

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Twentieth Session

OFFICIAL RECORDS

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President: Mr. John D. L. HOOD (Australia).

Present:

The representatives of the following States: Australia, Belgium, Burma, China, France, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Italy, New Zealand, Syria, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

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

Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority on the administration of the Trust Territory of New Guinea for the year ended 30 June 1956 (T/1326, T/L.776) (continued)

[Agenda item 4 (b)]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Jones, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of New Guinea, took a place at the Council table.

QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY AND REPLIES OF THE REPRESENTATIVE AND THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY (concluded)

1. In reply to questions by U KYAW MIN (Burma), Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that none of the private commercial firms registered in the Territory with a nominal capital of £100,000 or over was operated by indigenous people, nor had any of those firms predominantly indigenous capital.

2. Most of the indigenous commercial development was taking place through the co-operatives. In addition, the cocoa project in the Gazelle Peninsula was more or less under the direction of the five local government councils. It was quite an important industry, which would be producing an annual 2,000 tons of cocoa within the next year or two. There were a number of rural progress societies and a number of small indigenous enterprises such as building groups and groups operating vehicles for hire.

3. U KYAW MIN (Burma) asked whether the Administering Authority intended to use the system of import-export licensing as an instrument in its general economic policy of encouraging indigenous

export-import firms, by giving them preferential treatment.

4. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the operation of the import-export restrictions was fully explained in the annual report.¹ As the monetary position and the general position with regard to overseas markets improved, the Administration hoped to be able to relax the restrictions, which applied equally to the entire population and were not intended to give some advantage to the indigenous population. The Administering Authority had other ways of helping the indigenous population, which it felt should, with its assistance and guidance, advance side by side with the rest of the population. If anything, the indigenous people were in a more advantageous position than the non-indigenous people as far as economic development was concerned. The part played by them and the proportion of the Territory's production for which they were responsible was increasing every year.

5. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked the special representative to explain an apparent inconsistency between the statement in the annual report (p. 107) that the Administering Authority had noted the hope expressed by the Council for the introduction of direct taxation wherever possible and the special representative's own statement at the 825th meeting that the Administering Authority did not consider that direct taxation would be a wise step.

6. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that in his statement at the previous meeting he had been referring to a system of direct taxation which would apply to everyone in the Territory, without distinction, and would not take into consideration the degree of development of the people and the development needs of the Territory. The direct taxation of certain elements of the population was a different matter and was in fact under consideration. He hoped that it would be possible to include some information on the matter in the next annual report.

7. Mr. CHACKO (India) observed that the special representative had stated at the previous meeting that there was at present no direct taxation in the Territory. It would, however, appear from the annual report that there was a system of direct taxation which applied only to the indigenous people. He was referring to the tax rates levied on New Guineans by the local government councils; if his calculations were correct, approximately 50,000 people were affected.

8. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that there was no direct territorial taxation. The local government councils levied a tax on the people in their area and the proceeds were used solely for purposes within the area.

¹ Commonwealth of Australia, *Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of the Territory of New Guinea from 1st July, 1955, to 30th June, 1956* (Canberra, A. J. Arthur, Commonwealth Government Printer, 1957). Transmitted to members of the Trusteeship Council by the Secretary-General under cover of document T/1326.

9. Mr. CHACKO (India) said that his delegation took the view that there was direct taxation affecting nearly 50,000 indigenous people, whereas there was no direct taxation in regard to non-indigenous people. That fact should be taken into account in considering the institution of some form of direct territorial taxation. The fact that local taxation was used for local purposes was immaterial, for the sums which the local government councils were spending on education and health would have to be provided by the Administration were the councils not in existence.

10. He asked whether any of the capital invested in "local" companies was indigenous and what exactly was meant by the term "local company" as used in the annual report (p. 39).

11. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that local companies were companies registered in the Territory as distinct from companies registered outside but operating in the Territory. None of the capital was indigenous.

12. In reply to a further question by Mr. CHACKO (India), Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he had no knowledge of the receipt or rejection of any application for registration of companies from any country other than the countries listed on page 42 of the annual report.

13. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether any New Guineans were employed in responsible positions in any of the foreign companies in the Territory.

14. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that there was no indigenous inhabitant employed in a senior executive position with any of the companies but a number of indigenous inhabitants were employed in clerical and semi-skilled positions.

15. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether any of the companies had programmes for training local people for responsible positions.

16. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that a number of the companies had such programmes and in some cases employees who had been with the company for a number of years had been promoted to higher positions. In addition, quite a number of the companies were actively supporting the apprenticeship scheme and had apprentices on their staffs.

17. In reply to further questions by Mr. CHACKO (India), Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization's resources survey, undertaken in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, would be continued until the whole Territory had been covered. He did not know which area would be surveyed next although he understood that preliminary investigations had been started in the Highland areas.

18. The Australian company prospecting for petroleum had begun operations about two years previously. He had no knowledge of any other company having applied for a prospecting permit. Any such company would have to comply with certain terms and conditions laid down in the Mining Ordinance.

19. With regard to the 31,000 acres of land that had been leased out during the last year, he had no lists of the actual periods for which the leases had been granted. Generally speaking, however, agriculture and resident and business leases would be for the maximum period of ninety-nine years and pasture leases for forty years. Special leases would vary from one or two years up to the maximum provided for. When the lease expired the land, together with the improvements

thereon, would revert to the Administration if the area was required by the indigenous people. If not, consideration would be given to re-leasing the land, perhaps for a shorter period, at the end of which the needs of the indigenous people would again be borne in mind. The whole lease system was designed to ensure that the land would eventually return to the Administration and be available to the indigenous people if it was necessary for their development.

20. Mr. CHACKO (India) understood that most of the land was leased to non-indigenous settlers. He would like to know if the Administration had considered what was to happen to those settlers at the end of the period of the lease. It would appear that they must either be given other land or allowed to leave the Territory.

21. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Administering Authority had that point in mind. It hoped that the people who obtained the leases would also bear it in mind and appreciate that, whatever they intended to do with the land, their lease was for ninety-nine years only.

22. As regards the question of educational advancement, Mr. SALSAMENDI (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) said that UNESCO had been unable to comment on the Administering Authority's annual report owing to the late date at which it had been received.

23. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) noted that provision had been made for the granting of housing loans up to a maximum of £2,750. More detailed information on the operation of the scheme and the extent to which it had been used would be welcome.

24. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that so far very little use had been made of the service. One reason might be that, owing to the high cost of building, the sum which could be made available was quite inadequate to meet the needs of those who wished to build their own houses. That point was under consideration.

25. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation attached considerable importance to improved housing, both because it was a very important part of social advancement and because the desire for improved housing might be an important inducement to economic development and greater efficiency in production. The annual report (p. 91) stated that there was evidence of a desire to improve the standards of housing. It would be interesting to know to what extent more modern types of houses were being built in the rural areas, to what extent more permanent housing was being erected and in what materials.

26. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said there had been a very noticeable improvement in the design and construction of houses in the suburban and rural areas. Even in some of the inland areas people, who had gone to work in the coastal areas and become used to a better type of housing, improved their own housing when they returned to their villages. It was the Administering Authority's policy to ensure that, as the indigenous people progressed, they were encouraged not only to build better houses but to furnish them better and to adopt a higher standard of living. That should go side by side with the increased wages they received as they became more skilled; if the

standard of living was not improved, the extra money received in higher wages was more or less wasted.

27. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation attached considerable importance to the development of technical education in all Trust Territories. The reference in the annual report (p. 100) to technical education was rather limited and he would welcome further information on the Administering Authority's plans in that respect.

28. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the importance of technical training was fully appreciated by the Administering Authority and more emphasis was being placed on it. The two schools referred to in the annual report were very large boarding schools. Although they had not been completed, they were already in operation and had favourably impressed the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in the Pacific, 1956. Three smaller technical training centres, of an equally high standard, had been opened in the areas where there were apprentices in training who could not attend the boarding schools. The Apprenticeship Board was active and had a sub-committee in each district; an additional seventy-five people had enrolled in the apprenticeship class during the year under review. In all cases the apprentices were given academic as well as practical training. Every effort would be made to ensure that young men who wished to enter a trade were given the opportunity of being properly trained.

29. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) asked whether the special representative was satisfied that the apprenticeship scheme was developing well and whether the employers were co-operating. He also asked whether there was any apprenticeship in building.

30. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that there had at first been some reluctance on the part of employers, who had been doubtful how the apprenticeship scheme would work. Owing to the energy displayed by the apprenticeship committees, however, their doubts had now been overcome and they were giving full co-operation.

31. The answer to the United Kingdom representative's last question was in the affirmative.

32. Plans had now been completed for the extension of manual arts classes to the intermediate schools in the Territory, so that pupils would be ready to enter apprenticeship when they reached the right age.

33. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation had been particularly interested in the steps being taken to interest the people in the education of girls. He asked whether the special representative was prepared to express an opinion on what success was being achieved in that direction. In particular, he wished to know whether the willingness of the parents to send their girls to school and to allow them to remain there was affected by difficulties in travelling and fears for the welfare of the girls when travelling long distances, whether any measures had been necessary to deal with that problem, whether the Administration felt that the problem could be solved, at least in the interim period, by giving special attention to girls' boarding schools even at the primary stage and whether the special representative had any other observations to make about the problems of reconciling the people to the idea of girls' education.

34. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that, while it was yet too early to judge the final results, excellent progress had been made.

35. It was true that parents were reluctant to allow their daughters to leave the village for educational purposes. That reluctance had, however, been broken down to some extent; the Tavui Boarding School, in particular, had been very successful. There was less opposition from parents to their daughters' attending a school away from home if the teachers were women.

36. The Administering Authority intended to do its utmost to ensure that all girls, who so desired, would be given the opportunity of obtaining an education above the primary level available in the village schools.

37. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom), referring to the community-sponsored schools mentioned on page 99 of the annual report, asked to what extent the movement might be expected to develop and how far the actual construction of the schools could be assisted by local voluntary labour.

38. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Vunamami Rural Education Centre referred to in the report had been so successful that the Administration had decided to extend that type of school to other areas, particularly where the people themselves desired it. The curricula would be varied somewhat to meet local conditions. One such centre had been established in the Sepik District and one at Manus and others were to be established near Kerevat and in the Central Highlands District at Mount Hagen.

39. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) hoped that information on the progress of the centres would be given in future reports.

40. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) asked why the Administering Authority had felt it necessary to maintain the restrictions on the movement of people in certain towns in New Guinea.

41. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that the question was continually under review, but the general consensus of opinion was that for the time being some restrictions should remain. He was confident that the Administering Authority would remove them when it thought the time was propitious.

42. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) pointed out that the Trusteeship Council had recommended that the restrictions should be abolished (A/3170, p. 313). He hoped the Administering Authority would keep the matter under review.

43. The Visiting Mission had expressed the view that the wage rates in the Territory were still very low (T/1260, para. 260). The Administering Authority had stated that that view would be taken into account when the new labour legislation was drafted (annual report, p. 108). He asked whether wage rates were dependent on legislation or whether they could be fixed by administrative orders.

44. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that the minimum wage rate was fixed by the Labour Ordinance.

45. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) asked whether the special representative could explain the decrease in non-European medical personnel since the previous year.

46. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) was unable to reply immediately; he hoped to give the information at a later meeting.

47. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) asked whether the Administering Authority had taken any steps to improve the remuneration and general position of non-indigenous medical officers, as recommended by the Trusteeship Council at its eighteenth session (A/3170, p. 315).

48. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the conditions and salaries had been improved and the Administration considered that there should now be no difficulty in filling all the vacant posts.

49. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) asked whether pupils from primary schools in rural areas, where the language of instruction was the vernacular, would be eligible for the secondary schools and whether they would be able to follow the curriculum.

50. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) explained that after eight years in a village school and village higher school, or seven years in a station school, pupils were eligible to go on to the intermediate schools, where the pupils were aged from 14 to 16. That was called the post-primary section. After that pupils could go to one of three schools: the secondary school, which would take them to the Queensland junior public certificate level, the manual and domestic arts school or one of the technical colleges at Rabaul or Lae. Moreover, those who desired could take senior teacher-training courses. Pupils from the technical college could go on to train as technical instructors.

51. The Administering Authority intended to provide increased opportunities for secondary education in the Territory. Its plans included the building of an additional secondary school at a cost of about £500,000.

52. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) asked whether pupils from rural communities who had taken the eight-year course of primary education had been as successful in the intermediate schools as pupils who had taken the seven-year course in the station schools.

53. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) was unable to answer that question. He wished to make it clear, however, that it was very difficult to get the children to continue schooling past the primary stage and even more difficult to persuade them to go on after the intermediate stage. They felt that the key to success was the ability to read and write and it was hard to make them understand that that should be only the first step in their education.

54. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) asked when in the special representative's opinion there would be sufficient facilities in the Territory to meet the needs of secondary education.

55. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the facilities in Australia and in the Territory were sufficient to meet present requirements. They would be increased as and when necessary.

The meeting was suspended at 4.5 p.m. and resumed at 4.25 p.m.

56. Dr. COIGNEY (World Health Organization) said that the World Health Organization (WHO) fully appreciated the progress made by the Administration in organizing and improving the health service despite the difficulties encountered. The large increase in the budgetary allocation for that service was evidence of the Administration's increasing interest in its development.

57. Malaria was rightly regarded as one of New Guinea's chief problems from both the health and the socio-economic points of view. The shortage of qualified personnel had so far hindered the Administration in organizing an effective anti-malaria campaign; WHO had granted a scholarship to enable a malariologist from the Territory to study the problem at the Institute of Medical Research in Malaya. On his return to the Territory the malariologist had trained ten sanitary inspectors, who would assist him in an intensive anti-

malaria campaign. Officials of the health and agriculture services followed courses at the Malaria Control School referred to on page 86 of the report. There was constant technical liaison with WHO through the malariologist attached to the Regional Office for the Western Pacific who had visited the Territory early in 1957.

58. The anti-tuberculosis campaign had made satisfactory progress thanks to the steps described in the special representative's opening statement (822nd meeting). In 1956 WHO had granted a fellowship in that connexion.

59. The anti-yaws campaign was being continued with success.

60. A new centre for the treatment of leprosy had been opened; it could take 500 patients, making it now possible for a total of 2,000 patients to be treated in the Territory.

61. Measures had been promulgated in connexion with the sale of meat, the packing and labelling of food, the control of dangerous drugs and sanitation.

62. Health education was being actively carried on; in 1955-1956 WHO had granted a fellowship in public health and health education. WHO attached the greatest importance to the training of health personnel in the Territory and the increase in their numbers as described on page 88 of the report. A growing number of girls were following midwifery assistants' courses and infant welfare courses. A few carefully selected pupils were studying in Australia and it was hoped that they would be able to have medical training before returning to the Territory. The system of assistant medical practitioners should do much to improve the position of doctors in the future.

63. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked why it was that the number of workers in the Territory had risen by only 150 during the period under review and whether that negligible increase indicated that production had failed to increase.

64. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that the number of workers employed at the present time met the requirements of production, which would be seen from the report to have increased to some extent. Most of the workers entered into agreements for periods of eighteen months or two years, after which they returned home, so that there was a continuous turnover of labour. It was not considered to be in the interests of the indigenous inhabitants that they should remain away from their homes for long periods and there was nothing that could be called an established labour force in the Territory. The number who had acquired skills and remained in employment represented a very small percentage of the total population.

65. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what percentage of the 150 new workers were among those employed in gold mining, whose numbers, according to the annual report, had increased.

66. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he could not give that figure offhand but it could be ascertained from an examination of the labour statistics given in the appendices.

67. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled the Administering Authority's statement that it was not possible under existing conditions to abolish certain restrictions on the indigenous inhabitants' freedom of movement. He regretted that, when answering the Syrian representative's question on the

subject, the special representative had not described the situation in particular areas, for it would appear that conditions were not identical throughout the Territory and in some cases the restrictions did not seem to be justified, despite the explanation the Administering Authority had given in its reply to the Council's recommendation of the previous year (annual report, p. 108).

68. Turning to the question of public health, he asked how medical services were extended to the inhabitants of the areas under partial Administration influence.

69. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that when a patrol entered a new area it was usually accompanied by an officer of the Department of Public Health. As soon as possible thereafter temporary hospitals were erected, medical personnel were brought into the area and treatment was started. As Administration influence in the area became consolidated the services were improved. The medical staff initially introduced remained in the area and their number was increased as conditions permitted.

70. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the ratio of children attending mission schools to those attending Administration schools had changed since the matter had been discussed at the eighteenth session of the Council (722nd meeting).

71. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the exact figures could be found in the appendices to the annual report on education. The figure of over 90 per cent attending mission schools and less than 10 per cent attending Administration schools applied only to education on the primary level, whereas at the intermediate and higher levels the percentage attending Administration schools was higher.

72. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what was the percentage of wastage among students in primary and intermediate schools.

73. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) regretted that he could not give the figure offhand but suggested that a comparison of the tables in the latest annual report with those in earlier reports would provide that information.

74. Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala), referring to labour conditions in the Territory, asked what was the length of the working day and how many days there were in the working week.

75. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said it was his understanding that the working day was eight hours and that the working week consisted of five and a half days.

76. Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) asked whether workers were paid for seven days a week.

77. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that about 98 per cent of the workers were employed on a monthly basis: they worked the number of hours stipulated in the Labour Ordinance and were paid for any over-time work at over-time rates. The few who were paid by the day received a daily wage of two shillings, with full rations issued free of charge. In the rare cases where workers were employed on a weekly basis their wages covered the five and a half days worked.

78. Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) asked whether the new Labour Ordinance included a provision prohibiting compulsory labour.

79. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Papua and New Guinea Act 1949-1954 prohibited compulsory labour except in accordance with the terms of the Convention Concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour (International Labour Organisation Convention 29). The Native Administration Regulations provided for the compulsory cultivation of crops to protect the inhabitants against possible famine in particular areas but he did not think that rule had ever been applied.

80. Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) asked what was the reason for the provision that the written consent of a district official must be obtained before a marriage could be contracted between an indigenous and a non-indigenous person.

81. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that it was to protect the indigenous inhabitants from being taken advantage of by outsiders who might wish to contract such marriages for reasons of convenience. The provisions of the laws governing such a marriage were explained.

82. Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) asked what would be the composition of the committees which were to be set up to represent the interests of women in the Territory.

83. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that he understood that each committee would include the Senior Education Officer of the District, a member of the Department of Native Affairs and others concerned with the status of women, as well as one indigenous woman.

84. Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) asked why the Administering Authority had chosen Port Moresby in the Territory of Papua rather than some place in New Guinea itself as the site of its proposed school for the training of assistant medical practitioners.

85. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) explained that the school was to serve both Territories and was to be at Port Moresby because the headquarters of the medical services were established there, which meant that its staff of specialists would be available for teaching purposes. Certain other institutions serving both Territories were situated in New Guinea.

86. Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) asked whether the Administration hospitals under construction at Lae, Wau and Nonga and the two small hospitals at Wasu and Telefomin were specifically intended to serve the needs of the indigenous inhabitants.

87. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that hitherto hospitals had been designed to meet the needs of the different races and established in the areas where each particular race predominated. The first three hospitals mentioned by the Guatemalan representative were to be composite hospitals, open to members of all races. The other two, which had already been completed, were in areas inhabited only by people of the indigenous races.

88. He had learned recently that the first stage of construction on the hospital at Lae had been completed. The first stage of construction of the hospital at Wewak, which was also to be a composite base hospital, would be completed by June 1958 and the hospital as a whole was expected to be completed in 1960 or early 1961. The Nonga hospital, another major composite base hospital, would be completed by January 1959.

89. Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) asked what progress had been made by the Administration with regard to its plan to publish text-books in Melanesian Pidgin and to revise the orthography of that language.

90. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he understood that such text-books had now been published and the spelling of Melanesian Pidgin standardized. The books were, however, to be used only as a medium of instruction in areas where the language was widely spoken and their use was not to be allowed to prejudice or limit the production and distribution of similar material in English for use in all phases of teaching. The teaching of English was begun as soon as the indigenous children entered school. It was a minor subject in the first year or two of primary education and gradually increased in importance. The intention was that after the fourth or, at the latest, the fifth year all instruction in the primary schools should be given in English.

91. Mr. YIN (China) asked whether the proposed legislation referred to on page 81 of the report concerning the employment of indigenous persons on vessels engaged in local trade had been implemented.

92. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied that that proposal would go into effect together with the new Labour Ordinance.

93. Mr. YIN (China) asked when the proposed School of Nautical Training was to be established.

94. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the preliminary steps had been taken and the school was expected to be ready to accept students in the not too distant future.

95. Mr. YIN (China) asked whether the provision in the Education Ordinance of 1952 for the declaration of compulsory attendance at schools in specified areas had in view the eventual introduction of compulsory education or was merely intended to ensure the attendance of children already enrolled in the schools.

96. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) answered that it was the Administering Authority's intention to introduce compulsory education in areas which were more or less settled and where suitable transport facilities could be provided or where the school was within walking distance of the children's homes.

97. Mr. YIN (China) asked how many district education officers there were in the Territory and whether the number was sufficient to ensure adequate inspection of indigenous schools.

98. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) answered that there was one such officer in each district and provision had been made among the classified positions of the Department of Education for an increase in the number of inspectors. He thought that there were at present only two inspectors, who assisted the district education officers. The Administering Authority recognized that more were needed, but the officers of the Department of Native Affairs were authorized to make inspections of village schools during their patrols and to submit reports to the Director of Education.

99. Mr. CHACKO (India) recalled that at its eighteenth session the Council had recommended that the restrictions on freedom of movement in the towns should be removed, to which the Administering Authority had replied that the restrictions should be continued because of the conditions obtaining in the Territory. He asked what conditions the Administering Authority had had in mind.

100. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he could add nothing to the Administering Authority's statement and the reply he had given the Syrian representative.

101. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked the special representative to comment on the Administering Authority's conclusion that there would be little value in abolishing the restrictions even on a trial basis.

102. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Administering Authority had given full consideration to the question and was firmly convinced that the restrictions should be continued for the time being. He presumed, therefore, that it considered that to abolish them on a trial basis would be to give the impression that it was not convinced of the need for them.

103. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether the ordinances concerning labour were executive or legislative orders.

104. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that they were territorial ordinances, which must be passed by the Legislative Council.

105. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked what stage had been reached in the drafting of the new labour legislation.

106. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said it was expected that the new ordinance would be taken up at the first meeting of the new Legislative Council.

107. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked how many medical assistants trained at Suva (Fiji) were at present employed in the Territory.

108. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) regretted that he could not provide that information offhand.

109. Mr. CHACKO (India) recalled that the special representative had said at the 824th meeting that more than one of those medical assistants had been assigned special positions in the public service. He would like further information on the positions they had been given.

110. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he had been referring to an assistant medical practitioner who had been appointed as an exempt officer of the third division, pending the time when final arrangements could be made for fitting him into the public service. Presumably, his position would be listed as "assistant medical practitioner" when the classification was finally amended to make permanent provision for such a position; for the present, the salary scale applicable to him was the same as that for a European medical assistant. He did not know what exact grade he had been assigned, but would see to it that full information on the appointment, and that of any other assistant medical practitioners who might qualify in the meantime, was included in the next annual report.

111. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether the fifteen students attending medical courses at Suva were all from New Guinea or whether the figure included students from Papua.

112. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that they were all from the Trust Territory. In addition to the fifteen mentioned in the report, five girls had gone to the Central Nursing School at Suva and an additional six boys to the Central Medical School at Suva. Since the completion of the report, one laboratory assistant had returned from Suva and taken up duties in the Territory, while nine others had returned after completing part of their sanitary inspector's course, which they would finish in the Territory.

113. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether any action had been taken with regard to the proposed

reclassification of the Territory's schools as "primary", "post-primary" and "secondary".

114. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the schools had now been classified as primary, post-primary, secondary, technical, and teacher-training.

115. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether the confusing plethora of names such as "village schools", "higher village schools", "station schools" and so forth for the Territory's educational institutions had now disappeared.

116. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the terms were still used, but the schools to which they referred had been reclassified within the categories he had mentioned.

117. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked how many New Guinea students were being educated in Australia.

118. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he could not say offhand, but would provide that information later.

119. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether there were any New Guinea students at any university in Australia.

120. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) replied in the negative.

121. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked what was the highest educational level reached by any New Guinea student.

122. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he would provide that information at a later date. He knew that some students had reached the intermediate standard.

123. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether the special pamphlet about the role of the United Nations in relation to the Trust Territory had been completed.

124. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the pamphlet, which covered every aspect of the functioning of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, had been completed and incorporated into a book of social studies for the use of teachers and students. In addition, the Administering Authority had obtained copies of another pamphlet entitled *United Nations for the Classroom*² and was making it available for distribution to schools and libraries.

125. Mr. CHACKO (India) asked whether the second pamphlet contained any chapters on the status of New Guinea as a Trust Territory and the Trusteeship Council's functions in relation to it.

126. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said he did not think that the pamphlet made specific mention of the direct relationship of the United Nations with New Guinea; it did, however, provide full explanations of the Trusteeship System and the functions of the Trusteeship Council.

127. Mr. TOUROT (France) asked whether any evening classes for adults were held in the district and village schools and, if so, whether they were well attended and what use the Administering Authority made of radio facilities in adult education.

128. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that night classes were available to adults in many districts. Sometimes the response was encouraging, but in other areas there seemed to be little interest in the formal education available in such classes. For that reason

greater emphasis was placed on the formation of clubs and sports groups in which the population could meet and educate themselves in a general way.

129. The greatest possible use was made of radio facilities in adult education. A number of programmes were broadcast in the Territory, eight of them in the vernacular and one in simple English, and 500 to 600 receivers had been distributed to various bodies and councils throughout the Territory so that they could receive those programmes. Use was also being made of a number of newspapers which circulated throughout the Territory, some of them in the vernacular, some of them in simple English and others in a combination of the two. There was also 16 mm. film service which visited villages and other places throughout the Territory, showing educational films.

130. Mr. TOUROT (France) asked for further information on the difficulties which were retarding the hospital-building programme and the measures the Administration was contemplating to overcome them.

131. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the complete devastation of the Territory during the war had made the work of reconstruction very difficult. Moreover, during the first few post-war years there had been a world-wide shortage of materials and artisans. Fortunately, the situation had improved during the past few years and it had been possible to attract more contractors to assist in the work of reconstruction. Although that work had not yet been completed, the rate of construction of permanent hospitals, schools and other buildings was now increasing. Although the Director of Health had mentioned a ten-year period, the Administration was now convinced that the hospital programme would be completed within a much shorter time. The major combined hospitals would be completed by 1961 and it was hoped that the sub-regional hospitals would be completed within a few years from that date. It should be emphasized, however, that the lack of permanent hospitals had not unduly affected the work of the Health Department nor in any way retarded the extension of health services throughout the Territory.

132. Mr. FELD (United States of America) asked whether the Administration had any plans for extending secondary classes such as those operating in the schools at Rabaul to other areas in the Trust Territory and whether it was contemplated that the use of such facilities in the Territory would eventually make it unnecessary for indigenous students to go to Australia for secondary education.

133. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the Administering Authority's policy was to increase the facilities for secondary education within the Territory and that eventually all secondary education of the indigenous inhabitants would be given within the Territory itself.

134. Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy) asked the special representative why the death rate from pneumonia was so high and whether there had been an investigation in that connexion.

135. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that as a layman he could not answer that question but could submit it to the medical authorities. If the high mortality rate from pneumonia persisted, he would arrange for an explanation to be given in the next annual report.

136. Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy) asked whether, in view of the fact that the missions received grants-

² Goronwy J. Jones and Evan T. Davis, *United Nations for the Classroom, A Text-book for Secondary Schools on the United Nations and its Work*, London, Routledge and Kegan Paul.

in-aid from the Administration to support their medical assistance programmes, the Administering Authority exercised any control over such services as it did over the mission schools receiving grants-in-aid.

137. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that there was no statutory provision for the inspection of medical services provided by the missions. In all cases where a mission applied for a grant-in-aid, however, it had to furnish specific information regarding the purpose for which the money was to be used, as well as other relevant data. In practice, all the medical institutions run by the missions were visited at one time or another during the year by medical officers of the Administration. The Director of Public Health was more or less responsible for the efficient management of the Hansen colonies and the tuberculosis hospitals which were staffed and managed by the missions but financed by the Administering Authority, and such institutions were visited regularly.

138. Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy) asked how the Administration chose from among the ministers of the various religious denominations those to give religious instruction in the Administration schools.

139. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that as there was usually one minister of each denomination stationed in a particular area, the problem of making a choice did not arise.

140. Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy) asked whether the 600 radio receivers mentioned in the annual report had been distributed to individuals or to groups.

141. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that they had been distributed to schools, clubs and other groups.

142. Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy) asked whether the Administration intended eventually to broaden its eighty-five minute radio programme to include news from other countries.

143. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the eighty-five minute broadcast was a special programme designed to explain local affairs and Administration activities to the indigenous people. Lectures were given, too, on hygiene and other matters of direct interest to the local population, and general news was broadcast four times a day.

144. Mr. SALOMON (Haiti) asked if the special representative could give any explanation for the decrease in the non-European medical staff noted in the annual report.

145. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that he would endeavour to ascertain the reason for the decrease and hoped to be able to include that information in his final statement.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.