjunct of educational action. It is in this spirit that the Social Service intends to carry out its task, which is essentially that of providing social education for the indigenous inhabitants.

#### Public health

68. Public health activity can be divided into three main phases. In the first phase, the public health services had to deal with the major infectious diseases (yellow fever, smallpox, plague) prevalent in tropical regions. Preventive measures capable of rapidly checking these dread diseases had to be developed and applied. At the same time, the foundations of the hospital system had to be laid. Thanks to such measures, Madagascar, where smallpox epidemics formerly took a heavy toll of lives, has not had a single case of the disease since 1918. Yellow fever has virtually disappeared from French West Africa since 1943 and the plague since 1945.

69. In the second phase, the public health services initiated measures to control the major endemic diseases (trypanosomiasis, malaria, leprosy etc.).

"Curative medicine is a necessity, but it cannot by itself remedy social scourges like trypanosomiasis, which can depopulate entire territories, or malaria which lowers the resistance of the population to such an extent that it is unable to make the effort necessary to maintain an adequate level of living. Only carefully developed and methodically applied large-scale mass preventive measures can radically change the health situation in a territory by the elimination of sources of infection and the destruction of insect sectors".

This second phase was marked by the creation of the mobile hygiene and preventive services which were destined to prove remarkably effective.

70. The mobile health and preventive services of West Africa, Equatorial Africa, the Cameroons and Togoland and the mobile health units of Madagascar were set up, provided with technical equipment and transport and staffed with a large number of carefully trained personnel. They penetrate to the remotest parts of the vast African territories. For instance the General Mobile Hygiene and Preventive Medicine Service in French West Africa, which is responsible for the detection and treatment of trypanosomiasis, leprosy, and treponemiasis, examined 5,400,000 inhabitants in 1953 and gave 4,000,000 medicinal injections and 2,500,000 smallpox vaccinations. Lastly, it may be noted that the mobile units which tirelessly cover the areas where sleeping sickness is endemic have succeeded, by treating trypanosomiasis carriers and giving preventive injections of lomidine to persons exposed to the disease, in reducing general index of blood infestation to under 1 per cent.

71. Similar results have been achieved in the case of malaria. Wherever preventive medicines and house-spraying have been organized, the results have been spectacular. In Madagascar, for example, where population growth and economic expansion were made impossible by malaria, the mass campaigns continuously undertaken since 1949 have transformed the country. The excess of births over deaths, formerly practically nil, was 92,000 in 1953 for a population of 4,446,000. In a few years the economic and social life of the territory has been entirely transformed. In continental Africa, it is proposed to spend



2,250 million francs for malaria control under the 1953-1957 Equipment Plan, in addition to 2,332 million francs from local sources. Pilot malaria control schemes are being organized with the assistance of international agencies. At the same time energetic measures are being taken for the treatment of leprosy. Thanks to the use of sulfones, mobile units can treat tens of thousands of lepers who no longer have to be isolated in leper colonies.

72. Lastly, in the third phase, the public health services are more particularly concerned with the social diseases (mental disease, tuberculosis, treponemiasis etc.) and work in increasingly close association with the other main social agencies. "Just as curative medicine alone could not have changed the health situation of the territories, the mobile health and preventive services and other public health services, if unassisted and working alone, would not succeed in affecting any great or lasting improvement in the health of the indigenous inhabitants. Below a certain level of living, people cannot protect themselves against disease; the improvement of levels of living depends on economic development, and to achieve a satisfactory level of economic activity the health of the workers must be good... In their future work, the health services must therefore take into account the work of other social agencies to a much greater extent than in the past and in particular take into consideration the demands of modern economic life".

73. Under the four year plan, 1,744 million francs are to be spent for a tuberculosis control programme in the Overseas Territories based on the BCG vaccination of persons with negative tuberculosis test reactions, systematic X-ray examinations in centres of population to detect new cases, and the treatment of contagious cases.

74. Large-scale campaigns have been launched or planned to control treponemiasis. For example in French West Africa, a special section, General Mobile Hygiene and Preventive Medicine Service, has been set up with over twenty mobile units, which, thanks to the delayed-action penicillin now used, are able to treat great numbers of cases of yaws or syphilis. A total of 4,800 million francs has been allocated under the health projects of the four-year plan for treponemiasis control.

75. Specialized services are being organized in all the major hospitals to make modern therapeutic facilities available to patients suffering from the more acute forms of mental illness. Funds are also being made available under the Equipment Plan for the construction of psychiatric hospitals for the treatment of chronic mental disease in all the Overseas Territories.

76. Large sums continue to be expended each year for the construction of maternity hospitals in urban and rural areas. The number of births rise as health conditions improve. Thus, in Madagascar where the number of births is now 150,000 a year, maternity hospitals of the Medical Assistance Service deal with 100,000 confinements annually.

77. While continuing their long-standing medico-social activities (such as mother and child care), the health services are at present devoting special attention to a number of basic problems, such as problems of unbalanced diet and the nutritional problems of the indigenous populations, and workers' health.

78. In this connexion reference should be made to the establishment in 1953 of the African Food and Nutrition Research Institution (ORANA) in French West Africa and of the Nutrition Section of the French West African General Mobile Hygiene and Preventive Medicine Service. Both bodies are assisted by standing committees consisting of the heads of the services concerned with food and nutritional problems. They undertake intensive research and experimental work in connexion with various supplementary foodstuffs (skimmed milk, groundnut cakes, fish autolyzates, biscuits etc.).

79. Investigations of the composition of the indigenous diet and of nutritional problems in French West Africa, French Equatorial Africa and Madagascar have shown that diets are not properly balanced or are deficient in a number of respects. One of the main objects at the present time is to remedy these deficiencies. The goal of increased well-being and higher levels of living cannot be attained if the diet is unbalanced. The initial investigations showed that the main objectives must be:

- the protection and expansion of traditional crops;
- the expansion of crops producing vegetable fats (in Madagascar);
- the expansion of stockfarming;
- the expansion of dairy production;

the improvement of methods of preserving and distributing meat (refrigeration chains, air transport etc.);  
the development of fish-farming;  
the expansion of sea fish supplies;  
the organization of facilities for preserving and distributing fish (fresh, dried, smoked or in the form of fish flour).

The problem of mineral catalysers and vitamins must also be solved. It is planned to establish salt works on the coast in areas where evaporation is heavy in order to alleviate the shortage of sea salt in Africa and certain forest areas of Madagascar.

80. "The interdependence of health and economic problems and the importance of the part indirectly played by health in the economic life of the territories are recognized. If economic development is impossible in countries whose population is weakened by disease, it is equally impossible to improve the health of a population whose level of living is very low. If the level of living is to be raised, two essential conditions must be fulfilled simultaneously; health conditions must be improved and production must be increased. It is thus necessary to deal with a series of interdependent factors which would react unfavourably on each other if it was impossible to introduce elements capable of modifying their development."

### Morocco and Tunisia

#### Labour and employment

81. In Morocco, the officially established statutory minimum wage has been increased since 1951 by a greater percentage than the wages of higher categories which are freely determined by employers. On 1 October 1951, the ratio of the maximum average wage in the metal industry at Casablanca to the hourly wage of labourers (1st zone) was 3.89:1 as against 3.65:1 on 1 January 1954. The purchasing power of the lowest paid workers has thus been substantially increased.

82. The same trend can be observed in Tunisia, where a decree, promulgated on 16 March 1954, provides for a uniform temporary allowance payable in addition to the minimum wage rate fixed in 1951. The allowance increases the minimum wage by 60 to 66 francs per hour of work in the large towns and from 47 to 51.70 francs in other areas. At the same time, the prices of all products and services have

been frozen at the level of 1 March 1954. The establishment of a Central Employment Committee in Tunisia should be noted. The Committee, which meets under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General of the Government, is responsible for co-ordinating the work of the various departments concerned with employment problems, and also for developing measures to increase the volume and control of employment in accordance with the needs of industry, commerce and agriculture. In order to deal with the unemployment problem, public works projects have been opened as a remedial measure. In addition, in order to stimulate building actively the Government has embarked on a programme of new construction work amounting to one thousand million francs spread over the four years of the modernization and equipment plan in order to promote building activity.

#### Public health

83. In Morocco the budget, staff and operations of the Directorate of Public Health have been increased and health facilities have been expanded. Measures to control mass diseases have been intensified, principally in co-operation with the international agencies concerned such as UNICEF and WHO. Special reference should be made to the large-scale programme for the control of eye diseases undertaken with the assistance of WHO and UNICEF. The programme provides for a campaign in the southern territories and another in the schools.

### IV. EDUCATION

#### Overseas Territories

84. The educational system must achieve two purposes; the education of the masses, and the development of an élite, while giving all an equal opportunity through the provision of sound education. In the early stages, the campaign against ignorance was hampered by a variety of obstacles. Before more schools could be opened, roads had to be built; the isolation of vast regions had to be ended; the economy had to be organized and the health of the inhabitants safeguarded. In all these fields France had to give substantial financial assistance to the Overseas Territories at a time when social progress was being hampered by the effects of a series of world crises. Lastly, educators found that there was no system of education or an antiquated traditional system, incapable of providing a basis for real progress.

85. "Overseas educational policy, which originally tended to aim at assimilation, has developed along more flexible lines and education now tends to be adapted to regional needs and the differing degrees of development of the indigenous inhabitants." The granting of citizenship to all nationals of the French Union under the 1946 Constitution also determined the future role of education in the Overseas Territories. The preamble to the Constitution states that "Faithful to her traditional mission, France proposes to guide the peoples for whom she has assumed responsibility towards freedom to govern themselves and democratically to manage their own affairs.....she guarantees to all equal access to public office.....". This implies education that is adapted to the genius, customs and needs of the population and to the economy of the country and is at the same time adequate to enable boys and girls to qualify for employment in any walk of life. The new policy seeks to satisfy apparently contradictory requirements: on the one hand, recognition of the values of indigenous culture, and, on the other, the training of an African élite, with recognized educational qualifications. The only diplomas now accepted as valid in the French Union are the French diplomas issued in each Territory by the Directorate of Education. As a result of this reform, curricula are standardized throughout the French Union and teachers in the Overseas Territories are on the same footing as teachers in France, which permits exchanges of staff.

In recent years curricula and educational methods in the Overseas Territories have been modified in accordance with this policy of adaptation. As a result of the establishment of teaching offices, substantial changes have been made in curricula by the introduction of general instruction in local history, agricultural methods, handicrafts, applied hygiene, etc. Pupils have been provided with new textbooks written specially for them.

86. If this attitude is to be successful it must be based on a thorough knowledge of the populations concerned and the French Central African Institute has prepared a programme of research in rural and urban areas. The Central Sociological Research Council recently established under the Ministry for Overseas France will guide the research programme. Lastly an essential factor in the decentralization of public education is the power entrusted to the local assemblies; as the budget must be approved by them, they can exert a direct influence on the development

of education. They are also empowered to take decisions regarding the organization of the school system and structural reforms and even regarding the regulations governing private education.

### The Language Problem

87. It is widely argued that children learn to read and write more easily when the teacher uses their mother tongue, at least in the early stages, but in most French Overseas Territories it is undesirable to encourage pupils to use their own language in school for more than a short time, for a series of reasons which are summarized in the findings of the Conference of Directors of Education in Central Africa and Madagascar (May 1952). The most important passages are as follows:

"Having considered the linguistic situation in each territory, the Conference has concluded that the only possible language of instruction is French ..."

"In the Overseas Territories, there is a great variety of local languages which are numbered by the hundred in French West Africa, and by the dozen elsewhere"... "As a general rule, homogenous linguistic groups are rare."... "The local languages are still little known, fluid and in the process of development."... "Most of them are not written. Although they are rich in words dealing with concrete activities they lack the abstract or technical words necessary to express the knowledge and ideas appropriate to a modern elementary education. They have little or no literature and what little exists is in oral form."

"Under these circumstances, the use of local languages, even if it were proved to be preferable to the use of French, would raise practical difficulties that are at present insuperable: the difficulty of organizing courses in teachers' training colleges and courses for staff capable of teaching in a given local language, and the difficulty of assembling classes in any one area that are homogeneous from the point of view of the language used."

"It is however obvious that appropriate teaching methods should be adopted to take linguistic problems into account whenever possible."

"Thus at the beginning of the child's education the teacher is justified in using the local language so that the children can understand him better; early lessons in ethics, agriculture and hygiene are given in the local language; in some Territories (in Togoland and Somaliland) certain local languages are taught as an optional subject in certain classes; in all the Territories, songs and legends are used to revive the folklore preserved in local languages; and in fundamental education experiments the instructor uses the local language."

"Finally, in Madagascar, where one language is widely used and spoken almost universally, ... the Education Service has decided that Malagasy should be used as the basic language during the first year of schooling and should be studied throughout the child's school life."

"However, in Madagascar, as elsewhere, the object of education is to provide children with adequate training and knowledge in French to enable them to participate in the main stream of the world's cultural life; the teacher's function is not simply to teach his pupils certain subjects. It is also his duty to train men, to educate the men and women who will lead the African and Malagasy societies of tomorrow and gradually to raise the cultural level of the people. It is therefore on the cultural level that the linguistic problem must finally be solved."

The conclusions end with a reminder that there is no question of denying anyone the opportunity to speak his own language and express himself in his own way, and add that:

"While the Conference is gratified that French is the language of instruction throughout the Overseas Territories and finds that there can be no question of abandoning this policy which in this respect meets with the full approval of the inhabitants as well as their instructors, it does not regard the study of local languages as useless, as a means of preserving local traditions and popular culture, reducing illiteracy, associating education more closely with the life of the community, and using folklore as a means of providing increased knowledge and better understanding of the children and adults whose advancement the school is intended to promote."

88. It should also be noted that although there is no written African literature, there is African literature written in French by Negro writers. Lastly, it should be pointed out that the use of French in no way precludes the use of the vernacular in the group which speaks it. Traditional culture is therefore in no danger:

"As in France, where Breton, Provençal, Alsatian or Basque is spoken, the French language is superimposed but does not destroy. The dialects remain the secret refuge of tradition and sentiment; French is the language of communication with other men. The dialects are still studied by specialized linguists and in institutes of higher education. It should be noted that all the studies by Africans of their own vernaculars have been made by men who were thoroughly conversant with the French language."<sup>1/</sup>

In that connexion attention should be drawn to the establishment in 1951 of centres for the study of local overseas languages which will train advanced indigenous inhabitants in one year to enable them to undertake a technical study of their mother tongue.

#### Education in Moslem areas

89. The problem is completely different in areas when there are large Moslem groups, particularly if the Moslem population speaks Arabic. Recognizing the part played by Moslem scholars, the authorities have officially recognized the education they provide side by side with education in French. In these areas school curricula include instruction in Arabic and the basic principles of the Koran. An effort is being made to improve the training of teachers through the organization of annual courses, pending the graduation of better qualified teachers from the Franco-Arab College of Abéché, which was recently opened on a temporary basis.

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<sup>1/</sup> "Education Africaine", Nos. 10 and 11, page 25.



#### Fundamental education and adult education

90. Fundamental education is intended as a preliminary stage in villages where schools have not yet been organized and is designed to provide the inhabitants with the basic knowledge required to raise their level of living and to awaken an interest in education which can be satisfied at a later stage by formal schooling. Fundamental education is intended for both adults and children and has two goals: to combat ignorance and illiteracy by providing basic knowledge and the means of acquiring it, and to improve the life of the people by action designed to change their natural and social environment. Individual fundamental education programmes accordingly take a wide variety of forms depending on local conditions. As rapid progress has to be made, methods capable of capturing the attention and exciting the interest of the population must be used. Considerable use is therefore made of audio-visual methods (films and recordings) in fundamental education programmes. The experiments undertaken are based on the use of mobile teams which try to cover as large a population as possible in the shortest possible time. Another peculiarity of this method, in contrast to traditional education practices, is that local vernaculars are frequently used in reading exercises. French and a vernacular may even be used at the same time. The Government of French West Africa has set up a Federal Fundamental Education Centre to train specialized personnel. The Centre has already given its first course which was attended by doctors, teachers, agricultural instructors and public works administrators.

91. In addition to fundamental education proper, mention should be made of the adult courses given in all the Overseas Territories side by side with the traditional education provided. For the most part, the courses are designed to give vocational training with a minimum of general knowledge and have little in common with fundamental education.

#### Present organization of the educational system

92. Primary education is given in the principal schools offering a full course, as follows:

Preliminary language instruction	7 to 10 years
Preparatory section	8 to 11 years
Elementary Course I	9 to 12 years
Elementary course II	10 to 13 years
Intermediate Course I	11 to 14 years
Intermediate Course II	12 to 16 years.

In addition to the principal schools, which offer a full course, there are many schools, mainly in Central Africa, which offer education up to Elementary Course II or Intermediate Course I. The best pupils from these schools are transferred to a regional school to continue their studies. When they reach Intermediate Course I or II, between the ages of 12 and 16, pupils may take a secondary school entrance examination which opens the way to secondary classical, modern or technical education. At the level of Intermediate Course II, (from 12 to 16 years of age) pupils who do not intend to continue their studies take the examination for the certificate of primary studies and then enter pre-apprenticeship sections and vocational training centres when they are trained as skilled workmen.

93. The secondary schools which have been reorganized since the Liberation, take pupils from the primary schools. Depending on their age and ability, the children enter modern colleges offering a four year course leading to the Brevet élémentaire or the Brevet d'études du premier cycle, or classical colleges or lycées which prepare pupils for the baccalaureat.

94. Teachers are trained in the training colleges for men and women teachers. The entrance requirements and curricula are almost the same as in training colleges in France. During the present transitional period in order to meet the needs of the expanding educational system shortened teacher-training courses have been organized for indigenous teachers in possession of the brévet élémentaire until such time as the teachers' training colleges can supply all the teachers required.

95. Secondary education has been greatly expanded in recent years. Except in a few areas the number of colleges and lycées meets all requirements and in most of the territories it is no longer necessary to send scholarship holders to schools in France.

96. Technical and vocational training is provided by the technical colleges which recruit their pupils on the basis of the secondary school entrance examination. The course lasts five years. In some colleges an additional two-year course leading to a brévet professionnel is offered. It is proposed to establish higher technical schools similar to the Bamako school which prepares students for entry to the public works department. The school trains technical assistants, public works draughtsmen, architectural assistants, surveyors and inspectors. The apprenticeship centres rank immediately below the technical colleges and usually comprise several sections. The pupils are young people who have completed their primary education. A three-year course is given leading to the certificat d'aptitude professionnelle.

97. Higher education is being rapidly developed. The Decree of 6 April 1950 established an Institute of Higher Studies at Dakar. Several months later an Academy was set up in French West Africa and at the same time the public education system was thoroughly reorganized with a view to its decentralization and to bring it into line with the system in France. The schools of medicine, science, law and liberal arts in the capital of French West Africa are the forerunners of the future University of Central Africa. A system of higher education was established in Madagascar some years ago; courses in law were organized in 1947 and scientific courses in 1948. A preparatory course was opened in 1952.

In territories which as yet have no institutes of higher learning a scholarship system, open to all, enables students to continue their education in France.

#### Private education

98. Private education plays an important part in the Territories of Overseas France and in some cases is more extensive than the public education system. Catholic and Protestant missionary organizations, which often preceded the public education system, are patiently continuing their work. The authorities make grants to the missionary organizations to enable them to carry on their educational work which supplements that of the public schools. Problems of interest to both governmental and private schools are discussed in the Education

Councils which include representatives of the private schools. The Councils consider such questions as teachers' qualifications, co-ordination, enrolment plans, and the material assistance given by the authorities to the private schools.

#### Morocco and Tunisia

99. The fundamental objective of the equipment plan for Morocco is the speediest possible development of generalized fundamental education, which is to be expanded at the rate of 35,000 new pupils a year. Special emphasis is to be given to vocational training in both urban and rural communities. During 1952-1953, a further 29,434 young Moroccans were enrolled in schools, 530 new classes were formed and a further 18 workshops and nine new boarding schools were opened.

100. In Tunisia the number of children registered by the Directorate of Public Education as attending school was 243,490 on 10 November 1953 as against the 227,000 provided for in the school enrolment plan. The figures show an increase of 20,469 in the number of pupils attending primary schools. For all schools, private and governmental, the total increase is 23,235 pupils. Approximately 30,000 new pupils were enrolled in the schools in 1953 while the school enrolment plan provided for an increase of only 16,000.

APPENDIX

Proposed investment in the Territories during the period 1954-1957<sup>1/</sup>  
of funds from metropolitan France

	Total amount of investments planned (in thousands of millions of Metropolitan francs)	Percentage
Scientific and technical research, cartography	14	4
Mineral and oil prospecting, geological procedure and mapping	24	6.9
Major mining, industrial or hydro-electric projects (including transport facilities)	80	23
Loans to private undertakings (other than those included above)	16	4.6
Rural economic development <sup>a/</sup>	62	17.9
Transport and communications <sup>b/</sup>	77	22.2
Fundamental teaching and education <sup>c/</sup>	19.4	5.6)
Broadcasting <sup>d/</sup>	2.5	0.7) 21.4
Health <sup>e/</sup>	23.6	6.8)
Town planning and housing (including electrification)	29	8.3
	<u>347.5</u>	<u>100</u>

Percentage received

<sup>a/</sup> Agriculture	45.6
Livestock	11.4
Forestry	5

<sup>1/</sup> French Republic: Commissariat général en plan de modernisation et d'équipement. Deuxième plan de modernisation et d'équipement. Rapport général de la Commission d'Etude et de Co-ordination des plans de modernisation et d'équipement des territoires d'outre-mer. Paris, April 1954, p. 172.

The investments shown in the table relate to all French Overseas Territories, including the Trust Territories of Togoland and the Cameroons, New Caledonia and St. Pierre and Miquelon, but excluding Morocco and Tunisia.

	<u>Percentage received</u>
<u>b/</u> Railways	8.1
Roads and bridges	36.8
Ports	16.6
Navigable waterways	4.4
Aviation	5.8
Communications	5.3
<u>c/</u> Higher education	0.9
Secondary education	2.8
Primary education	
(excluding expenditure borne by the Territories - primary schools with less than three classes)	5.4
Technical education	2.2
Handicrafts and homecraft	3.2
Grants	4
Libraries	0.3
Fundamental education	0.6
<u>d/</u> Regional broadcasting stations	2.1
Public address systems	
(education - fundamental education)	0.3
Technical training of personnel	0.1
<u>e/</u> Curative medicine	13.8
Mass preventive medicine	9.8

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