

General Assembly. The Governor and the Administration would be entirely free to use the language they considered most practical in each case. He therefore proposed that, in addition to the replacement of the words "shall be" by the words "may be", it be provided that the working languages should be those of the General Assembly.

109. Mr. INGLÉS (Philippines) suggested that the Council should take as a basis for article 30 the wording used in the Plan of Partition with Economic Union, part III, section C, paragraph 10, and that the text of article 30 be accordingly amended to read simply: "Arabic and Hebrew shall be the official and working languages of the City. The legislation of the City may adopt one or more additional working languages as may be required." It was unnecessary to include in the draft Statute any directive as to the language in which communications should be addressed to the Trusteeship Council by the Governor of Jerusalem or other persons; that point could be taken care of in the instructions to the Governor.

110. Mr. JAMALI (Iraq) supported the Philippines suggestion.

111. Mr. DE LEUSSE (France) said he preferred the wording suggested by the United Kingdom representative to that of the Philippines representative, in view of the possibility of disagreement between the Legislative Council and the Governor in the matter of the working languages.

112. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) considered that the words "and working languages" in the first sentence of article 30 were not necessary. The article would be quite clear if the words "Arabic and Hebrew shall be the official languages of the City" were followed by a phrase to the effect that the working languages of the Trusteeship Council might be used as additional working languages.

113. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the suggestion of the Philippines representative to replace the existing text of article 30 by the following words: "Arabic and Hebrew shall be the official and working language of the City. The legislation of the City may adopt one or more additional working languages as may be required."

The Philippines representative's text was provisionally adopted, by 5 votes to 3, with 3 abstentions.

Article 30 as amended was provisionally accepted.

114. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) explained that he had voted against the new text because he considered that it was not for the legislation of the City to fix the language to be used by the Governor in his relations with the Trusteeship Council.

115. The PRESIDENT recalled that the representative of the Philippines had explained that his proposal applied solely to the internal administration of the City, and not to the relations of the Governor with the United Nations.

116. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) said that in the light of the President's explanation he could accept the new text of article 30.

The meeting rose at 1.25 p.m.

252nd meeting

FIFTIETH MEETING

*Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Friday, 10 March 1950, at 3 p.m.*

President: Mr. Roger GARREAU,

*Later: Mr. HENRÍQUEZ UREÑA (Dominican Republic)
(Vice-President).*

Present: The representatives of the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, France, Iraq, New Zealand, Philippines, United Kingdom, United States of America.

95. Examination of annual reports on the administration of Trust Territories (resumed from the 48th meeting)

CAMEROONS UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION, 1948
(T/413, T/461, T/485, T/485/Add.1, T/L.47 and T/L.47/Add.1) (continued)

At the invitation of the President, Brigadier Gibbons, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under British administration, took his place at the Council table.

1. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) stated that before replying to the question which he, as ex-Chairman of the Visiting Mission, had been asked at the forty-eighth meeting by the Philippines representative, he wished to state his views on what he considered a fundamental question of principle. He considered that the Philippines representative, and any other representative, was perfectly entitled to address questions to the ex-Chairman of the Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in West Africa. In view of the facilities the Mission had received for making a comprehensive study at first hand of conditions in the Trust Territory, its members and Chairman had not only the right, but the duty to answer any questions raised in connexion with their report, to explain the reasons for their findings, and, if necessary, to draw the Council's attention to aspects of their report which they considered were being neglected.

2. In the opinion of his delegation, Visiting Missions were the most important innovation introduced under the trusteeship system, and it had no intention whatsoever of doing anything which might detract from the importance attached to them and their reports. Unless the reports of Visiting Missions were taken into very careful consideration by the Council, the whole purpose of such Missions would be lost. His delegation would have preferred the report of the Visiting Mission on the Cameroons under British administration (T/461) to have formed the subject of a separate discussion. Having wasted so much time, however, through failure

to approach the problem of a draft Statute for the City of Jerusalem in the right way from the outset, the Council was faced with the necessity for dealing in unseemly haste with much of its important work. Although the Iraqi delegation strongly deprecated such a method of working, it was a fact that the Visiting Mission's report was one of the documents which the Council was supposed to take into consideration in the present discussion. It should therefore not be neglected, and he, as ex-Chairman of the Visiting Mission, would hold himself in readiness to answer any questions put to him.

3. He recalled that at a previous meeting the view had been expressed by the United States representative that a visiting mission's report on a territory remained open for consideration by the Council until the territory was again visited by a Council mission. The Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories in West Africa had certainly no reason to fear any amount of scrutiny of its work. It was proud of having fulfilled to the best of its ability a difficult and, in his view, most important task.

4. He would answer the Philippines representative's question in the spirit of what he had just said.

5. The question of the Fon of Bali could better be envisaged against his people's curious and troubled historical background, which he would sketch for the Council by reading extracts from a memorandum which had been distributed to members of the Visiting Mission by the Administering Authority. The Balis had established themselves in their present home in the early nineteenth century. By their military prowess and the fact that they alone of the peoples in the area were horsemen, they had made themselves the most feared tribe for miles around. That had been the position when the Germans had taken over the administration of the Cameroons, in recognition of which they had installed the present Fon's father as Paramount Chief over thirty-one villages. They had even gone so far as to punish other tribes which had revolted against Bali hegemony. By 1912, however, Bali influence had begun to wane, and German policy had been accordingly modified, although the Balis, unlike the other tribes, had remained loyal to the Germans during the First World War. After the departure of the Germans, however, the Balis had managed to persuade the British that they were still the predominant tribe in the area, and it had been some years before the falsity of that claim had been demonstrated.

6. Soon after receiving the mandate in 1922, the British had introduced their policy of native administration, which had eventually resulted in the present organization. The former Bamenda Division of the Cameroon Province had been elevated to the status of a separate province, called the Bamenda Province, on 5 July 1949. The province comprised twenty-two tribes, twenty-one of whom had joined together in four federations. Only the Bali had not linked up with any of the other tribes, owing largely to the animosity they had stirred up against themselves during the period of

German administration. The Bamenda Province, however, was represented in the Eastern House of Assembly by the Fon of Bali.

7. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) thanked the Iraqi representative for his interesting account of the historical background to the question of the Fon of Bali.

8. One question, however, remained. The petitions received by the Visiting Mission depicted the Fon as a monster and tyrant, who had driven other tribes from their land. It would be interesting to know what personal impression of the Fon the representative of Iraq retained.

9. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) stated that he unfortunately had not been a member of the group which had visited the Fon of Bali, although Mr. Gerig had done so.

10. Mr. GERIG (United States of America) stated that the group had spent a very pleasant and interesting afternoon with the Fon of Bali and his people. He thought that he could safely say that they had gained a very favourable impression of the Fon. He appeared to have an excellent comprehension of his duties, including those as a member of the Eastern House of Assembly. On first impression, at all events, he had found the Fon a person of character and did not feel inclined to lend credence to the charges against him.

11. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to resume its consideration of economic and social advancement in the Territory.

Economic and social advancement (resumed from the 48th meeting)

12. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) pointed out that section 52 (page 64) of the annual report¹ stated that there were no specific loans, debts or reserves allocated to the Trust Territory. In view of that statement he asked the special representative to explain how it was that table 15 (page 314) of the statistical appendices to the annual report showed various loans totalling many thousands of pounds.

13. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) explained that section 52 denoted that there were no specific loans, debts or reserves which were actually allocated to the Trust Territory as an entity. An attempt was made in table 15 to show the share of the Trust Territory in the loans and reserves of the Protectorate of Nigeria, worked out on a proportionate basis. In the case of the Cameroons under British administration, the table appeared to him to have little value; it had been inserted merely in order to complete the form required by the Council for all Trust Territories.

14. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) pointed out that in section 138 (page 99) of the annual report it was stated that the Newspaper Ordinance provided for a bond in the sum of £250 to be signed by the proprietor,

¹ See *Report by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of the Cameroons under United Kingdom Trusteeship, for the year 1948*: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1949, Colonial No. 244.

printer and publisher of a newspaper. What were the special reasons for that restriction on the freedom of the Press, which was not to be found either in Nigeria or the United Kingdom?

15. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) stated that the Newspaper Ordinance referred to was in fact the Nigerian Ordinance, and its provisions applied to the whole of Nigeria. The reason for its promulgation was given in the second part of the sentence, which the Philippines representative had not read to the end, which said: "... to ensure that any claim for libel will be met, but forbids any criminal prosecution for libel without the consent of the Attorney-General".

16. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) asked why the Administration should be more concerned with the private right of an individual to settlement of a libel claim than with the public right of the population to full and untrammelled exercise of the freedom of the Press.

17. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) stated that the provision in question did not in any way encroach on the freedom of the Press.

18. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) recalled that when the same question had been asked in the twelfth meeting about a similar provision in force in Tanganyika, a full statement as to the reason for it had been given by the special representative for that Territory and by the United Kingdom representative. In the interests of time he would merely refer the Philippines representative to those statements, which were equally applicable to the present case.

19. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) insisted on a reply. He considered that the provision did restrict the full exercise of freedom of the Press. It might happen that a very intelligent editor or proprietor could serve the community by publishing a newspaper, but would not be in a position to put down the £250 required in cash before he could begin publication.

20. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) pointed out that there was no obligation to pay £250 in cash. As was stated in the report, the obligation was to sign a bond.

21. As he had been pressed to give the reasons for the provision, he would reply briefly that the Press in the United Kingdom had built up for itself not only a tradition, but also substantial financial reserves, in the sense that no newspapers, especially dailies or periodicals, were published in the United Kingdom without the backing of large amounts of capital. Not only was the Press in the United Kingdom generally jealous of its reputation and traditions, and therefore very careful not to publish remarks which might give cause for libel actions, but if it did so and damages were awarded against it, those damages could be met. The position was obviously very different in the Cameroons under British administration.

22. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) asked whether the special representative did not consider that investigation of the moral integrity of a prospective publisher, and the

fact that prospective publication necessarily entailed certain financial responsibilities, would provide sufficient guarantee.

23. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) stated that the Administering Authority considered it preferable to inquire into the financial integrity of an intending publisher rather than into his moral integrity. Inquiries into moral integrity might reasonably be construed as constituting restriction of the freedom of the Press, but an inquiry into his financial integrity could not be so regarded. All that was required of the individual concerned was that he should produce persons who would underwrite him against possible damages awarded against him for libel, to the extent of £250.

24. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) asked the United Kingdom representative whether he did not agree that the Newspaper Ordinance, the purpose of which was to protect the private right at the expense of the public right to full freedom of the Press, was a violation of article 14 of the Trusteeship Agreement for the Territory of the Cameroons under British Administration, which stipulated that freedom of the Press should be granted to the inhabitants of the Territory, subject only to the requirements of public order.

25. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) stated that as he did not consider that ordinance in any way curtailed the freedom of the Press; he did not consider either that it violated the Trusteeship Agreement.

26. He drew the attention of the Philippines representative to the conclusion reached by the Visiting Mission, in chapter I (d) of its report, which read: "The Mission is glad to observe that this freedom of speech is a matter worthy of commendation."

Mr. Henriquez Ureña (Dominican Republic), Vice-President, took the Chair.

27. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) observed that the same quotation was repeated in all the other reports of the Visiting Mission. He asked whether any newspapers at all were at present published in the Territory.

28. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) stated that no newspapers were at present published in the Territory.

29. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) stated that the Visiting Mission had given serious consideration to the question of freedom of speech, and had been told by Africans in private conversations, at which no members of the Administration were present, that there was practically complete freedom of speech and complete freedom of conscience in the Territory. The question of freedom of the Press was a somewhat different matter, and depended also on economic considerations. If the Council thought the bond was fixed at a level which might make it impossible for would-be publishers to publish a newspaper, it might wish to recommend that the Administering Authority reduce the amount of the bond. That, however, was a question to which the Visiting Mission had not given consideration.

30. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) stated that in his opinion there were two reasons why no newspaper had yet been published in the Territory. First, there was as yet no great demand for a newspaper, so that there would be a considerable risk in starting one; secondly, no one had yet come forward who was prepared to put down the necessary capital for the purchase of the plant needed to publish a newspaper. Anyone in a position to put down that amount of capital was unlikely to find much difficulty in providing a bond for £250. The requirement could not be considered an impediment to starting a paper, because, as had been explained, no cash payment was necessary: only the signing of a bond was required.
31. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) stated that he hoped the Council, in drawing its conclusions and making its recommendations, would take into account what he considered had been shown clearly to be an infringement, without parallel in civilized countries, of the fundamental public and human right to full freedom of the Press.
32. Turning to the question of medical service, he thought that credit was due to the Cameroons Development Corporation for providing medical service of its own in the southern part of the Territory in view of the inadequacy of the services provided by the Government. In the Northern Cameroons, however, with a population of 540,000, no such additional services appeared to be available. He asked the Iraqi representative, as ex-Chairman of the Visiting Mission, whether he considered the medical facilities available in the Northern Cameroons adequate for the needs of the inhabitants.
33. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) stated that, as the Administration was itself aware, the medical facilities in the north of the Territory left a great deal to be desired. The Visiting Mission had gone into the question in detail, and had found that the greatest difficulty appeared to be that of obtaining sufficient doctors, a difficulty felt throughout the world today as a result of the war, but nowhere so seriously as in the Northern Cameroons. He asked the special representative whether steps were being taken or were contemplated, to attract doctors to that part of the Territory. He recalled that at one time it had been suggested that the Administration should draw on the doctors among refugees and displaced persons in Europe. In view of the seriousness of the situation, the Members of the Mission thought that every possible means of attracting medical personnel should be explored.
34. He realized, however, that the tribes in the Northern part of the Territory had long-standing traditions and deep-rooted customs, and sometimes resisted modern innovations, however much to their benefit they might be. Given time, however, and the goodwill and persistence with which he thought the Administration was abundantly imbued, he was convinced that a great deal could be done. In another Territory, the population of which had been at the same cultural level, the inhabitants had in the long run been won over to modern methods.
35. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) pointed out that from section 170 (page 115) of the annual report it could be seen that the incidence of disease was very high in the southern part of the Territory; and he assumed that it was equally high in the north. He asked the special representative whether it was just or reasonable to expect the local authorities in the north, with their meagre resources and experience, to cope with the problem of caring for the health of the tribes in that area, in which there was not a single hospital or doctor.
36. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) observed that many of the diseases referred to in that section of the report were in fact tropical diseases, and would not be so prevalent in the northern part of the Territory. He pointed out that the mere fact that the statistics given there had been collected showed the great effort that was being made in the south, and the very considerable medical services in operation there could be seen by reference to chapter III, section (a), of the Visiting Mission's report. With regard to the northern areas, there was general agreement that the medical facilities available there left a great deal to be desired, partly because of the lack of demand for such facilities, partly because of the great difficulty that had been experienced in recruiting medical officers, and partly because the hospitals and doctors which at present served the northern areas were situated just outside the narrow strip of territory forming the Northern Cameroons, and within the Protectorate of Nigeria.
37. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) asked whether the special representative was yet in a position to give a reply to question 62 (T/L.47) in which the Philippines delegation had asked how many of the inhabitants of the Northern Cameroons visited the hospitals in the Northern Province of Nigeria, and how they got there.
38. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) explained that no reply had as yet been circulated to question 62, because it was hoped to put before the Council more interesting eye-witness descriptions than he could himself provide. He could only state from his knowledge of the Dikwa Emirate that persons requiring treatment were often able to travel to hospital with the help of the considerable lorry traffic passing along the roads. In the more remote areas of Adamawa Province there was no road communications system, and serious cases would have to rely on transport by litter or horse.
39. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) asked the special representative whether the total absence of hospitals and doctors in the northern areas had any connexion with the fact that certain important governmental functions, including the provision of medical services, had been delegated to local Native Authorities.
40. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) stated that it had not. The greater part of the medical facilities available on the spot were provided by the Native Authorities in the form of dispensaries situated at convenient points throughout the area.

41. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) asked the United States representative, who had also been a member of the Visiting Mission, for his impressions of the medical facilities available in the northern areas.

42. Mr. GERIG (United States of America) thought there was general agreement that the medical facilities available both in the north and in the south, were still inadequate, but that they had certainly been much improved. There were seven dispensaries in the northern areas, one or two mobile medical units and a hospital forty miles across the border, and it was planned to open another hospital in Bama, within the Territory, in 1950. He agreed it was desirable that the Administering Authority should try to attract more doctors, although, in view of the over-all world shortage of doctors, it would be difficult to do so.

43. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) asked if the ex-Chairman of the Visiting Mission could give any information on the operation of the various dispensaries in the northern areas.

44. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) stated that medical orderlies with training in first aid were attached to the dispensaries. They diagnosed illness and dispensed remedies to the best of their ability, for both casual and regular patients.

45. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) remarked that all the members of the Council were agreed in considering the medical facilities in the north to be very inadequate. Nor did the annual report seek to conceal that inadequacy. It therefore seemed futile to continue to ask questions on the matter, since the special representative could not provide any information not given in the report.

46. The PRESIDENT agreed that, although the questions asked might be interesting in themselves, the replies which the special representative or the representative of the Administering Authority might make to them would not give the Council any information not already contained in the annual report.

47. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) stated that he would not press his point further in view of the Belgian representative's admission that the medical facilities were utterly inadequate. He had pressed it because he considered that the Council was inclined to shut its eyes to the facts, and to make its recommendations milder than the facts warranted.

48. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) observed that in question 66 (T/L.47) he had inquired whether the sudden and alarming increase in sleeping-sickness cases had continued since the time when the annual report had been drawn up. His question had been inspired by the figures given in section 170 (page 115) of the report: 295 new cases of sleeping-sickness in a population of 18,000. He considered that the existing incidence rate did not for the moment disclose a disquieting situation; nevertheless, as those 295 carriers existed, it might rapidly become worse. For that reason, he asked how many cases had occurred in the Territory since the end of 1948.

49. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) said that he was not yet in a position to give any additional information on the incidence of sleeping-sickness. The Administration was aware that that disease constituted a serious and alarming problem along the lower reaches of the Mungo River, which was, however, the only part of the Territory where it seriously affected human beings. A tsetse fly survey was planned there, and he would report the findings to the Council.

50. Mr. LIU (China), referring to the prison service, asked whether there had been any non-indigenous prisoners in recent years and, if so, whether the same treatment had been accorded to them as to indigenous prisoners, or whether there was racial segregation of prisoners, as was, for example, practised in certain other Trust Territories.

51. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) stated that for as long as anyone could remember, there had been no non-indigenous prisoners in the Territory. In view of the extremely small non-indigenous population and the circumstances in which it lived, it was most unlikely that there would be in future.

The meeting was suspended at 4.45 p.m. and was resumed at 5.05 p.m.

52. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) asked leave to raise a point he had overlooked during the discussion on the question of freedom of speech. He had noticed in part I, eighth paragraph, of the Visiting Missions report a reference to placards and banners displayed at meetings between the Mission and the population, one of which read "Bakweri Want Right of Free Speech to UNO and no Victimization".

53. In view of the account that had been given of what the Visiting Mission had heard on the freedom of speech in the Territory, he asked whether the ex-Chairman of the Mission could explain what had been meant by that poster.

54. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) said that the Mission had objectively recorded all it had seen and heard. It had seen the poster and had therefore mentioned it. But its meaning had been by no means clear to the members of the Mission, because when they had met a large assembly of Bakweri, in the absence of any representative of the Administration, the Bakweri had spoken quite freely and without restraint. They had mentioned victimization in connexion with land alienation, but had not complained of any restriction of their right to freedom of speech.

55. The PRESIDENT invited representatives to submit their questions and observations on educational advancement.

Educational advancement

56. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) felt that the Council might usefully bear in mind the general lines of the recommendation² it had made the previous year with

² See *Official Records of the Fourth Session of the General Assembly*, supplement No. 4, p. 9.

regard to the notable difference in development between northern and southern sections of the Territory, in which it had urged the Administering Authority to take special measures to close the gap.

57. A similar state of affairs existed in the field of public education. In the north, according to the annual report, 95-100 per cent of the population were illiterate; the Administering Authority should make an effort to improve the position even if that meant its taking over the education services, which now appeared to be operated by the Native Authorities.

58. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) said that in its examination of the annual report for 1947, the Council had been struck by the inadequacy of school facilities in the Territory and had accordingly formulated certain recommendations. He thought the Council would agree that the annual report for 1948 did not record much improvement and suggested that time need not be spent on further discussion if the Administration was prepared to admit that fact.

59. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) agreed that progress had been slow in the northern part of the Territory. He hoped that the annual report for 1949 would show at least steady progress, although he was aware that it would not describe a situation which would in any way resemble what the Administration wished it to be.

60. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) stated that he was anxious to know what progress had been made in the matter of free public education since the Council had examined the annual report on the Territory for 1947.

61. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) pointed out that the annual report before the Council referred to the year ending 31 December 1948. Since the Council had considered the annual report for 1947 only in January 1949, it was hardly possible for any action to have been taken during 1948 on its recommendations.

62. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) said he wished only to discover whether there had been any change in the situation in 1948 as compared with that in 1947. He could find no indication in the report for 1948 that steps had been taken to provide free public education as recommended.

63. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) suggested that it would hardly be possible for the annual report for 1948 to describe the implementation of recommendations adopted by the Council in 1949. It would be a fair question if the Philippines representative asked the special representative whether any steps had been taken, or were about to be taken, which would be reflected in the report for 1949.

64. Replying to a question by Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) as to whether or not there was general free public education in the Trust Territory, Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) replied in the negative.

65. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) asked whether the budget appropriation for education as compared with total

Government expenditure in 1948 reflected an improvement in the education system over 1947.

66. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) felt that a more representative figure would be the total of Government and native administration expenditure on education, which had shown an increase of 44 per cent between 1947 and 1948.

67. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) inquired why the figure for Government expenditure on education, given in the answer to question 69 (T/L.47) referred to the year 1948/49, and not to the calendar year 1948 covered by the annual report.

68. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) explained that the Administration accounts were kept for a financial year running from April 1 of one year to March 31 of the succeeding year. It would be possible to extract the figures from two financial years, in order to arrive at the total for the calendar year 1948, but he doubted whether the latter would be of more value than the figures for the financial year.

69. Replying to a question by Mr. CARPIO (Philippines), Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) said that the figure of £43,620 represented the total amount expended by the Government on education, including grants to voluntary agencies, which accounted for the greater part of the figure.

70. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) felt that the reply to the three parts of the question had been drafted in such a way as to give the impression that grants to voluntary agencies were in addition to the figure shown for Government expenditure.

71. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) said the reply had been drafted in the belief that the information sought related to expenditure incurred by the voluntary agencies. The figure for grants to voluntary agencies could, however, be ascertained and shown separately. The figure for the Southern Cameroons, which would be given in the annual report for 1949, was £24,258. The corresponding figure for the northern provinces was not yet available. He did not agree that section (iii) of the answer gave a misleading impression. The question itself was somewhat obscure, since grants-in-aid were made by governments and not by voluntary agencies. He thought the information which he now understood the question was designed to elicit—namely, the total of grants-in-aid—was to be found in table 37 (page 331) of the statistical appendices to the annual report.

72. Replying to a further question by Mr. CARPIO (Philippines), Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) said that as explained in the answer to question 75 (T/L.47), the break-down of the figures for pupils and teachers between Government and native schools was not yet available, but would be given for 1949 in the annual report relating to that year.

73. He believed that all the Government primary schools were located in the southern part of the Territory. Table 41 (page 333) of the statistical appendices

to the annual report gave an analysis of existing schools.

74. In reply to a remark by Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) that there appeared to have been no secondary schools at all, either in 1948 or 1949, in the Territory, Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) said that there had been two secondary schools operated by voluntary agencies with Government assistance in the Southern Cameroons.

75. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) said that at its fourth session the Council, having observed that the enrolment in the schools was less than 1 per cent of the population of school age, had urged³ the Administering Authority to press forward more vigorously the education policy in both the northern and southern sections of the Territory. He noted that enrolment had at last risen to 1 per cent of the school-age population in the north, and inquired whether the Administration considered that figure to form a satisfactory result of a vigorous attempt to improve education facilities.

76. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) felt that the strength of the effort could not be measured by the figure quoted. He did not expect that enrolment would show any marked increase for some time to come. The problem was a difficult one.

77. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) believed that the Administering Authority would be the first to agree that, like the medical services, the educational services left much to be desired. He felt that the Council would do well to recognize the difficulties confronting the Administration, but at the same time to recognize the desirability of improving and extending facilities. The Administration had done much, but, he believed, could do still more. Its willingness and endeavours to maintain instruction in the local tongue, which was one way of preserving the individuality of the Territory repeatedly recommended by the Council, should be commended.

78. The Visiting Mission had wished to test the validity of the suggestion that had been made to it, that even if schools were provided the indigenous population would be reluctant to send its children to them. It had raised the question with many indigenous groups, and members had been struck by the apparently sincere and emphatic assurances given by the Africans that they would in fact send their sons to school if schools were available.

79. Believing that the indigenous population would in time acquire the habit of sending their sons to school, he felt that there was room for improvement in school facilities, and that the Council should adopt a resolution asking the Administering Authority to consider, as rapidly as possible, ways and means of increasing such facilities to meet the demands of the indigenous population.

80. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) said that the Iraqi representative had anticipated his own observation. He

would add, however, that the fact that the number of pupils at teachers' training schools had risen from 169 in 1947 to 262 in 1948—a considerable increase percentually, if not numerically—should be regarded as highly encouraging. Nevertheless, it was still the duty of the Administering Authority to try to establish new schools, especially in the northern provinces, where the illiteracy rate was extremely high.

81. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines), referring to the figures relating to schools shown in table 41 (page 333) of the statistical appendices to the annual report, said that in considering the increase in the number of schools, account had to be taken of whether the schools were Government-aided, or unaided schools run by voluntary agencies. It appeared from the table that there had been only four more Government schools in 1948 than in 1947. In view of the crying need for educational facilities and the Council's recommendation that vigorous action should be taken, that increase seemed wholly inadequate. Moreover, there was a very great need for training teachers in the Territory. When the population came to appreciate the value of education, it would be found that there were not enough teachers, because the money for their training had not been made available. He wished to stress that point. One of the most important points raised in the petitions with which the Council was now being inundated was the lack of educational facilities. Yet, in fact, there had been a decrease in the number of Government-aided schools in the Territory as a whole from 36 in 1947 to 35 in 1948. He felt that education was of such importance in the development of a people that attention must be given to the matter if the Council wished the people of the Trust Territories to progress in the manner envisaged by the Charter.

82. The Administering Authority had undertaken to promote educational facilities in the Territory. He had therefore been shocked by the observation made by the United Kingdom representative at the forty-eighth meeting to the effect that the Administering Authority was not required to spend on the Territory a penny more than the Territory's own revenue. He had no doubt that that attitude, combined with the effects of integration which he had mentioned earlier, was responsible to a considerable extent for the present backward state of the Territory.

83. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) said he was obliged for the third time to repeat that table 41 (page 333) did not represent the Administering Authority's reply to the Council's recommendation, which had been made in the year following that to which the table referred.

84. Further, he was compelled to repeat again that the Trusteeship Agreement imposed no obligation whatsoever on the taxpayers of the United Kingdom or Nigeria to contribute funds to the development of the Trust Territory. The annual report, however, bore eloquent witness to the fact that those taxpayers had in fact contributed a considerable amount to the Territory's finances. As for the Philippines representative's argument that the backward condition of

³ See *Official Records of the Fourth Session of the General Assembly*, supplement No. 4, p. 9.

the country was due to its administrative integration with Nigeria, he had once more to point to the large deficit which was being met by the Protectorate, to which the special representative had already referred a number of times and which did not include one penny of the sums allocated to the Territory from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. Indeed, it was hardly worth while trying to disprove the untenable theory that conditions in the Territory would be improved if integration, for which specific provision was made in the Trusteeship Agreement, were abolished.

85. Brigadier GIBBONS (special representative) referring to the Belgian representative's observations on the increase in the number of pupil teachers in training establishments, submitted that it was in that direction that the greatest advance had been made during the year under review. The strides made in that field would, in a couple of years' time, lead to a general extension of educational services throughout the Territory.

86. With regard to primary education, the Administering Authority relied almost entirely on voluntary agencies, whose schools were financed by Government grants-in-aid to the extent of 70-80 per cent of the total cost of running them. It was true that there were very few Government schools. But the increase in the number of schools run by voluntary agencies was directly attributable to Government financing. Consequently, the most significant figure in table 41 (page 333) was the total figure of 276, which included all schools opened by voluntary agencies. The increase of 21 over the year 1947 might seem modest, but it was none the less symbolic of a steady advance.

87. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) considered that whether the Administering Authority was or was not bound to make any financial advances to the Territory over and above the sums derived from local revenue, it had undertaken the solemn obligation of promoting and extending elementary education in order to abolish illiteracy. That responsibility of necessity implied financial outlay. Under the mandate system, the choice of mandatory Powers had been governed not only by considerations of a Power's prestige and influence, but also of its financial resources. He could not therefore refrain from expressing surprise that the representative of an Administering Authority should so much insist on the strict letter of a trusteeship agreement in that respect.

88. Moreover, the argument that the Territory's deficit justified its integration with Nigeria was invalidated by the abundant evidence in the annual report that a great deal of the money allocated to the Territory returned to Nigeria in the form of contributions to the Nigerian administrative services. The remainder of the advances made to the Territory and not returned to the Nigerian Government could surely be met out of the profits of the Cameroons Development Corporation. Over a period of forty years, the Nigerian Government would have doubled its original investment of £850,000. To that amount must be added the revenue from income tax, which in two years had amounted to £360,000.

Even if that figure did relate to four years, the profits over a period of forty years would obviously run into millions of pounds. Last, but not least, there were possible export duties, customs duties and import duties to be taken into account. And yet what were conditions in the Territory to-day? In the northern provinces, only 1 per cent of the population of school age was registered. The Administering Authority claimed that that was enough, and that the efforts to increase attendance in schools could not be expected to yield improved results for a long time to come.

89. In drafting its recommendations the Council should carefully weigh those factors, since, in his opinion, there was a great deal still to be done, and done quickly, if the stipulations of the Charter of the United Nations with regard to development in the Trust Territories were to be fulfilled.

90. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) recalled that several attempts had been made by the head of the United Kingdom delegation, by the special representative and by himself to explain the financial relationship between Nigeria and the Trust Territory, as well as the part played by the Cameroons Development Corporation. But it was abundantly clear that the Philippines representative's views were so coloured by prejudice as to be unaffected by the evidence of facts. None the less a final attempt to disabuse that representative of his misapprehensions would be made by the special representative in his concluding statement at the end of the general discussion. He noted meanwhile that the Philippines representative's comments and criticisms had not been supported by other members of the Council.

91. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium), replying to the Philippines representative, pointed out that the figures so far given showed that the Nigerian Government had derived a total of no more than £272,800 from the Trust Territory in taxes and other dues, whereas its expenditure on the Territory had amounted to some £540,000. Hence the Nigerian Government was obliged, as things stood, to provide a further £270,000 or so to cover the expenditure of the Trust Territory, despite the considerable amount paid to it by the Cameroons Development Corporation in the form of taxes. If, in a few years' time, the contribution of the Trust Territory to the finances of the Protectorate were to be doubled, the Council might then properly take steps to see that all revenue raised in the Territory was spent in the Territory. The Council might even express the hope, at that juncture, that Nigeria would continue to contribute towards the Territory's expenses. At the moment, however, it had to be recognized that the Nigerian Government was appropriating a sum of approximately £270,000 from its own budget to make up the deficiency in the Territory's resources. Such being the case, the Nigerian Government could hardly be charged with having misused the large revenue it derived from the Cameroons Development Corporation.

92. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines), referring to the United Kingdom representative's comment that his (Mr. Carpio's) statements had not found support among other

members of the Council, drew attention to the figures for income tax paid by the Cameroons Development Corporation given in chapter II (a), section (IV), of the Visiting Mission's report. It was stated there that the Corporation had set aside, to meet taxation, sums of £158,000 in 1947 and £209,000 in 1948. It was on the basis of those figures that he had suggested to the special representative that the period of forty years fixed for repayment by the Corporation of the advance made to it by the Nigerian Government might well be reduced to five or six years. He had been informed that that was impossible, since the money would then have to be found by the Nigerian taxpayer. In his view, that argument was illogical. If the Trust Territory were administered as a single unit, the taxes levied on the Cameroons Development Corporation would remain at the disposal of the Trust Territory instead of increasing the income of the Nigerian Government. Those amounts, together with the increases which could legitimately be expected from the Corporation's successful operations in the future, would surely offset any advances made by the Nigerian Government for the purpose of covering alleged deficits, or promoting development, in the Trust Territory.

93. If the Nigerian Government was still actuated by those feelings of charity which had prompted it to purchase large tracts of land for the benefit of the people, it should seriously consider the possibility of lowering those income taxes. By that means, more money would be made available to speed up development in the Territory. He had asked the United Kingdom Government to consider the situation in the Trust Territory when the plantations had been in German hands, and had been operated without the slightest benefit to the Territory. Now, however, it was the Nigerian Government which was collecting those enormous profits. He must once more emphasize the fact that in 1947 almost 90 per cent of the Corporation's trading profit had been set aside to meet taxation, and some 70 per cent in 1948. If those sums were made available to the Trust Territory, its development could beyond doubt be considerably accelerated.

94. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) repeated that, inclusive of taxes paid by the Cameroons Development Corporation, the Nigerian Government was at the present time spending twice as much in the Territory as it received from it. When it became possible to prove that the Nigerian Government collected in the form of taxes more than it spent in the Trust Territory, then, no doubt, the Council would feel that the situation must be reviewed. Such a situation, however, was not likely to occur, since as greater sums became available from the Territory in the shape of taxes, so expenditure in the Territory would proportionately increase.

95. The PRESIDENT said that in the absence of further comments the examination of educational advancement in the Territory could be considered closed. The Council could begin the general discussion on the annual report at its next meeting, and subsequently proceed to meet as a committee of the whole, appointing

a small committee to prepare the relevant section for inclusion in the Council's report to the General Assembly

96. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) asked whether that section would be drafted by a small committee or by a committee of the whole.

97. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the Council had earlier decided to meet as a committee of the whole for the purpose of considering the various sections of its own report to the Assembly. In each case, the committee of the whole had set up a small committee to draft the section on the Trust Territory in question.

98. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) thought that it would save time if a committee were set up to draft the section, submitting it direct to the Council.

99. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) supported the Philippines representative.

100. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) recalled the Council's earlier decision just mentioned by the President. Further, the Council had empowered the committee of the whole to set up small committees. Two such committees had in fact been set up. He saw no reason for changing that procedure, and held that, in accordance with the rules of procedure, any change would necessitate the revision of a decision which had already been taken.

101. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) emphasized the loss of time which that procedure entailed. He believed that the resolution previously adopted by the Council was intended to apply only to the reports on the two Trust Territories already dealt with by the Council, and urged the Council to reconsider its decision. Past experience had shown that, when sitting as a committee of the whole, the Council was unable to deal satisfactorily and expeditiously with the drafting of a report. He believed that the same difficulties would recur.

102. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) also doubted whether the Council had intended its decision to apply to the drafting of all reports. Even if it was applicable in general, he saw good reasons for changing that decision in the present circumstances, when it was essential to avoid duplication of discussion and to waste as little time as possible. The Council need only recall the recent difficulties which had arisen in the case of the section on the annual report on the Territory of Ruanda-Urundi. Moreover, he failed to see how that procedure could be consistently applied if the Council wished to complete its business by 6 April 1950. The two decisions were mutually contradictory. Nor could he conceive of any valid reason for holding the same debate at two different levels, first in the committee of the whole and then in plenary.

103. Mr. GERIC (United States of America) believed the best way of saving the Council's time would be for representatives to exercise some restraint in making speeches. His own delegation, as well as others, had endeavoured to do so.

104. The procedure followed at the current session by the Council in drafting the passages on annual reports

had by no means wasted time. The passage, having been drafted by a small committee composed of four members, had then been examined by the committee of the whole, which had made certain changes. It had then been submitted to the Council in plenary and adopted straight away. He would suggest that the same procedure be applied to the annual report for the Territory of the Cameroons under British administration, and that the Council proceed forthwith to appoint the necessary drafting committee.

105. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) proposed that the discussion be deferred until the next meeting.

106. Mr. LIU (China) endorsed the views put forward by the Philippines representative.

107. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) asked the representatives of the United Kingdom and the United States of America to explain the reasons which impelled them to support the maintenance of the procedure adopted by the Council in relation to the previously examined reports.

108. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) said that one of his reasons was that the Trusteeship Council had already taken a decision on the matter. It was rather for those representatives who wished to reverse that decision to explain their attitude.

109. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) reiterated that, in his view, that procedure involved loss of time. He considered that if, in practice, a decision proved to be wrong, there was no reason why it should not be changed.

110. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) disagreed with the Iraqi representative.

111. The PRESIDENT proposed that the decision on the matter be taken at the next meeting after the general discussion. Those delegations which wished the decision previously adopted by the Council to be revised could then make a formal proposal to that effect.

The meeting rose at 6.30 p.m.

253rd meeting

FIFTY-FIRST MEETING

*Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Saturday, 11 March 1950, at 10.45 a.m.*

President : Mr. HENRÍQUEZ UREÑA
(Dominican Republic) (*Vice-President*).

Present : The representatives of the following countries : Argentina, Australia, Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, France, Iraq, New Zealand, Philippines, United Kingdom, United States of America.

96. Examination of annual reports on the administration of Trust Territories (*continued*)

CAMEROONS UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION, 1948
(T/413, T/461, T/485, T/485/Add.1, T/L.47, and
T/L.47/Add.1) (*continued*)

*At the invitation of the President, Brigadier Gibbons,
special representative of the Administering Authority for*

the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under British administration, took his place at the Council table.

1. Mr. MEJIA (Dominican Republic) said that the general impression made by the annual report¹ and the report (T/461) of the Visiting Mission was a favourable one of conditions in the Territory. Progress was to be noted in the various fields of administration.

2. He noted that with regard to political conditions the Visiting Mission had stated that traditional African authority, which apparently had never extended further than the village realm, appeared to be slowly disintegrating and to be giving way to a leadership including younger and better-educated men. In his view, that was the way in which tribal customs should be gradually abandoned, and the foundations of a system of complete democratic representation laid. The Mission had also noted that freedom of expression, which was vital to political progress, was no empty phrase in the Territory.

3. However, progress would perhaps be slower than was to be desired, unless modern methods were adopted. The existence of educated young people enabled the problem to be tackled from a new angle, and additional local government bodies to be set up. He noted with satisfaction that the Administering Authority was studying reforms in that field.

4. The integration of the Territory with Nigeria made a precise estimate of its national income, for example, impossible, although the Administering Authority had endeavoured to submit separate information on the Trust Territory. With the adoption of appropriate administrative measures, a clearer picture of the situation in the Territory might be presented in future.

5. Among requests by the inhabitants recorded by the Visiting Mission was one that the Territory should be transformed into an additional administrative region of Nigeria. In the absence of separate information on the Territory's own financial resources, it was difficult to decide whether that was practicable or not.

6. The productivity of the Territory should be improved. The Visiting Mission considered that its agricultural techniques were primitive. Moreover—and that was the main problem—an extensive road network was required, but the topography made such an undertaking difficult and costly. It must therefore be accepted that the economic development of the Territory would not be as rapid as might be desired. The Administering Authority would doubtless put a general road construction plan into operation as soon as possible, although its fulfilment was bound to be slow.

7. No systematic studies were available on the standard of living, which, like wages, seemed to be low, although the minimum wage had been raised.

¹ See *Report by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of the Cameroons under United Kingdom Trusteeship, for the year 1948*: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1949, Colonial No. 244.