



TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

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President: Mr. Leslie Knox MUNRO (New Zealand).

Present:

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

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Togoland under French administration: (a) annual report (T/1080 and Add.1); (b) petitions circulated under rule 85, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure; (c) report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in West Africa, 1952 (T/1041, T/1068) (continued)

[Agenda items 3 (f), 4 and 5]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Apedo Amah, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Togoland under French administration, took a place at the Council table.

GENERAL DEBATE (continued)

1. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) said that it was difficult to comment on the situation in the Trust Territory of Togoland under French administration without reference to the problems of the Ewes and the unification of the two Togolands.

2. His delegation was naturally sensitive to the rights of formerly subject peoples and did not altogether share the satisfaction of others with the progress made in introducing modern forms of government into the Territory under review. It felt that the hybrid institutions which had resulted from the attempt to preserve ancient customs while injecting democratic principles into them served rather to hinder than to help the political education of the people. Village chiefs, for instance, were appointed in accordance with tradition, but their appointment had to be confirmed, either by the Commissioner of the Republic or by the *commandant de cercle*, and their administrative position

appeared to be anomalous. The system of customary dues was permitted to continue although it gave rise to obvious abuse. The customary courts co-existed with civil law courts. That situation no doubt accounted for the lack of progress in the training of administrators. There was only one Togolese officer among the higher grades of the Administration; yet there must be many young people attending schools in France who could enter the service of the Administration and would do so if encouraged.

3. The Territory's main occupation, agriculture, required greater attention in order that the volume of exports might be increased and more manufactured goods be imported. Indigenous farmers should at once be taught to use fertilizers and to adopt better methods of cultivation. It was important, too, for the prosperity of the country, that industry should be developed. In addition to cotton-ginning factories, factories should be set up for the extraction of oil and the production of oil-cakes and for the processing of cocoa, one of the Territory's main export products.

4. In the matter of public health, the Administering Authority was to be congratulated on its success in stamping out sleeping sickness. Other diseases, such as yaws and syphilis, remained. The building of a new hospital at Lomé did credit to the Administration.

5. Very energetic efforts were required in the matter of education. The problem of a language to be adopted for instruction in schools remained unsolved, and at the present rate it would be 1961 before the Administering Authority could accommodate in private or public schools the 90,000 pupils, only a portion of the total population of school age, to whom it hoped to give primary education. His delegation therefore welcomed the proposal to launch a mass education campaign for children of school age who could not be accommodated. It hoped that subsequent reports would contain information on the progress achieved.

6. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) thought that progress in the Territory had been distinct but not uniform. Economic and educational advancement had proceeded at a greater pace than political advancement.

7. His delegation noted with satisfaction the increase in the number of electors registered, though it could not but regret that the goal of universal adult suffrage had not yet been attained. The proposal to establish a government council, the extension of the powers of the Territorial Assembly and the reform of the *conseils de circonscription* were matters of interest, but it was disappointing to learn from the report (T/1041) of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in West Africa, 1952, that the Territory did not enjoy complete freedom of expression, of assembly and of movement, and that there was a possibility that members of the police force had exceeded the limits of their authority. Although the Administering Authority had denied that suggestion, there appeared to be cause for further investigation.

8. His delegation had noted the efforts made by the Administration to increase the number of Africans employed in the administrative services; nevertheless it wished to endorse the Visiting Mission's hope (T/1041, para. 106) that more Africans would be trained to occupy higher positions in the Administration.

9. Economically, much progress had been achieved and agricultural production had markedly increased. The Administration was to be congratulated on such measures as the establishment of farm schools and pilot centres, the distribution of seeds, experiments in fertilization, the establishment of palm-oil and tapioca factories and the progressive classification of forests. Road-building and bridge building were still urgent needs, and it was good to learn that they had been given priority in the second four-year plan.

10. The Council might well note with satisfaction the accomplishment of a reform which it had long sought—the abolition of the direct personal tax. It must also welcome the completion of the Labour Code and the promulgation of laws for its application. The extension of the medical and health services had been impressive and his delegation noted with particular satisfaction the completion of a modern hospital at Lomé. All information indicated, however, that the number of doctors, hospitals and dispensaries in the Territory was still very inadequate. The stamping out of sleeping sickness was a notable achievement; it was to be hoped that the campaigns against malaria, yaws and other diseases prevalent in the Territory would meet with equal success.

11. In the matter of customary dues his delegation, like that of Belgium, hoped that the Administering Authority would be able to record in its next annual report the effectiveness of measures to rectify the situation.

12. Progress in education had been noteworthy, but there was still some disparity between the rates of advancement in the north and in the south. The education of girls, the training of teachers and the award of scholarships were matters which demanded the continued attention of the Administration. Some reallocation of scholarships was obviously called for; the Territory was primarily agricultural but, as UNESCO had pointed out in its observations (T/1091), only four of the total of 79 scholarship-holders in 1952 were studying in higher agricultural schools. An increase in the number of scholarships was required if the Territory was to be supplied with an adequate number of trained public servants.

13. Mr. KHAN (India) said that it had become clear from the debates which had taken place in the Council that all the Trust Territories had certain problems in common. They arose from the desire of the African peoples for greater freedom, better health, more food, a better way of life and, above all, for dignity and self-respect. In that respect the situation in Togoland under French administration was disappointing and the Administering Authority appeared to lack a sense of urgency.

14. His delegation did not share the special representative's optimism about the political progress of the Territory; proposals for certain measure of political reform had been before the French Parliament for fifteen months, so far without result. Even were such reforms to be carried out, however, the Togolandese would still

play no direct part in the administration of their country, for the Territory's elected bodies would remain purely consultative and would not have legislative or executive powers. It was clear that, so long as the French Government adhered to its constitutional theory of Associated Territories, and tried to turn Africans into Frenchmen, the Trust Territory of Togoland under French administration would continue to lag behind other West African territories in the march towards independence and self-government. Although the Visiting Mission's appraisal of the state of political advancement in the Territory was to a large extent invalidated by the unfortunate fact that not one of the Territory's elected organs was in session during its visit—and that surely was a circumstance which should in future be avoided—it could be seen that the electoral system there was still inadequate and that the goal of universal adult suffrage was far from being attained. Events in India had proved that universal adult suffrage could be introduced without fear of chaos and that there was no necessary connexion between literacy and political acumen. Experience in India had also shown that the further argument of the Administering Authority, that all adults could not be inscribed on the electoral rolls because they could not be identified and that tribal chiefs must be relied upon for the submission of names for the register, had no force.

15. In Togoland under French administration, furthermore, the tribal system and tribal customs appeared to be obstacles to, and not the vehicles of democracy, as had been the case in other parts of West Africa. The system of the payment of customary dues to chiefs, which had not been abolished, was clearly open to abuse. The chiefs themselves, while continuing to fill social and spiritual needs, ought surely to be stripped of political power and their administrative functions entrusted to paid employees. In addition, it was disappointing to note how few Africans were employed in the Administration. It could not be for lack of ability, but for lack of incentive and encouragement, that educated Togolandese were reluctant to join the service.

16. The Territory's economic situation appeared to be satisfactory, although greater efforts should be made to popularize small-scale cottage industries, and the future prosperity of the country required a balance between agriculture and industry. Socially, too, the position was satisfactory, except for the persistence of the practice of polygamy, which entailed virtual slavery and which the Administering Authority ought therefore to discourage.

17. In the matter of education the record showed a lack of balance between progress in primary education and progress in adult education. Experience in India had shown that in order to gain the best results from the education of the younger generation it was essential at the same time to educate their elders. A balance should also be achieved between the literary and technical types of education, and between the northern and southern parts of the Territory in the matter of education. It was not true, as the Visiting Mission seemed to believe (T/1041, para. 284), that Moham-medanism discouraged the education of women.

18. In general, it appeared that the material needs of the people of the Territory were satisfied at the

expense of their political needs. It was to be hoped that the Administering Authority would shortly make possible in the political field advances equal to those which had been achieved in the economic, social and educational fields.

19. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) expressed satisfaction with the information given by the Administering Authority, the Visiting Mission and the special representative; and in particular with the fact that the special representative, whose appointment by the Administering Authority was in conformity with the hopes expressed in Council resolution 466 (XI) and General Assembly resolution 653 (VII), had demonstrated ability, sincerity and thorough knowledge of the Trust Territory.

20. On the whole, encouraging progress was being made in the Territory. The inter-party rivalry in southern Togoland bore out the special representative's claim that the Togolandese were attaining the capacity for self-government. The administration of the Territory as an integral part of the French Union gave it the benefit of close association with French liberal and democratic tradition, which furthered the purposes of the Charter and the Trusteeship System. France would be able to give effect to the people's final choice in due course.

21. Indigenous custom and culture must not be jettisoned abruptly and prematurely, but must be reconciled with political advancement, and progress must be achieved steadily and patiently so as to preserve the essential values of both systems. It was unrealistic, and confusing for the population, to urge universal suffrage before the people were ready to abandon the rule of the chiefs. The response to innovation reported by the special representative was encouraging, and the Council would hope to learn next year that the Act establishing a government council had been passed. The establishment of the *conseils de circonscription* and municipal councils, and the plans to extend their powers, were commendable. It was to be hoped that the number of registered voters would continue to increase, as in the past three years.

22. The lessening of tension between the two main parties was very welcome. It was to be hoped that the Administering Authority would not only do justice to both parties, but would also make that justice apparent and preserve the greatest freedom of expression and assembly compatible with law and order, so as to remove any existing grievances on that score. Political leaders, too, should act with a sense of their new high responsibilities.

23. The establishment of a Labour Court to settle employer-labour disputes was also welcome.

24. The Administering Authority should consider giving an undertaking to scholars which would ensure that enough qualified Africans would return to Togoland to serve in the Administration.

25. The four-year plan to increase production, the diversification of crops and the general progress achieved in agriculture were gratifying. Further action was desirable in classification of forests, reafforestation and education to prepare the population for those measures. The Council looked forward to learning the results of the mineral investigations in progress. The Visiting Mission's suggestions on the prices paid for agricultural produce appeared sound, and the Administering Author-

ity might study the matter further to ensure a proper return to the indigenous farmers on export crops.

26. France's contribution of one-third of the Territory's expenditure was generous, but doubtless the Territory would bear a greater proportion of the burden as its economy expanded.

27. The four-year plan had produced good results in health and education. The virtual elimination of sleeping sickness and the increasing activity of mobile health teams against diseases such as malaria and leprosy were gratifying; much remained to be done against meningitis, yaws, syphilis and tuberculosis, but the Administering Authority was acting energetically against disease. The devotion of 20.34 per cent of the budget to health, and the provision of a universal free medical service, were completely satisfactory.

28. He hoped the special representative would account for the discrepancy in the figure of 17.6 per cent of the budget for expenditure on education in 1952, given in document T/L.409, and that of 14 per cent, given in document T/1041. The relatively higher rate of educational development in the north was an encouraging feature. The school attendance percentage of 34.45 given by the Administering Authority must be among the highest in Africa, but showed how distant universal education still was. Educational progress was satisfactory, but sustained effort in all branches was required.

29. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador) noted that neither of the two Trust Territories of Togoland, considered separately, formed a natural geographical unit; the resultant problems required special attention if a solid foundation was to be laid for the political structure of the future States.

30. Every effort must be made to relieve the tension between the Parti Togolais du Progrès and the Comité de l'Unité Togolaise and to establish friendly relations and understanding between them.

31. He noted that the Administering Authority had made the Dapango subdivision a *cercle* and that the number of registered voters would shortly reach 100,000 or 120,000. Greater effort was needed in training the indigenous population for participation in the Administration.

32. The Administering Authority's report ¹ had given the impression that only French citizens could serve as judges; at the 500th meeting, the special representative and the French representative had corrected that impression, and future reports should be so worded as to remove that source of misunderstanding. With regard to the limitation of the number of lawyers in the Trust Territory, he agreed with the view expressed by the Visiting Mission (T/1041, para. 118) that the exercise of the legal profession should lie exclusively with higher judicial authorities.

33. According to the Administering Authority, deportation for political offences had never been imposed. Whether that was because such a penalty was found to be redundant, or because it was considered unlawful, the penalty should clearly be abolished. The satisfactory operation of customary courts, the establishment of three new courts of that type and the progress achieved in civil registration were gratifying.

¹ See *Rapport annuel du Gouvernement français à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies sur l'administration du Togo placé sous la tutelle de la France, année 1952*, Paris, Imprimerie Chaix, 1953.

34. Since the Territory was poor in soil and natural resources, every effort must be made to achieve economic prosperity, which would contribute largely to the solution of social and political problems. It was satisfactory to observe that the Administering Authority was encouraging the production of items which fetched good prices on the world market, giving priority to the building of road links with areas remote from their markets, setting up agricultural training centres and promoting intensive methods of agriculture in order to replace traditional farming and stock-breeding by efficient modern practices.

35. A solution should be found for the problem arising from the grant of export licences only to European firms on the ground that such firms, being better equipped with capital, were the more likely to succeed. Some efforts had been made to encourage the development of co-operatives but, despite the acknowledged difficulty presented by the individualistic attitude of the indigenous producer, nothing should be neglected in the endeavour to establish the system firmly. The tax on lorry drivers was relatively high and militated against farmers' profits; it might well be reduced.

36. The Labour Code enacted by the French National Assembly embodied many principles of social justice and progress, and the Administering Authority was to be congratulated on raising the minimum wage of workers and on the building of new accommodation for workers, particularly at the palm-oil factory at Alokouégbé.

37. The Visiting Mission's proposal for the gradual abolition of payments to chiefs in kind or in work, by making such tributes payable in legal tender against a receipt, should be adopted.

38. Great progress had been made in public health through the equipment of hospitals and dispensaries with responsible staff and plentiful medical supplies; the Administering Authority should devote equal attention to the provision of sufficient doctors for the Territory's needs.

39. The Administering Authority was to be congratulated on the progress made in education, in particular on the increase in primary school attendance in the north, the plan to raise attendances to 90,000 within ten years, and the increase in public and private school building. It was to be hoped that similar energy would be devoted to higher and technical education, and that the number of scholarships for study abroad would be increased.

40. In the political field little appreciable progress appeared to have been made; but in the economic, social and educational fields the Administering Authority emerged with credit, having achieved considerable progress and contributed to the welfare of the Territory. It was to be hoped that the future would bring further progress, and that the Administering Authority would study the recommendations he had made.

41. Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) said that he had been impressed by the Territory's progress during the year and by the special representative's efficiency and courtesy. A single year was too short a period to bring spectacular results; but the Administering Authority was laying a solid foundation for the healthy society, the viable economy and the democratic institutions on which the self-government or independence of a Trust Territory must be based.

42. The increase in political consciousness and in facilities for participation by the population in the Territory's affairs were most satisfactory: he referred in particular to the development of representative municipal bodies, the grant of municipal status to more towns, and the proposals to increase the responsibilities of the *conseils de circonscription*. The Council might well commend the Administering Authority's wisdom in extending the responsibilities of the Territorial Assembly within existing law and through new legislation, which had made it impossible ever to disregard the Assembly's views, and in planning to set up a new executive government council.

43. The relationship between the Trust Territory and the French Union was in no way incompatible with the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement, as the Council had stated in its special report on administrative unions (A/2151), adopted on 23 July 1952.

44. The wise policy of the Administering Authority in enforcing customary law was confirmed by the practicability of plans to codify such law. The Council should express gratification at the establishment of the new Labour Court. It was to be hoped that the two political parties would become more mutually tolerant, in order to work more effectively for the people's advancement.

45. The Territory's economic position was very healthy, and the first part of the economic plan seemed have succeeded with the financial help of FIDES.² The Council should note the increase in agricultural development, the diversification of export crops, and such promising steps in industrialization as the building of palm-oil and tapioca factories. Much was being done in forestry, and he agreed with the Belgian representative as to the importance of forest classification and reafforestation.

46. The lack of success of the energetic efforts made to popularize co-operatives was disappointing, but the inhabitants would need time to accustom themselves to the scheme. The Council should note the training provided in France in co-operative techniques, which, coupled with suitable publicity, should help to extend co-operatives in the Territory.

47. The mobile health and prophylactic service was doing valuable work in outlying districts, by educating the people in hygiene and increasing their confidence in the commendable medical services provided. It was gratifying to note, among other satisfactory medical services, the malaria and sleeping-sickness campaigns, as a result of which the latter disease had almost disappeared.

48. The Administering Authority was to be congratulated on its work in education, particularly towards the removal of the disparity between north and south in planning the establishment of new classes. UNESCO had noted a steady increase in schools, classes and teaching personnel, and the Administering Authority's action to remedy inequality between the sexes in school enrolment.

49. None would claim that conditions in the Trust Territory were perfect, but he was satisfied that real progress was being made and the objectives of the Charter approached with all possible speed. It was encouraging to note that criticism of French administration in Togoland voiced in the debate had been, in the

² *Fonds d'investissement pour le développement économique et social des Territoires d'outre-mer.*

main, constructive and balanced, and as such would be welcomed by the Administering Authority.

The meeting was suspended at 3.45 p.m. and was resumed at 4.15 p.m.

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under British administration (continued)

[Agenda items 3 (c), 4, 5 and 7]

REPORT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE (T/L.404 AND ADD.1, T/L.418)

50. Mr. GERIG (United States of America), Chairman of the Drafting Committee, submitted the Drafting Committee's report (T/L.418).

51. He drew attention to paragraph 6, in which it was stated that the Drafting Committee had decided not to draft any conclusions or recommendations with regard to the proposed constitutional changes in Nigeria and the Cameroons in view of the fact that that question was being studied by the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions, which would report on it after 15 May 1954. Until that Committee's report had been received, the Council would hardly be in a position to make recommendations on the subject.

52. He also drew attention to paragraph 7 and explained that, since the time factor in the attainment of self-government or independence would be discussed later as a general question by the Council, the Drafting Committee had not felt that it could deal with it.

53. The PRESIDENT called on the members of the Council to vote on the recommendations in the Drafting Committee's report (T/L.418, paras. 8 to 24, inclusive).

The recommendation in paragraph 8 was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

54. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) explained that he had voted against the recommendation because it contained the words "commends the Administering Authority for the political development achieved in the Trust Territory during the period under review", which, in his delegation's view, were not in accordance with the facts.

55. With regard to the recommendation in paragraph 9, he asked that it should be put to the vote in four parts: from the beginning of the paragraph down to the words "constitutional revision"; from "recommends accordingly" down to "northern areas"; from "and supports" down to movement for reform"; and from "and recommends" down to "local government institutions".

56. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) asked for a separate vote on the words "as well as in the northern areas".

The first part of the recommendation in the paragraph 9 was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

The second part of the recommendation, down to the word "southern", was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The phrase "as well as in the northern areas" was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

The third part of the recommendation was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

The last part of the recommendation was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The recommendation as a whole was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The recommendation in paragraph 10 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

57. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, although he had voted for the recommendation as a whole, his delegation was unable to endorse the idea that general education should precede self-government and political advancement.

The recommendation in paragraph 11 was adopted by 10 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

58. Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) said that he had voted in favour of the recommendation on the understanding that the term "economic self-sufficiency" meant a greater degree of economic self-sufficiency or a greater diversification of production, and not that a Territory such as the Cameroons under British administration could be made economically self-sufficient, whatever efforts the Administering Authority might make.

The recommendation in paragraph 12 was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

59. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) said that he had abstained in the vote because he considered the recommendation to be pointless.

The recommendation in paragraph 13 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The recommendation in paragraph 14 was adopted by 10 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

60. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he had voted against paragraph 14 because it expressed the hope that the Bakweri people would be resettled on other land, whereas they wished to have their own lands restored to them.

The recommendation in paragraph 15 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

61. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked that the recommendation in paragraph 16 should be put to the vote in two parts: from the beginning down to the words "policies of the Corporation" and from "recommends" to the end. He also proposed the deletion of the words "possible further".

The proposal to delete the words "possible further" was rejected by 7 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions.

The first part of the recommendation was adopted by 6 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.

The second part of the recommendation was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The recommendation as a whole was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The recommendation in paragraph 17 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

62. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked that the recommendation in paragraph 18 should be put to the vote in three parts: from the beginning down to "and health services"; from "considers nevertheless" to "Northern Cameroons"; and from "and recommends" to the end.

The first part of the recommendation was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

The second part of the recommendation was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The third part of the recommendation was adopted by 10 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

The recommendation as a whole was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

63. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he had voted against the first part of the recommendation because it noted "the improvements in medical and health services which have taken place during the period under review", whereas in fact the situation was appalling.

64. He had voted against the third part also because it made improvements in the medical services dependent on the raising of additional revenues. The medical services should be improved at the expense of the Administering Authority regardless of whether or not additional taxes could be raised in the Territory.

65. For those reasons he had abstained in the vote on the recommendation as a whole.

The recommendation in paragraph 19 was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

The recommendation in paragraph 20 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

66. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) asked that the recommendation in paragraph 21 should be put to the vote in three parts: first, the phrase "if necessary with international assistance"; secondly, from the beginning of the text down to the words "overcoming illiteracy", either with or without the phrase "if necessary with international assistance"; and finally, from "having regard" to the end.

67. Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) wished to explain his vote on the recommendation before the vote was taken. He would be unable to vote for it because it included the words "a programme of mass education" and thus implied that the Trusteeship Council could assume the right to instruct an Administering Authority on the precise administrative means of carrying out a general policy.

68. Furthermore, he could not accept the idea implicit in the final phrase, "having regard to the establishment of a period within which this objective may be achieved", since he considered it impossible for any Administering Authority to lay down a time-limit for the removal of illiteracy in a territory where there was a great deal of illiteracy.

69. For those reasons he would be obliged to vote against the whole of the recommendation.

70. Mr. SINGH (India) said that he would vote for the last part of the recommendation. India, where literacy in 1947 had been only 7 per cent, had fixed a period of sixteen years in which to eradicate illiteracy, and he could not see why it should be more difficult to set a time-limit in a Trust Territory.

The phrase "if necessary with international assistance" was adopted by 7 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions.

The first part of the recommendation was adopted by 8 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions.

The last part of the recommendation was adopted by 8 votes to 3, with 1 abstention.

The recommendation as a whole was adopted by 8 votes to 3, with 1 abstention.

71. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) said that he had voted against the recommendation because he regarded the establishment of a period within which the objective was to be achieved as absurd.

72. Mr. DOISE (France) said that he had voted against the whole recommendation because, first, his

delegation considered it impossible to fix a time-limit for the eradication of illiteracy; secondly, the Trusteeship Council should not interfere directly in such matters as educational programme, which were the responsibility of the Administration.

73. Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom) said that he had abstained on the recommendation in paragraph 21, as on all the other recommendations, but he hoped that that would not be construed as an indication that the United Kingdom Government would accept the proposals it embodied.

The recommendation in paragraph 22 was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

74. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) said that he had abstained because he was not convinced that any students had been prevented from obtaining higher education through lack of scholarships, which would be the only justification for increasing the number of scholarships.

75. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that the words "continue to give careful attention to the need for achieving" should be replaced by the words "take all necessary measures for achieving".

The Soviet Union amendment was rejected by 6 votes to 4, with 2 abstentions.

The recommendation in paragraph 23 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

76. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) felt that the phrase "noting with satisfaction the increase in the number of teachers during the period under review" gave a completely false picture of the situation. The working paper prepared by the Secretariat (T/L.404) stated that in 1952 the Territory had had two fewer teacher-training centres than in 1951, with an enrolment of 275, compared with 340 in 1951. He therefore proposed that the beginning of the paragraph should be amended to read: "The Council, noting that there continues . . .".

77. Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom) pointed out that the Council was asked to note with satisfaction an increase in the number of teachers; there was no reference to the teachers in training.

78. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that in that case, since the recommendation dealt with teacher-training facilities, the phrase to which he had objected was irrelevant.

The Soviet Union amendment was rejected by 7 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions.

The recommendation in paragraph 24 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

79. The PRESIDENT drew the Council's attention to the recommendation in paragraph 3 of document T/L.418.

That recommendation was adopted by 11 votes to 1.

80. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should take note of the Drafting Committee's observations in paragraphs 6 and 7.

It was so decided.

81. Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) said that it was not clear from paragraph 6 why the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions wanted information on the proposed constitutional changes. If it was a question of obtaining information merely for the sake of information, there could be no objection; but if the purpose was to obtain information with a view to making recom-

recommendations to the Administering Authority on its future policy and administration, his delegation could not agree to the Standing Committee's request.

INTERIM REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE UNIONS (T/L.408)

82. Mr. McKAY (United States of America), speaking as Chairman of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions, said that the members of the Committee had decided that the Committee had not sufficient information on which to base a final report. The Committee's only purpose in asking for information on the proposed constitutional changes in Nigeria and the Cameroons was to obtain as much information as possible so that it could submit a report to the Council on the basis of which the Council could adopt a decision.

83. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should approve the interim report (T/L.408), thereby postponing consideration of the administrative union affecting the Cameroons under British administration until its next session.

84. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) protested strongly against the way in which the question of administrative unions was being considered. The whole issue was obscured if the problem was dealt with piecemeal in connexion with each Territory, rather than as a single problem. There was an item on administrative unions in general on the Council's agenda (item 7) and he proposed that consideration of the interim report on the Cameroons under British Administration should be postponed until the Council had received the other reports on administrative unions. His delegation intended to submit a draft resolution on administrative unions in general.

85. Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) thought the action suggested by the USSR representative was not necessary. Adoption of the interim report on the Cameroons under British administration would have the effect of postponing the question until the Council's next session, and the Soviet Union representative would have every opportunity to make any recommendations he wished.

86. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) wished to make it quite clear that he was proposing that consideration of the interim report on the Cameroons under British administration should be postponed until later in the current session, not until the next session. Postponement of the whole problem from session to session merely furthered the Administering Authority's attempts to attach the various Trust Territories to their colonies or include them in the French Union. The Administering Authorities were progressively tightening the administrative links between the Trust Territories and neighbouring colonies and eventually it would be impossible for the Trust Territories to free themselves without the direct intervention of the United Nations. The constitutional position and status of the Trust Territories had already deteriorated considerably and the Council should not postpone consideration of the issue any longer.

87. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand) pointed out that for several years it had been the Council's practice to consider the individual reports of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions in connexion with the Territories to which they referred. The Soviet Union representative had never objected in the past. Nor had he objected to considering the reports of the Visiting Mission piecemeal, although they appeared as a single item on the agenda.

88. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) said that he had no objection to the reports on other administrative unions being examined whenever the Soviet Union representative wished. In the case of the report on the Cameroons under British administration, certain constitutional changes were imminent and it would surely be a waste of time for the Council to consider a situation which would no longer exist in six month's time. The only reasonable course, therefore, was for the Council to defer consideration of the administrative union between the Cameroons under British administration and Nigeria until the new constitutional reforms had taken effect.

89. Mr. McKAY (United States of America) drew attention to the following points: first, the Council had found that its final report was considerably more readable if all the material on each Territory was concentrated in a single section and it was for that reason that the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions had followed the practice of submitting individual reports on each Territory; secondly, although the problem of administrative unions was a single general problem, it varied considerably from one Territory to another; thirdly, at its eleventh session, the Council had considered a special and very comprehensive report on the whole question of administrative unions (T/1026 and Corr.1 and Add.1). Since then, the procedure of considering each administrative union separately in relation to the individual Territory concerned had proved fairly satisfactory and he felt that it would be in the best interests of the Council to continue to follow it.

90. Mr. TSARAPKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, although the details of administrative unions might vary from one Territory to another, the principle remained the same in all cases: it was inadmissible for a Trust Territory to be absorbed by a neighbouring colony. The United Nations had certain supervisory functions under the International Trusteeship Systems; it had concluded Trusteeship Agreements placing each Territory under an Administering Authority. Those Administering Authorities were answerable to the United Nations for their actions. Objections to administrative unions had been expressed at every session of the Council. Only the opposition of the Administering Authorities had stood in the way of a positive solution of the problem in accordance with the wishes of the peoples of the Trust Territories, who had submitted many petitions expressing their opposition to integration in neighbouring colonies.

91. The very imminence of the constitutional reforms in the Cameroons under British administration made it the more incumbent on the Council to reach an early decision on administrative unions in general. The Administering Authorities clearly hoped to be able to confront the Council with a *fait accompli* and the Council should see that they did not do so.

92. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the Soviet Union representative's proposal to postpone consideration of the interim report on the Cameroons under British administration until the Council had received the reports on other Trust Territories.

The proposal was rejected by 6 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

93. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) said that he had voted in favour of the proposal, since he agreed with the Soviet Union representative that it was better to consider the question of administrative unions as a whole.

94. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the interim report of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions on the Cameroons under British administration (T/L.408).

The report was approved by 9 votes to 1, with 2 abstentions.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.