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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: 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 a place at the Council table.

1. Mr. PIGNON (France), referring to page 24 of the annual report,¹ asked whether the special representative could supply any details regarding the practical form in which the indigenous inhabitants were of assistance in carrying out the programme of agricultural development.
2. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that, in the first place, there were a large number of Samoan field officers in the Department of Agriculture. Some were engaged upon the inspection of copra and cocoa, others on rhinoceros-beetle work and others upon noxious-weed inspection. In that way the indigenous members of the staff of the Department of Agriculture were helping to implement the agricultural policy.
3. In addition to the field officers, there were a number of district plantation inspectors. Those were political appointments: the inspector for each district was

nominated by the *Fono* of *Faipule* and appointed by the High Commissioner. In the past, plantation inspectors had been responsible to the Secretary of Samoan Affairs, but upon the institution of the Department of Agriculture they had been placed under the direct control of the Director of Agriculture, forming a link between the Department of Agriculture and the districts. Besides inspecting crops designed for export, they paid attention to food plantations, with a view to ensuring that there was adequate food in the district for the needs of the people.

4. Apart from that co-operation on the part of the official staff, there was considerable co-operation from the people themselves, especially in the efforts to eradicate the rhinoceros beetles, with the result that the beetle menace had been greatly diminished during the past two or three years.

5. Mr. PIGNON (France) asked whether the Legislative Assembly ever had occasion to discuss agricultural development plans and, if so, whether the members showed any interest in the subject.

6. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that great interest was shown in the subject of agriculture by the Legislative Assembly. It was a subject upon which all the members felt they knew a certain amount and the discussions that had taken place in the Assembly on agricultural matters had been most interesting and enlightening.

7. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that when, during the eighth session (322nd meeting) of the Council, the special representative who had appeared for the Trust Territory at that time had been asked for information concerning the economic life of an average family in Western Samoa, that representative had explained that he was not yet in a position to supply such information but that it would be available as soon as the census had been completed. Mr. Soldatov wondered whether that information could now be given.

8. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) stated that the agricultural census to which reference had been made at the eighth session had been completed but the final detailed figures were not yet to hand. As soon as they were received from Wellington, it was hoped that it would be possible to carry out research on standards of living and perhaps give more information on the subject in future reports.

¹ 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.

9. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) drew attention to the statement on page 32 of the annual report to the effect that the Administering Authority had decided to offer the Samoan Government certain portions, amounting to some 43,000 acres, of the New Zealand Reparation Estates. He would like to know under what conditions the lands in question were offered, to whom and for what purpose, and what was the quality of the land.

10. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the transfer had already taken place and the land in question had become the property of the Samoan Government, which had purchased it at a more or less nominal figure and was holding it for future use, in the interests of the population. Two very small portions had already been allocated: an area of 159 acres to the island of Manono and an area of 63 acres to the island of Apolima, in order that those islands, which were in urgent need of extra land, could establish plantations on the mainland.

11. With regard to the quality of the land, no detailed survey had as yet been made. He could only say that it varied from good plantation land to rugged mountain bush country and that it would be a valuable asset to the population in the years to come.

12. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in the Pacific, which had visited Western Samoa in 1950, had reported that a number of villages in the plantation areas of the Reparation Estates had complained that the land in those areas was the property of the Samoans in the villages and should be returned to them. He would like to know whether any attention had been given to those claims.

13. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) was sure that the land that the Visiting Mission had referred to was land on the outskirts of the villages which might at one time have been in the possession of the people in the villages. There was no doubt, however, that when it had changed hands in past years the transfer had been in strictly legal form and that the present titles to the land in question were entirely correct. There could be no suggestion that any land held by the New Zealand Reparation Estates was not held under unassailable title.

14. The policy of the New Zealand Government was to consider requests from villages that required fertile land for expansion and to sell portions of land if the requests were reasonable and the land could be made available. Furthermore, the New Zealand Government had a long-term plan to transfer gradually to the villages within the Apia area pieces of land for the orderly expansion of Apia. The land in question was at present used for the production of beef for the needs of the Territory; accordingly the transfer could not take place until other land in less densely populated areas could be made available to produce enough beef for the population's needs.

15. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) questioned the title of the New Zealand Government to the lands comprising the Reparation Estates. Those lands had been taken from their original Samoan owners by the German colonizers and had not

been returned to the Samoan people when, after the First World War, Western Samoa had been placed under the mandate of New Zealand. He asked whether the special representative could make available to the Council a map of Western Samoa, showing the distribution of the land among the various holders and the degree of fertility of the land involved.

16. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) stated that the United Nations Mission to Western Samoa that had gone to that Territory in 1947 had made a close study of the legal title of the New Zealand Government to the land in question. The result of the study was summarized on page 51 of its report³, which he proceeded to read to the Council, and which made it clear that in the opinion of the Mission the legal position of the New Zealand Government in that respect was unassailable.

17. On his recent visit to Western Samoa, the Prime Minister of New Zealand had reaffirmed the intention to make the entire profits of the Reparation Estates available to Samoa for capital development. It would be seen also, that the recommendation of the Mission that large tracts of land in the Reparation Estates not under cultivation should be transferred to the Samoan Government had been put into effect.

18. It was interesting to note that after the transfer of land from the Reparation Estates to the Samoan Government the area remaining in the Estates was less than that transferred. Some of the land retained was admittedly the best, but it was in the interests of Samoa that it should be retained. There was no hard and fast policy in the matter; any areas of the Estates, even were they the best and most cultivated, would be released from time to time as might be possible if they were needed for the expansion of urban areas.

19. He regretted that he had no up-to-date map showing the disposition of the Reparation Estates since the latest transfers. Such a map would indeed show valuable tracts of land still retained by the Reparation Estates, but, as he had explained, it was in the interest of the Samoan people that that land should be so retained. The annual report itself gave the acreage held by indigenous inhabitants and Europeans and the acreage of Crown lands. As for the quality of the land in the different areas, that question could not be answered until the soil survey had been completed.

20. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) declared that he could not agree with the conclusions reached by the 1947 Mission with regard to the New Zealand Government's title to the Western Samoan lands. There was, in his opinion, no justification for the fact that those lands had not yet been returned to the Samoans. He would return to that point when the time came to make his delegation's general comments on the annual report.

21. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) reminded the USSR representative that in 1893 the Land Commission had examined the land claims in Western Samoa made by foreign interests. Only those claimants who had been able to prove that they had obtained their land for a proper consideration

³ See *Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Second Session, Special Supplement No. 1.*

had been given a title to the land. It was the land that had belonged to the Germans that had been allocated to the New Zealand Government as reparations after the First World War.

22. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) declared that the work of the Commission in question had been shameful as far as the interests of the Samoans had been concerned.

23. Referring back to the statement of the special representative at the eighth session (322nd meeting) of the Council to the effect that the Reparation Estates were administered for the welfare of the Trust Territory, he asked what had been the profits of the Estates during the period under review and what portion, if any, of those profits had been used for the benefit of the Territory. If any had been so used, to what particular needs had they been applied?

24. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that he did not possess the necessary information to answer those questions. He would, however, be glad to obtain the information and submit it to the USSR representative at a later date.

25. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) referred next to the question of copra. Under the 1949 agreement with the United Kingdom, the Trust Territory was to sell its whole production of copra to the United Kingdom. The price had been set at £48 10s. in 1950 and in 1951 the United Kingdom had agreed to raise that price. He would like to know what had been the world prices of copra for those two years and whether the indigenous copra producers in Samoa had had any part in the establishment of the price paid by the United Kingdom.

26. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that in 1948 the Legislative Assembly had passed an ordinance creating a Copra Board, which was to market all the copra exported from Western Samoa. The Board was composed of the Secretary of the Government, who was its Chairman; the Treasurer of the Government, its Secretary; three representatives of copra producers of Samoan status in the Territory; one representative of copra producers of European status in the Territory; one representative of the copra merchants; and one representative of the copra buyers. The Board, which was thus fully representative of all copra interests, had entered into a nine-year contract with the British Ministry of Food. The contract had allowed for increases and decreases in price up to 10 per cent from year to year. There had been unanimous support for the contract, which had been made fully public, throughout the Territory. It had so happened that the world price of copra had been in excess of the contract price, but that had no doubt been partially due to the fact that most of the South Pacific territories had entered into the contract. The fact was that, with the contract, Western Samoa was assured stability and regular shipping.

27. The price for each year was worked out by negotiation between the Copra Board of Western Samoa and the British Ministry of Food. The prices so far had been £48 in 1949, £48 10s. in 1950, £53 15s. in 1951 and £65 in 1952.

28. The price paid to the copra producers was established by the Copra Board. The practice was for

the merchants who bought the copra from the producers to submit their costs for handling the copra — the cost of transporting it by launch or truck, losses per ton through shrinkage during storage, cost of storage in Apia and of shipping the copra to the wharf. Those costs having been determined, the Copra Board decided upon a small profit for the merchant and deducted a small sum for the Copra Stabilization Fund. The sum that remained was fixed as the price paid to the producer and it normally worked out at approximately two-thirds of the f.o.b. contract price of copra for the year.

29. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether it would be correct to say that one-third of the f.o.b. price went to the middleman between the producer and the ultimate buyer.

30. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that, when the amount paid to the Stabilization Fund and the export duty of 10 per cent were allowed for, he thought that the figure would be nearer one-quarter than one-third.

31. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what had been the exact price of one ton of copra sold in 1951 to the United Kingdom and the exact price the copra producer had received that year for one ton of copra.

32. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) regretted that he did not possess the necessary figures. He would obtain them for the USSR representative.

33. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what steps the Administering Authority had taken to implement the Trusteeship Council's recommendation³ regarding the protection of the economy of Western Samoa against the fall in world prices of copra and cocoa by the introduction of diversification in the economy, the production of secondary crops and any other available means.

34. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the Samoan Government, through its Department of Agriculture, was going into the question of diversification of cash crops. It was hoped that the proposed board of agriculture, which would be made up of practical planters, both Samoan and European, would be able to give valuable advice on the subject. The New Zealand Reparation Estates was also carrying out valuable experimental work. Pepper seed had been imported with a view to growing pepper, one of the highest priced products in the world, in the Territory; it could usefully be grown in some of the inland bush districts which were unsuitable for other more conventional crops. Moreover, there was a considerable increase in coffee planting and the Reparation Estates was proposing to plant twenty acres of coffee. Furthermore, valuable work was being done in the way of selection with a view to improving the strain of cocoa and coconuts. The Reparation Estates was experimenting with cocoa cuttings in place of seeds and was carrying out coconut seed selection experiments with the idea of increasing the yield of

³ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fourth Session, Supplement No. 4*, p. 58.

copra. Samoa was again tapping rubber, some twenty-eight tons having been exported the previous year.

35. In the field of industry, there was the desiccated coconut factory, though for the moment the price of desiccated coconut had so slumped that it was better to produce copra than desiccated coconut. There was also a private company in the Territory which proposed to establish a soap factory in the near future.

36. Finally, the South Pacific Commission proposed to make a survey of the opportunities for industrial development in the Pacific Islands and it was hoped that Samoa would benefit from that. The Samoan Government was well aware that industrial development was necessary in the near future to provide for the increasing population.

37. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how the recommendations made at the fourth session of the Trusteeship Council regarding the development of the general plan for the over-all future economic progress of Samoa were being implemented⁴.

38. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) referred him to the reply that he had made to the United States representative on the same question at the 391st meeting. Negotiations were proceeding for the carrying out of an aerial survey and it was also proposed to make a soil survey. Those two surveys would be followed by an economic survey which it was hoped would serve to determine Western Samoa's national income.

39. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom), pointing out that on page 25 of the annual report there was a reference to the possibility of a moderate export trade in timber, whereas on page 33 it was stated that under good forestry policy the timber production of the Territory was unlikely to meet local requirements, asked whether that apparent contradiction could be explained by differences in the types of timber suitable for export and domestic use.

40. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained that a small export trade in Samoan timber had been possible mainly because there was more local demand for American pine than for the local product. As the report on forestry⁵ stated that the forests of Samoa were not one of its major assets and the operations of the Estates sawmill were being curtailed because of increasingly difficult ground conditions, it was unlikely that an important export trade in timber would be developed.

41. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) observed that on pages 23, 29 and 36 of the report there were references to the difficulties caused by shortage of sea transport and asked for further information concerning the needs for sea transport and the steps which were being taken to meet them.

42. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the difficulties hitherto encoun-

tered in the shipment of bananas, desiccated coconut and other perishable cargoes had been removed by the entry into the Pacific Islands trade of the Union Steamship Company's new motor-vessel *Tofua*. Sea transport between Samoa and New Zealand would now be fully provided for. Under the copra contract, the British Ministry of Food was responsible for the movement of all copra. Cocoa was exported by means of the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand and the General Steamship Corporation of the Pacific coast. On the whole, sea transport to and from Samoa was now adequate.

43. Mr. S. S. LIU (China), referring to the fourth paragraph of the section on public finance, money and banking, on page 26 of the annual report, asked why the principal part of the total accumulated surplus of the Territory at the end of the year was invested in New Zealand and not in the Territory.

44. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that there were not the necessary opportunities for investment in Samoa at the present time. The surplus was invested in New Zealand inscribed stock, which was the most convenient method of investment for the Samoan Government. The policy of the Samoan Government was to keep £500,000 in reserve and to spend any surplus over that figure, but it had not been possible to carry out all the work planned and the accumulated surplus was therefore increasing each year.

45. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) pointed out that in the table on page 26 of the report separate figures were given for cash and for investments in Western Samoa for each of the years ended 31 March from 1947 to 1950, but that for the period ended 31 December 1950 the two sums were not shown separately.

46. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) was unable to reply to that question, but did not think the matter was very important. The "investments in Western Samoa" were not really investments in the true sense of the word; a good deal of the total consisted of temporary advances to various governments for various purposes.

47. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) asked why the sum of the grants expended by the Administering Authority in recent years, shown in the table at the top of page 27, had been spent directly in New Zealand and had not passed through the Samoan Treasury.

48. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained that a great deal of special equipment which was not readily available to the territorial Government was purchased in New Zealand by the New Zealand Department of Island Territories and given by the New Zealand Government to the various administrations and governments. Since the items in question were material and not monetary gifts, they had not passed through the books of the Samoan Treasury and their value was included in the total of grants to the Territory.

49. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) wondered whether the Administering Authority contemplated measures for reducing the loss the copra producers suffered of about one-third of the f.o.b. price on account of middlemen's profits, export duty, the Stabilization Fund, etc., in ad-

⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fourth Session, Supplement No. 4*, p. 58.

⁵ Report on a survey of the forestry resources of Western Samoa made in 1950 by Mr. Colin Marshall, of the British Colonial Forest Service, and Mr. T. S. Thompson, of the New Zealand Forest Service.

dition to losses caused by the difference between the world price and the price they could obtain.

50. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) did not agree that the difference between the amount paid to the producers and the f.o.b. price should be described as a loss; it was largely due to legitimate charges for handling the copra. The only thing that could be reduced was the merchants' profit, which in any event was never more than £3 a ton. The allocation to the Stabilization Fund, which was not large either, had been reduced in recent years. There was also a copra tax of 10 per cent, which he did not think the people of Western Samoa would be willing to see reduced, as the revenue derived therefrom was used for education and social services.

51. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) referred to the statement on page 35 of the annual report, under the heading "Investments", that particulars of the amount of outside capital, including foreign capital, invested in the Territory were not available, and asked why that was so.

52. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) was unable to give the reason and promised to refer the question to the Administering Authority.

53. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) observed that on page 29 of the report there was a reference to the fact that commercial interests were represented by the Samoan Chamber of Commerce, and asked whether Samoan and European interests were equally represented there.

54. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that membership of the Chamber of Commerce was open to both European and Samoans. At the present time, however, the greater part of the commercial life of the Territory was in the hands of Europeans, i.e., not only Europeans from overseas but local Europeans, part Samoans. In that sense it was correct to say that the Chamber of Commerce was largely made up of Europeans, but there were no restrictions on membership; it was a commercial and not a racial body.

55. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) asked whether the Chamber of Commerce had power to settle any commercial disputes which might arise.

56. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the Chamber of Commerce had no statutory or legislative authority. It was a purely private body.

57. Prince WAN WAITHAYAKON (Thailand), referring to the statement on page 43 of the report that the "wastage of nurses taken in for training is still considerable", asked what the salary scale for nurses was and whether it compared well with that in other similar professions.

58. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained that the salary scale for nurses was from £45 per annum for a first-year trainee up to £205 per annum for a fully-trained nurse, plus rations and quarters; that did not compare unfavourably with the salaries paid to typists and female clerks, which were from £90 to £300 per annum, or to teachers, which were from £60 to £330 per annum, in view of the fact that nurses were provided with living quarters and rations and that the other categories were not.

59. Living conditions had been greatly improved by the completion of the new nurses' quarters. Nurses now had a solidly-built two-story building instead of the old-type Samoan structure in which they used to be housed. The total number of nurses with more than two years' experience after graduation had increased in 1951 to thirty-four. Previous to that year the highest number had been twenty-seven. That seemed to show that the increased comfort in the new quarters was having some effect. There were not yet sufficient nurses, however, and it was the Samoan Government's aim to increase the number.

60. Prince WAN WAITHAYAKON (Thailand) asked whether there was any social prejudice against girls who became nurses.

61. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied in the negative. In fact he thought that the nursing profession had a certain prestige.

62. Mr. PIGNON (France) asked how the women's village committees referred to on page 39 of the report were set up and how they functioned; also whether they formed a part of an ancient tradition or were a recent innovation.

63. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that the women's village committees were a very interesting development and were doing excellent work in the fields of child welfare and village health. There was in the first place a committee composed of the wives of the *matai*, and secondly various sub-committees which performed different duties. They wielded great influence in the villages; where there were women of strong character it might be said that they had in some cases taken over much of the administration of the villages from the men. Their influence frequently covered a much wider area than child welfare and health.

64. The institution was a recent innovation which had had its inception through health organization by the Health Department. They had now become an accepted part of village life.

65. In his opinion the influence of women in Samoa was increasing. A representative of the women of Samoa had attended the Pan-Pacific Women's Congress in Christchurch, New Zealand, her expenses being paid by the Samoan people.

66. Mr. PIGNON (France) thanked the special representative for the information he had given and expressed the opinion that the Administering Authority should be congratulated on having set up an institution that strengthened the position of women, a particularly important factor in the evolution of mankind.

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

67. Mr. URQUIA (El Salvador) asked the special representative to amplify the statement on page 39 of the report that "instances have been known where social pressure has been employed in derogation of certain fundamental freedoms".

68. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that cases had been known of people being ostracized or banished from a village for a period because they had been offensive in the social affairs of

the village. When that happened, the person concerned usually submitted to the will of the village council, accepted its ruling and tried by good behaviour to get back into favour. If, however, he wished to assert his legal rights, he would be assisted by the Department of Samoan Affairs in Apia. At the same time, if he endeavoured to do so and returned to the village, the people would be likely to ignore him and generally make his life unpleasant. The village communities were becoming less and less self-contained as the social system became exposed to Western influence, and if today a man did not like life in his own village, he could easily move to another.

69. Mr. URQUIA (El Salvador) referred to the following statement on page 51 of the report: "The Governor-General of New Zealand may pardon a prisoner, or remit any part of a sentence of imprisonment or a fine, or commute a death sentence to one of imprisonment. The High Commissioner possesses similar powers in regard to sentences of imprisonment for less than a year". He asked whether consideration had been given to the possibility of conferring those powers on organs which were not political or administrative but judicial.

70. Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand) explained that the Governor-General would proceed in much the same fashion as the Secretary of State for the Home Department in England: he would act on the advice of the Cabinet, which would be guided by a report from the presiding judge. The same method with regard to the remission of capital offences was followed in almost all the countries of the British Commonwealth. The reduction of a sentence could be dealt with by a court of criminal law, but pardon was always a matter for the executive branch of the government.

71. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) recalled Mr. Wright's reference in his opening statement (390th meeting) to the completion of the tuberculosis ward in the Apia Hospital and asked what preventive measures were being taken in the Territory to reduce the incidence of tuberculosis.

72. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the new tuberculosis ward at the Apia Hospital had been completed and was now the central ward for the treatment of tuberculosis in the Territory. The system was that the Samoan medical practitioner in any district advised the Director of Health in Apia of any case of tuberculosis which came to his notice. The patients were transferred to the tuberculosis ward at Apia for expert medical attention. In the ward there was a Samoan medical practitioner who had undergone a special course in tuberculosis treatment in Fiji, and it was hoped that others would be able to take a similar course.

73. One difficulty was that the indigenous inhabitants were inclined to neglect tuberculosis in its early stages; it was therefore a difficult disease to control.

74. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) asked whether dairy cattle were inspected and tested for tuberculin infection and whether milk was normally pasteurized.

75. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that within the past few years a meat inspector had been appointed to the Department of Health and that all cattle killed for sale in the urban

area were inspected by him. A percentage of the cattle was infected with tuberculosis, but the inspection was rigid and the infected cattle were withdrawn and destroyed. The inspection could not of course extend to cattle killed in the outlying districts for private consumption, but if a Samoan medical practitioner knew that killing was being done for a big public feast, he would inspect the cattle.

76. The milk sold by the New Zealand Reparation Estates in the town area of Apia was pasteurized. The Samoans themselves did not drink much milk, so no problem arose in that connexion.

77. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) asked what were the causes of and what steps had been taken or were envisaged to combat the shortage of sanitary inspectors, which, as stated on page 47 of the report, had made it impossible to intensify the work of village sanitary inspection.

78. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that an increase in the number of trained sanitary inspectors was hoped for now that the vocational training school in Fiji was under way. At present, one Samoan was taking a course at the Central Medical School in Fiji, where courses in public health, sanitation and dentistry were offered in addition to the regular medical course; the number would probably be increased as the school developed. Young Samoans were unfortunately inclined to look down on the public health profession as opposed to the medical profession, but that prejudice would break down as trained men returned from Fiji and were seen to have professional pride and ability.

79. He had asked the Director of Health in Western Samoa, Dr. Lonie, for an outline of his plans for the development of the health services. In his reply, Dr. Lonie said he hoped for continued expansion of the buildings and work of the Health Department, and stressed the need for field work as opposed to purely hospital work, thus showing that he was well aware of the need for preventive as against clinical medicine.

80. In reply to a question by Mr. SAYRE (United States of America), Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) stated that the working week for casual labourers had been reduced to forty hours and their pay increased, as forecast on page 19 of the report. Still further pay increases had come into effect on 1 January 1952 and the lowest rate of pay for government-employed casual labour was 9s. a day. The maximum daily wage for trained casual labour was 44s. 6d. The new rates of pay had been decreed by the Public Service Commissioner as a result of a price index prepared by the New Zealand Department of Census and Statistics on the standard of living in Western Samoa.

81. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) wondered what percentage of casual labour was employed by the Public Service compared to private undertakings. Had the government pay increases affected the rates of pay of privately employed casual labour?

82. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the Samoan Government and the New Zealand Reparation Estates were by far the largest employers of casual labour — approximately 1,000 and 1,600 employees respectively, compared to

500 employed by private firms in the copra sheds, for example, and 200 employed on the wharfs for a few days each month. The Government therefore set the wage standard in the Territory, and the ordinary commercial firms followed its policy, though normally paying slightly lower wages than the Public Service on the grounds that they provided certain special purchasing and other facilities. Wages paid by the Reparation Estates were also slightly below the Public Service rates as there, too, sometimes rations and quarters were provided free and there was a commissariat for employees.

83. The daily pay rates for privately employed casual labour had been increased by the same amount as the government rates and varied from 8s.6d. a day for unskilled, to 30s. a day for skilled labour.

84. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America), referring to the mention of an investigation into labour conditions in the Territory by Mr. F. R. Cleary (annual report p. 42), asked whether the comprehensive system of workmen's compensation recommended by Mr. Cleary had been established. He was aware that there was no widespread dependence on wage-earning in Western Samoa, but he would like to know the Western Samoan approach to such problems as working conditions, safety regulations and workmen's compensation.

85. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that a draft ordinance of workmen's compensation had been prepared in Wellington, and was being examined by the Administering Authority. He could not say much more on the subject until the results of that examination were known.

86. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) noted that, in March 1950, the agreement establishing the South Pacific Health Service had been replaced by a new agreement. He asked for an indication of the effect of the new agreement on the scope and activities of the service as it would affect Western Samoa.

87. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the agreement for the continued operation of the South Pacific Health Service had been made in 1951 between the Governments of New Zealand and Fiji and the West Pacific High Commissioner, in other words, the contracting parties were the same as for the original agreement in 1946. The purpose of the 1951 agreement was to renew the 1946 agreement and maintain it in operation under the same terms and conditions until 31 December 1954. The agreement applied to the British colonies of Fiji, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, the Solomon Islands Protectorate, the New Zealand island dependencies of the Cook Islands and the Tokelau Islands, Western Samoa and the Kingdom of Tonga.

88. The agreement established a South Pacific Board of Health with headquarters at Suva, Fiji, on which the New Zealand Government was represented. The functions of the Board were, *inter alia*: to advise the participating Administrations on all health matters within their territories; to assist them to maintain adequate medical, nursing and sanitary staff; to collect and transmit to them relevant information on the incidence of disease within the territories; to encourage, co-ordinate and, if necessary, initiate medical research in the territories of the participating Administrations, and to advise them in all matters relating to the train-

ing of indigenous medical practitioners, nurses, sanitary inspectors, technicians and auxiliary health personnel. The South Pacific Commission, in co-operation with the South Pacific Health Service, had arranged for the latter to introduce an epidemiological warning service covering the whole of the South Pacific area; that service was now in operation. The Government of Fiji had established a medical centre at Suva, which included a central medical school and a nurses' training school. Under the Agreement the New Zealand Government was entitled to make full use of those schools for the training of indigenous medical practitioners and of the Central Leper Hospital for the treatment of lepers. The Board also provided a pool of medical officers, recruited from the British Colonial Medical Service, and a pool of nurses, seconded from New Zealand, from which participating Administrations could draw medical officers and nurses on a system of transfer or temporary secondment.

89. Since the 1951 Agreement was merely a renewal of the 1946 Agreement, it would not result in any change as far as the Public Health Service in Western Samoa was concerned. As shown in the report, the major benefits of the Territory's participation in the South Pacific Health Service were: the training of Samoan medical practitioners at the Central Medical School at Suva; the use of the Central Leper Hospital in Fiji; participation in the Epidemiological Information Service; the provision of doctors from the pool of medical officers and of European nurses from the pool of nurses at Suva; the advice on health matters and policy available to the Government of Western Samoa through the Government of New Zealand.

90. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) drew attention to the section entitled "The European Community" on page 38 of the report and to the second paragraph of that section relating to the movement of people from Western Samoa. As he understood it, though he would like confirmation of that fact, the restrictions on the movement of people from Western Samoa applied indiscriminately to all the inhabitants of the Territory regardless of their status.

91. He was convinced that the motives for any restrictions were social not political, but he pointed out that, since the question was very closely related to the section on human rights and fundamental freedoms, it might more properly be placed there than under its present heading, where it might give rise to misinterpretation.

92. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) agreed that the paragraph in question referred to the movement of all people of European or Samoan status to and from New Zealand.

93. Under an arrangement with the New Zealand Government, persons who wished to go to New Zealand and take up residence were subjected to a test: they must be in good physical and mental health, able to speak English reasonably well and capable of earning a living in New Zealand. In actual fact, the test was not applied very rigidly, especially in the case of young people, who could move freely between the two countries provided that they had an elementary knowledge of English and were in good health.

94. Existing high wages in New Zealand and a spirit of adventure attracted a number of young people to

New Zealand, though they usually found that with the correspondingly high cost of living they were not much better off than in Western Samoa. Nevertheless they certainly benefited from their stay in New Zealand and since such movements increased the ties between the two countries and created goodwill, they were encouraged by the authorities.

95. He thanked the representative of the Dominican Republic for drawing attention to the fact that the paragraph was misplaced; that would be borne in mind in the preparation of the next report.

96. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) asked whether the statement "a permit to emigrate to other territories is issued only after a permit to land in the particular territory has been issued" (annual report p. 39) referred not only to New Zealand but to any territory in the neighbourhood of Western Samoa or to one of the islands of Samoa.

97. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied in the affirmative. He felt, however, that the permits were only a formality; they were never refused. Some method of reducing the need for them was under discussion and the Government of Western Samoa was corresponding with the Government of American Samoa with a view to the elimination of permits between the territories.

98. In reply to a question by Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) regarding the meaning of the phrase "village government experience" in connexion with the work of the women's village committees (annual report, p. 39), Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained that the Administering Authority felt that any committee which adopted normal committee procedure and participated in public life at any level was a method of educating the people in village and political government.

99. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) noted from page 41 of the report that, in certain cases, persons might be arrested without a warrant. He would like to know how much time normally elapsed before the provisional arrest was legalized by the issue of a warrant.

100. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that he had no detailed knowledge of the subject. The practice adopted in Western Samoa, however, certainly followed New Zealand practice, as the Western Samoan police and judges came from New Zealand. Once a person was arrested he was immediately taken to the police station and various statements were made out; the procedure was very prompt.

101. In reply to Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) who asked what were the traditional reasons for the social pressure or ostracism referred to on page 39 of the report, Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that a person might be banished from the village or ostracized if he had committed an offence against Samoan custom and the general rules of the village as drawn up by the Council of *Matai*; for example, a person could be ostracized if he consistently failed to observe a curfew on which the village had decided.

102. After Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) had pointed out that a curfew was

not a tribal or family matter and had pressed for an example of ostracism as a vestige of the old tribal system, referring to the ostracism employed by the tribal organizations in ancient Greece and used as a political weapon in the historical development of peoples, Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained that the Samoan village was organized on a community basis; every member of the community had to work in the plantations and bring gifts to the pastor or *matai*. If any person failed to play his full part or was consistently a nuisance, he would be ostracized.

103. He recalled that at earlier sessions of the Trusteeship Council the special representatives for the Trust Territory of Western Samoa had gone into the matter of social and tribal ostracism very fully⁶ and their statements were doubtless on record. He also drew attention to a chapter on the subject in the book on Samoan custom by Mr. Grattan, Secretary of Samoan Affairs.⁷

104. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) agreed that the Council had already learned a number of details regarding social ostracism, but regretted that the special representative felt unable to add to the examples he had just given.

105. The giving of gifts to the pastor could not be considered part of the old tribal system but represented the introduction of a new social structure, which seemed to indicate that ostracism could be applied to new circumstances distinct from the old tribal organizations. He would be very interested to learn how much an average adult would be expected to contribute to the *matai* or pastor.

106. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) emphasized that Christianity had been introduced to Western Samoa in approximately 1835. Consequently, the pastor formed part of Samoan tradition extending back beyond the memory of any living person.

107. Members of the village community were expected to contribute sufficient food and in some cases clothing to meet the needs of the pastor and of the *matai* and his wife. All gifts were in accordance with the Samoan way of life and were not lavish by Western standards.

108. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what measures had been taken to introduce social labour legislation into the Trust Territory.

109. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) drew attention to appendix III, which showed that in 1950 the Legislative Assembly had passed an ordinance entitled "Contracts of Employment (Indigenous Workers)". That measure had followed the ratification by New Zealand and Western Samoa of the International Labour Organisation conventions on contracts of employment of indigenous workers, and on penal sanctions for breach of contracts

⁶ See *Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Fourth Session, 25th meeting, and Eighth Session, 321st meeting.*

⁷ See F. J. H. Grattan, *An Introduction to Samoan Custom*, Apia, Western Samoa, Samoa Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., 1948.

by indigenous workers, and had repealed all previous legislation on the subject. He had a copy of the ordinance and thought that the Secretariat might also have copies.

110. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he would like to have a copy of the ordinance so that he could study it in greater detail.

111. He understood that while there was a large number of hired workers in Western Samoa, there was no trade union. He wondered how that could be explained.

112. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that there were no trade unions in the Territory because the workers did not feel the need for them.

113. After Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) had suggested that the lack of trade unions might bear witness to the insufficient political development of the workers and had asked whether there were any legislative, administrative or customary provisions prohibiting the organization of trade unions, Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) maintained his opinion that the Samoan workers did not feel the need for trade unionism, perhaps because of the continuing existence of the old social, traditional society, or because the wage-earners in Western Samoa were a very small part of the population and were mostly not fully dependent on their wages. There was certainly no law forbidding the establishment of trade unions.

114. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) requested further information regarding the clubs and political parties referred to on page 40 of the report and also whether they were of a temporary nature and had functioned only during the electoral campaign or whether they were more permanent, like the Samoan Democratic Party.

115. Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the clubs and parties in question had been organized during the first election to the Legislative Assembly and had been mainly confined to the European electorate. There had been two main parties: the United Citizens Party and the Labour Party. Possibly because they had served their purpose, both had ceased to exist after the election. The Samoa Democratic Party had been set up only recently, after the last election to the Legislative Assembly. It was not entirely correct, therefore, to say that it had survived where the others had failed; it had not been in existence long enough to prove that point.

116. The forming of political parties was certainly not prohibited. In fact, the Samoan Government welcomed such parties, though it did not tell the people to establish parties, or trade unions, preferring to leave that to their initiative at the time they thought fit.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.