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**President: Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).**

*Present:*

The representatives of the following States members of the Trusteeship Council: Australia, Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Iraq, New Zealand, Thailand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; World Health Organization.

**Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority on the administration of the Trust Territory of Western Samoa for the period ended 31 December 1950 (T/941, T/942 and Add.1) (*continued*)**

[Agenda item 3 (a)]

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Wright, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Western Samoa, took his place at the Council table.*

1. The PRESIDENT invited members of the Council to put further questions to the special representative for Western Samoa on the section of the annual report<sup>1</sup> dealing with social advancement in that Territory.
2. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) wished to know the reasons for the continued increase in the number of deaths as shown in the table on page 75 of the report.
3. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) pointed out that the increase in the population of the Territory naturally led to an increase in the number of deaths, and that it should not therefore be thought that the actual death rate had increased. Moreover, for the year 1951, the number of deaths had been 491, which was a substantial reduction.
4. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) found the special representative's reply far from satisfactory.

<sup>1</sup> See Report by the New Zealand Government to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of Western Samoa for the period of nine months from 1st April to 31st December, 1950, Department of Island Territories, Wellington, 1951.

5. Before putting further questions on social advancement in the Territory, he would like to know whether the special representative was now in a position to supply the information promised at the 392nd meeting in connexion with a number of questions on which his delegation desired further information.

6. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that he was now in a position to reply to the USSR representative's question on the profits of the New Zealand Reparation Estates. In the first place, the Reparation Estates, being a New Zealand Government organization, had not adopted the calendar year as its fiscal year. The figures he proposed to give would therefore relate to the financial year ended on 31 March 1950.

7. The profit and loss account for that financial year showed a net profit of £84,860, which had been transferred to the profit and loss appropriation account. In the balance sheet for the same year the appropriation account was shown at a gross figure of £467,903, less grants to the Samoan Government of £353,453, giving a net total of £114,450.

8. According to the report of the Department of Island Territories, from which those figures had been taken, the unaudited accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 1951 showed a profit of £64,200.

9. In reply to a further question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that he was not yet in a position to give the price paid to producers for a ton of copra, the price paid by the United Kingdom Government for a ton of copra and the price on the world market.

10. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) referred to the figures on child mortality among Samoans given on page 75 of the report and asked what were the corresponding figures for the European population.

11. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) regretted that those figures were not in his possession.

12. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) stressed the desirability of making those figures available to the Council.

13. Referring to a question put by the representative of Thailand at the 392nd meeting regarding the reduc-

tion in the number of graduate nurses, he expressed a desire for additional information on the subject.

14. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) did not think that, in view of the comfortable new quarters which had been built for nurses in training, there would be any tendency for the number of graduate nurses to diminish. The reduction shown in the statistics in the annual report, which was comparatively small, was due to the relatively large number of nurses who, for one reason or another, did not complete their training. There again, improved quarters should lead to better results in future. The total number of graduate nurses with over two years' experience had continued to rise in recent years and had now reached the figure of thirty-four.

15. In reply to a further question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that, in addition to a number of smaller dispensary hospitals, there were at present three completely new district hospitals in the Territory, each with two wards of twelve beds, a consultation room and a laboratory. Plans for the future affected dispensary hospitals, which it was proposed to replace with modern buildings, more than district hospitals, as the improved roads made it relatively easy to transport serious cases to the central hospital at Apia where they could obtain treatment by specialists.

16. He was not in a position to give the number of villages which were not visited by mobile clinics on account of the state of the roads. But the small dispensary hospitals, which he had just mentioned, made up for any deficiencies in the services provided by mobile clinics.

17. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) read out a petition relating to Chinese immigrants' rights (T/Pet.1/3), which had been submitted by the Chinese Association in Samoa to the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in the Pacific when it had visited that Territory in 1950, and went on to quote a passage from the Trusteeship Council's report to the sixth session of the General Assembly (A/1856, p. 216) dealing with the Administering Authority's observations on that petition. He inquired whether the Administering Authority had taken steps to implement Council resolution 312 (VIII) on the subject and whether it intended to grant applications from Chinese residents for return to Samoa. He would also like to have detailed information on the number, status and conditions of children of Chinese parentage in Western Samoa as well as on Chinese immigration and the position of Chinese inhabitants of the Territory.

18. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said he was sorry to have to say that it was doubtful whether the Chinese who had left Samoa in September 1948 would be given permission to return. It was very difficult to give separate statistics for Chinese children living in Western Samoa in view of the fact that they attended European schools and were fully integrated in the community.

19. As regards the right to form and register societies, the Chinese living in Samoa were not subject to any discriminatory measures. They had been unable to register their societies solely because there was no law

on that in the Territory; an ordinance on the subject was in course of preparation and would probably be carried into effect in the current year.

20. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) called the special representative's attention to the fact that, according to the observations of the Administering Authority, to which he himself had just referred, the Samoans might be persuaded to agree to the return of a few Chinese. The statement the special representative had just made was in obvious contradiction to those observations.

21. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that the matter had been discussed with representatives of the Samoans, who were definitely opposed to the return of the few Chinese in question; and the Administering Authority would not wish to oppose the wishes of the indigenous population in the matter. In any event, having regard to the existing régime in China, he did not see how the Chinese subjects in question could, in fact, return to Samoa.

22. In reply to a further question from Mr. S. S. LIU (China), Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that, despite the reference on page 41 of the annual report to the appearance of a tendency to depart from the traditional way of life, it was still true to say that the proportion of the population depending on wages was so small that the enactment of special labour legislation was unnecessary. Chinese subjects would continue to have the services of the Commissioner of Labour.

23. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) inquired whether the substantial quantities of alcohol mentioned on page 49 of the report had been imported exclusively for medical purposes.

24. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that under the Trusteeship Agreement liquor was controlled in the interests of the indigenous inhabitants. By reference to the total population, the figures in question did not in fact represent really substantial quantities of alcohol.

25. The PRESIDENT invited members of the Council to put questions on the section of the report dealing with educational advancement in the Territory.

26. In reply to a question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that pastors' schools were small schools controlled and run by the various religious denominations; they had no European staff. Their pupils received an elementary education mainly consisting of arithmetic, reading and writing. He thought that those schools followed the same system as the government schools; the school year ran from February to the beginning of December; children attended school for five hours a day and each class had approximately forty pupils. It was, however, possible that in a number of villages where there were also government schools, the time table was adjusted to permit pupils to attend both schools concurrently.

27. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) wished to know the average age of children attending pastors' schools, the percentage of the pupils who continued their education and the schools to which they could obtain admission.

28. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that the pupils in the pastors' schools were younger than those in the government schools, in which the standard was a little higher. Pupils leaving pastors' schools could go to government schools and to mission schools of a higher grade. Unfortunately, however, a large number of children left school after learning to read and write and acquiring the rudiments of arithmetic.
29. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the special representative could give any details of the pay scales for the teaching staff in government schools.
30. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) pointed out that the scale in force had been adjusted and increased with a view to giving the teaching staff a greater degree of financial independence. The salary varied from £50 for a first-year teacher in the training college to £525 for an inspector.
31. In reply to further questions by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained that the salary of a teacher in a village primary school largely depended on his years of service. In view of the shortage of teachers, it had been necessary to make use of very young teachers, whose pay was naturally lower than that of their more experienced colleagues. There was, however, an arrangement whereby the head teacher of a village school obtained a small allowance of about £24 a year.
32. It had not so far proved possible to do without European primary schools, since a child speaking English in his first years of school had to be taught in that language. At the level of standard V in New Zealand schools, pupils of both Samoan and European schools attended the new intermediate school in which teaching was given in English. The number of Samoan children in that school exceeded that of European children, a fact which was due to a rise in the cultural level of the Samoan population.
33. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether it was correct to say that European pupils normally went to New Zealand to continue their education.
34. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that that was not correct, since the European population included a large number of part Samoans who remained in the Territory all their lives.
35. In reply to a further question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that he could not explain why there were forty pupils in Samoan classes and 20 pupils in European classes.
36. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he would like to have more detailed information on the subject.
37. In reply to a further question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained that there was a library at the central Secretariat of the Territory containing works on Samoa or dealing with financial and administrative questions. The Administration was at present considering setting up a library, the expenses of which would be covered either by the Samoan Government itself or by a subsidy from the New Zealand Government out of the profits from the New Zealand Reparations Estates.
38. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how many periodicals and books had appeared in Samoan during the period under consideration.
39. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that a number of textbooks in Samoan had been published by the Education Department and a school journal was published by the New Zealand Government. There were also various periodicals published by the Samoan Administration and the religious missions. So far, however, no literary works had appeared in Samoan. A weekly newspaper, the *Samoa Bulletin*, appeared in English and Samoan.
40. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether it was true that the elementary textbook used in the village mission schools dated from the middle of the last century.
41. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) thought it was unlikely in view of the active interest which the London Missionary Society, whose missions were the largest in the Territory, was taking in the development of education in Samoa.
42. Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand) explained that the book referred to on page 5 of the annual report, which had been published in 1862, was not a textbook but a philological work which was very highly thought of by specialists.
43. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) could not believe that a book which had come out in 1862 could be regarded as the last word on Samoan philology. The Samoan language had certainly developed since that time.
44. Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand) thought that the book was nevertheless still of great value.
45. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) noted with satisfaction that the Government of Western Samoa contemplated subsidizing a number of mission schools (annual report, p. 55). He asked the special representative whether the Administering Authority contemplated making with other missions arrangements similar to those made with the London Missionary Society and the Methodist Mission.
46. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that the Samoan Government would like to be able to make similar arrangements with other missions but was afraid that it would not have the necessary staff-training facilities.
47. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) noted that according to the report there were 6,193 European and part-Samoan inhabitants, whereas according to the last census, mentioned by the special representative at the 390th meeting, only 4,756 persons with European status had been enumerated.
48. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) thought that it was probably the census figures which were correct. He noted the Belgian representative's observation so that it could be taken into account in the next report.

49. In reply to several questions by M. C. DILOKRIT KRIDAKON (Thailand) concerning secondary education in the Territory, Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained that there was a small post-primary school attached to the central government school at Apia. He had no statistics concerning the number of children who left village primary schools and the post-primary school each year. He believed the present intention of the New Zealand Government was to keep the number of scholarships it granted constant until the new Samoan college was able to accept the maximum number of pupils provided for, and then to reduce the number of scholarships. The scholarships were awarded on the basis of a competitive examination open to all the school children in the Territory. The age of the scholarship winners, which had at the beginning been considerably higher than that of their school fellows in New Zealand, had gradually been brought down.

50. Mr. ARNALDO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) drew attention to the observations of UNESCO on the reports of the Administering Authorities for 1950-1951 on the Trust Territories of the Pacific, which appeared in document T/962. Those observations had been approved by a Special Committee of the Executive Board of UNESCO on 14 and 15 February 1952 and submitted to the Council on time despite the delay with which certain essential documents had reached UNESCO. They had been framed in accordance with resolution 47 (IV) adopted by the Trusteeship Council on 1 March 1949. In the past UNESCO's observations on the annual reports had been communicated to the States members of that organization and brought to the attention of the General Conference.

51. UNESCO was interested, above all, in the progress made in education in the Trust Territories. He mentioned in that connexion the regional conferences to be organized by UNESCO on free and compulsory primary education; the first of those conferences, which would be held in December 1952, would concern the countries of south-east Asia and the Pacific area. UNESCO was also studying the use of vernacular languages as vehicles of instruction. A comprehensive three-volume work entitled *The Language Problem* would be published at the end of 1952; it would include the linguistic picture in the Pacific and Indian oceans. Further, UNESCO had undertaken the establishment of a world network of regional centres for fundamental education. The first centre was already in operation in Patzcuaro, Mexico, for Latin America, and arrangements for a second centre were under way in Egypt, for the Middle East. The third of the centres would probably serve southern Asia and the Pacific area. Lastly, UNESCO had just published a new edition of *Study Abroad, Volume IV*, a publication dealing with fellowships and scholarships for study abroad, some of which were available to the Trust Territories.

52. In conclusion, Mr. Arnaldo said that, as in the past, UNESCO would welcome any proposal from the Council to make its collaboration more effective and fruitful.

*The meeting was suspended at 4.15 p.m. and was resumed at 4.40 p.m.*

53. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) wondered whether it would be possible to provide completely free primary education even in the case of residential schools.

54. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that the registration fee charged was very small, but he would pass the Chinese representative's suggestion on to the Administering Authority.

55. In reply to another question from Mr. S. S. LIU (China), Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained that arrangements had been made with the South Pacific Commission for a linguist from the School of Oriental and African Studies, of the University of London, to visit Samoa.

56. Mr. STRONG (United States of America) asked for details about the Samoan Legislative Assembly's attitude towards appropriations for education.

57. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that the Samoans were afraid that the establishment by subsidies from the New Zealand Government of costly public services which Samoa would not be able to maintain out of its own resources would be likely to hinder the Territory's development towards self-government. The Administering Authority agreed that they should endeavour to live within their means.

58. Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand) drew the United States representative's attention to a passage in the UNESCO report (T/962) setting forth the increases in the sum spent on education in the Territory. The Samoan Legislative Assembly in fact controlled the Territory's finances and it was the Administering Authority's intention, while encouraging the Samoans to vote as much money as possible for education, to leave them full freedom of action.

59. Mr. STRONG (United States of America) wished to know what steps the Administering Authority intended to take to increase the number of teachers.

60. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained that the chief difficulty was financial, and that closer co-operation with the missions could not at present settle the problem altogether.

61. Mr. STRONG (United States of America) had been surprised to read in the annual report (p. 57) that hours of broadcasting had been reduced.

62. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained that the reduction had been made by cutting a morning programme which had not been very useful. On the other hand, evening broadcasts had later been extended. There had never been any cut in the school programmes.

63. Mr. STRONG (United States of America) asked for information concerning the preparation by a central office of school books for Samoa and the other island territories of New Zealand, mentioned on page 57 of the annual report.

64. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that it had not yet been possible to set up the necessary central staff at Wellington. However, the Administration was continuing its efforts at the territorial level, and the Islands Education Officer in Wellington was shortly to travel to Hawaii and certain British and American territories in order to do research on the preparation of school books.

65. In reply to a question which the United States representative had asked at the 391st meeting of the Council, Mr. Wright explained that consideration had been given by the Administering Authority to the possibility of asking the United Nations for technical assistance in respect of the general economic survey which it was preparing, but that so far it had made no official request.

*Mr. Wright, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Western Samoa, withdrew.*

66. The PRESIDENT declared open the general debate on the Administering Authority's report.

67. M. C. DILOKRIT KRIDAKON (Thailand) thanked the special representative for his account of the chief events in the Territory up to the end of 1951, although the report dealt only with the period from 1 April to 31 December 1950.

68. Political advancement in the Territory had obviously been accelerated in the past two years. It was encouraging to note that the Legislative Assembly had worked well and that it had been possible to hold some elections by secret ballot. Similarly, the rise of the Samoa Democratic Party bore witness to the evolution of the population towards political maturity. In that connexion, the delegation of Thailand hoped that the Administering Authority would try to encourage the formation of stable political parties, while at the same time being careful to exercise a certain amount of control in order to ensure that their finances were sound.

69. With regard to the political training of the inhabitants, the Administering Authority was to be congratulated on having made arrangements to broadcast the Legislative Assembly's proceedings in two languages; the broadcasts might perhaps be accompanied by the free distribution of bilingual reports of the proceedings.

70. There was also cause for satisfaction in the news of legislative provisions for the establishment of an executive council; the Samoans would thus be able to take part in the drafting of important political measures. Moreover, the Administering Authority must be congratulated on having made it possible for a number of indigenous officials to undergo a period of training in the New Zealand Administration; it was to be hoped that the privilege would be extended to many more.

71. On the other hand, it was regrettable that the position in education was not as satisfactory as might have been expected, and that secondary education was still in embryo. It must be recognized, however, that the shortage of teachers and of money made progress difficult.

72. As the special representative had said at the 390th meeting, it would not be wise to develop social services and education beyond what the Territory could afford, but it would seem that the matter could be solved by temporary measures. Thus, more Samoan students could be given scholarships to enable them to complete their studies in New Zealand pending the organization of secondary and higher education in the Territory. Educational advancement was of supreme importance in the development of the Territory towards self-government.

73. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) thought that the Administering Authority was adequately carrying out the undertaking which it had assumed in respect of the Territory and that it had achieved progress in every field.

74. The Administering Authority's difficulties in recruiting medical personnel and buying equipment could only be regretted. It was to be hoped that they could be overcome so that the government programme could be implemented.

75. In the political field, he pointed out that, on page 13 of the annual report, it was stated that Europeans who had acquired Samoan status by declaration of the High Court retained the national status which they had had as Europeans. That anomaly should be rectified as soon as possible.

76. The economic position was extremely favourable and foreign trade had reached a volume which could stand comparison with the foreign trade of many highly civilized countries. The Administering Authority should also be congratulated on its development of the road system, on its improvement of electrical equipment and on its making available to the inhabitants, in accordance with a suggestion of the Trusteeship Council<sup>2</sup>, 43,000 acres of land taken from the New Zealand Reparation Estates.

77. In applying a preferential tariff, the Territory's obligations to the United Nations should be taken into account and all Members of the United Nations should be treated equally. The purchase prices of copra would have to be adjusted more in favour of the producer if they differed too widely from the world price.

78. In public education the situation seemed to be somewhat confused. There were many schools of different types which did not follow the same curricula. There was therefore a need to co-ordinate the programmes logically.

79. The co-operation maintained between the Administration and the private educational institutions, particularly the Methodist Mission, could only be welcomed. It was gratifying to note that the Administering Authority was prepared to extend its co-operation to other missionary associations. Such co-operation was likely to promote educational progress without taxing the Territory's limited budget.

80. Mr. PIGNON (France) remarked that the Administering Authority had made progress in every field; for example, it had succeeded in increasing the interest taken by the inhabitants in public affairs, both local and territorial. That was a matter for congratulation because all elements of the population must work together if real progress was to be made. The Administering Authority's task had of course been made easier because of the relative smallness of the Territory and because there was a living though ancient social system, but that Authority was to be congratulated on having made energetic and effective use of the modern methods at its disposal.

81. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) pointed out that the annual report dealt with the period ended 31 December 1950 and that the information given in

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth Session, Supplement No. 4*, p. 212.

it had already been supplied to the Council at its eighth session by Mr. Powles, the special representative at that time. Accordingly, the Trusteeship Council was not in possession of any new material which would enable it to reach conclusions different from those appearing in its report to the sixth session of the General Assembly (A/1856). The special representative at the current session of the Council had therefore referred almost exclusively to the events which had occurred since 31 December 1950, among which particular attention should be paid to the visit of the Minister of Island Territories of the New Zealand Government, the arrangements for the establishment of the executive council and the further examination of the question of local government.

82. In the circumstances he felt that it would be more profitable to confine his observations to an examination of the fundamental characteristics of the Territory, which would have to be taken into account both by the Administering Authority in formulating its policies and by the Trusteeship Council in framing its criticisms. He felt that that method of approach would prove more salutary on occasion than the traditional approach of formulating views on the ideal conditions desired in the Territory and criticizing the Administering Authority where actual conditions fell short of those ideals.

83. First, the Territory was very small, comparatively isolated and far removed from major trade routes. On the other hand, it was densely populated and the population was constantly on the increase.

84. Turning to the agricultural potential of the Territory, he noted that the Administering Authority was considering making a topographical survey, which would be followed by a survey of soil utilization. It was to be hoped that the difficulties in obtaining personnel and equipment would soon be overcome, as they seemed to be the only obstacles in the way of that study; without such a study it was impossible to appreciate how active the agricultural services of the Territory had been. It was certain that the Territory did not possess any particular mineral resources or any raw materials for industry. The agricultural methods seemed perfectly adapted to the existing social structure, but it was encouraging to note that the Department of Agriculture was studying means of improving them. The land-holding practices were no obstacle to agricultural development and might well lend themselves to the development of co-operatives, which the Administering Authority intended to encourage.

85. As the Belgian representative had said, the Territory was relatively prosperous and copra and cocoa exports apparently secured the maximum revenue. In that connexion, there was little point in referring to a world price for copra since the price of the commodity depended basically on various factors such as transport, insurance, processing and handling. The actual cost of production was a comparatively small element. The British Ministry of Food negotiated with Western Samoa on purely commercial principles; prices were obviously affected by the quantities of copra purchased in relation to the quantities available in any one year. It was therefore difficult to compare the price paid in those circumstances with a so-called world price.

86. The products of Western Samoa, such as copra, cocoa and, in smaller quantities, rubber and bananas, were naturally subject to price fluctuations. It would therefore be desirable for producers to be protected against such fluctuations. The Administering Authority's attitude gave rise to no anxiety on that point, and it was to be congratulated on its efforts to diversify the economy of the Territory. But diversification should not be pursued simply for its own sake if it were established that the traditional commodities produced were more profitable.

87. Among the factors susceptible of change through the influence or action of the Administering Authority, the social and political organization of the Territory came first. When Europeans had first come to Western and Eastern Samoa, the territories had not been politically united. Political institutions such as the *Fono* of *Faipule* and the *Fautua* had been established at that time by Europeans to facilitate contact with the indigenous inhabitants. Hence, such institutions were not, properly speaking, traditional, although they corresponded to the Samoan conceptions of political organization. They had, however, become ingrained in the habits of the people, and there was no reason to suppose that the same would not be true of the Legislative Assembly established by the Administering Authority. The Administering Authority was, moreover, perfectly justified in respecting the traditional family organization on which Samoan life was based; but it should take care that traditional organization did not impede advance towards a more fully democratic way of life.

88. At the head of those various organizations there would be the executive council and it would be interesting to see to what extent it would be able to operate alongside the Council of State, on which the *Fautua* sat. Similarly, the Legislative Assembly operated alongside the *Fono* of *Faipule*. There were therefore grounds for hoping that, in the future, the executive council and the Legislative Assembly would replace the other organizations.

89. The Samoans actually enjoyed political autonomy, particularly in the Legislative Assembly, to such an extent that the Administering Authority was obliged henceforth merely to exercise persuasion. The Legislative Assembly had, for example, refused to vote the funds for education which the Administering Authority considered to be necessary. In that connexion, it should be noted that the Administering Authority could use the proceeds of the New Zealand Reparation Estates; he hoped that it would use those funds on projects for which the Legislative Assembly had been unwilling to supply credit.

90. Precipitate action should not be taken with regard to universal suffrage. The *matai* was appointed after consultation within the family, which he then represented, and there was thus a system of two-stage representation. In any case, progress towards universal suffrage could not be achieved without the consent of the Samoans.

91. The Administering Authority could, of course, expedite the political training of the inhabitants by its example and influence. In particular it might consider setting up a system of municipal government in Apia modelled on the municipal governments of New Zea-

land, although historical considerations might make that difficult and delicate. The inhabitants would thus be able to acquaint themselves with methods and procedures which would then spread quite naturally to the rural areas.

92. In conclusion he stressed that he had limited himself to outlining the salient features which conditioned the plans and achievements of the Administering Authority and which the members of the Trusteeship Council must take into account. He congratulated the Administering Authority on the conscientious and energetic manner in which it was carrying out its mission.

93. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) was pleased with the form of the annual report and thanked the special representative for replying patiently to the questions of members of the Council.

94. The Territory had made appreciable progress, particularly in the political field. But the New Zealand Government must endeavour to consolidate all the legal provisions relating to Western Samoa in order to remove the anomalies originating in the 1921 Samoa Act and to build up a juridical structure in accord with the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement.

95. The New Zealand Government should study closely the status of the inhabitants and all the questions arising from differences in personal status among them. It was important to avoid any confusion in the matter of personal status, and the Territory must always retain its juridical unity.

96. It was to be regretted that the 1951 census did not include the data necessary for drawing up a civil regis-

ter. There was a pressing need for the register and any argument to the contrary based on local custom or the social structure of the Territory was inadmissible.

97. With respect to the political field, the Dominican delegation eagerly awaited the decisions of the Administering Authority on the report of the Commission to Inquire into and Report upon the Organization of District and Village Government. It also felt that the development of local government bodies must be the cornerstone of political organization.

98. It was gratifying to note the action taken by the Administering Authority in the social field.

99. In the matter of education, the New Zealand Government might draw up a co-ordinated plan for developing the possibilities for women's activities by encouraging the establishment of organizations like the social centres (*foyers sociaux*) of Ruanda-Urundi and the women's clubs of Tanganyika. The Dominican delegation also endorsed the Belgian representative's constructive criticism of the excessive complexity of the school organization.

100. The time had come for the Trusteeship Council to take a more positive stand and to request the Authorities administering the various Trust Territories to submit specific plans for the development of those Territories in such fields as education, public health and social services.

101. The progress achieved in the use of broadcasts for educational purposes was satisfactory. He would offer some recommendations on that subject to the Drafting Committee.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.