

TRUSTEESHIP
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Fourth session

Item 3 (a) of the agenda

EXAMINATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS:

CAMEROONS UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION, 1947

Report of the Drafting Committee on Annual Reports

Chairman: Mr. Lin Mousheng (China)

The Drafting Committee on Annual Reports recommends to the Council the adoption of the following passage for inclusion in the report of the Council to the General Assembly covering its fourth and fifth sessions:

INTRODUCTION

The Report of Cameroons under British Administration for the year 1947 was received by the Secretary-General on 17 June 1948 and, having been transmitted^{1/} to members of the Council on 18 June 1948, was placed on the agenda for the fourth session of the Council.

During the fourth meeting of that session, Mr. D. A. F. Shute, who had been appointed as special representative of the Administering Authority, made an opening statement on conditions in the Territory. Mr. Shute subsequently submitted written answers^{2/} to written questions^{3/} addressed to him by members of the Council on the report and on the administration of the Territory. During the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth meetings, the representative and the special representative of the Administering Authority answered supplementary oral questions of members of the Council.

During the twenty-ninth and thirtieth meetings, the Council held a general discussion with a view to formulating conclusions and recommendations relating to the report and to conditions in the Territory, and requested the Drafting Committee on Annual Reports to draft a report, in accordance with rules 100 and 101 of its rules of procedure, for inclusion in the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly.

The draft prepared by the Drafting Committee was considered by the Council at its meeting on the

1/ Document T/185

2/ Document T/251

3/ Document T/247

PART I

Review of conditions based on the report of the Administering Authority
and on statements made in the Council by the
special representative

1. GENERAL

Area, Topography and Climate

The Territory lies just north of the Equator between Lake Chad and the Atlantic Ocean. It has an area of 34,081 square miles which is divided into two unconnected areas at a point near Yola. Almost the whole of the Territory, except for portions of the country in the south-west is extremely mountainous and gives rise to numerous streams flowing towards Lake Chad, the Benue and Cross Rivers.

The Territory has an uneven distribution of rainfall and temperature. In 1946 the rainfall varied from about 30 inches in the north of the Territory to 49.4 inches at Debunsha, in the south. The climate varies greatly according to the height above sea level.

Population

In 1947 the indigenous population of the Territory was estimated to be about 991,000, with an average density of 32.77 per square mile. Estimates of population are based on annual taxation records. There is no civil register in the Territory.

2. POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT

General Administration

The Territory is administered as an integral part of the Protectorate of Nigeria. The Governor of Nigeria is the head of the Territory's administration. The Territory also shares with Nigeria a common legislative, judicial and budgetary system. There is one Executive Council and one Legislative Council for the whole of Nigeria and the Trust Territory. The seat of government is in Lagos, Nigeria.

The Governor is assisted by an advisory Executive Council consisting of seven official members and four appointed unofficial members. No indigenous inhabitant of the Cameroons is a member of the Executive Council.

The Legislative Council has complete control of expenditure and legislation subject only to the Governor's Reserve Powers, under which the Governor may, in certain circumstances, enact legislation which has been rejected by the Central Legislative Council. The Legislative Council consists of the Governor, thirteen European official members, and twenty-eight African unofficial members. No indigenous inhabitant of the Cameroons

/is a member

is a member of the Legislative Council. There are no suffrage laws.

In each of the three regions into which Nigeria and the Cameroons is divided there are Regional Councils with unofficial African majorities. One member in the House of Chiefs in the Northern Regional Council and two members in the House of Assembly in the Eastern Regional Council are indigenous inhabitants of the Cameroons. The Regional Councils exercise financial and deliberative functions.

For administrative purposes the Territory is integrated with the administration of the adjoining areas of the Protectorate of Nigeria. It forms part, with adjoining areas of Nigeria, of the Northern Region and the Eastern Region. Chief Commissioners, residing in Nigeria, are the principal executive authorities of each Region responsible to the Governor.

The Regions are divided into Provinces, each in charge of a Resident. Each Province comprises several divisions, each in the charge of a District officer.

The Territory itself is divided into four parts. The Cameroons Province, forming the largest part, is administered as though it formed a province of the Eastern Provinces of Nigeria. The small Tigon-Ndoro-Kentu area is administered as though it formed part of the Wukari Division of the Benue Province of Nigeria. The third area of the Territory is administered as though it formed part of the Adamawa Division of the Adamawa Province of Nigeria. The fourth area, Dikwa Division, is administered as though it formed a division of the Bornu Province of Nigeria.

A total of 1,446 square miles with a population of 150,871 have been declared "Unsettled Districts".

Native Authorities

With the exception of the Northern Section of the Territory, where Moslem rulers and their councils have been recognized as Native Authorities, the representatives of extended families or groups have been formed into councils and given statutory powers as Native Authorities.

An attempt has been made to encourage the formation of district and village councils in the Northern areas and the federation of the smaller units of local government in the Cameroons Province. The only federation which has been completed is the Bakossi Native Authority in the Kumba Division which consists of six Native Authorities.

Judicial Organization

The Judicial organization includes two sets of courts: (1) The Supreme Court and Magistrates' Court which primarily administer English law; and (2) the Native Courts, which administer native law and customs.

Appeals from Native courts lie to the Magistrates' Court, the Supreme Court and to the West African Court of Appeals. An appeal from the judgment
/of the West African

of the West African Court of Appeals lies to His Majesty in Council.

The language of the Magistrates' Courts and the Supreme Court is English. Witnesses and accused may give their evidence in Native dialects which are translated into English by official interpreters.

3. ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

Agriculture

The vast majority of the inhabitants of the Territory are farmers and herdsman. Except for the plantations of the Cameroons Development Corporation, agricultural production is primarily for local consumption and may be described as peasant farming by primitive methods. In the southern areas, coco yam is the staple food, and maize, beans and plantains important secondary foods. The most important crops for export are bananas, palm kernels, palm oil, cocoa and rubber. In the northern areas, the staple foods are guinea-corn, maize and millets, while groundnuts and beniseed are the main cash and export crops.

Outside Victoria Division, where the existence of plantations gives rise to special conditions, it is estimated that some 9,723 to 11,668 square miles or 75 to 90 per cent of the arable land is devoted to non-export crops (total area of the arable land other than that of Victoria Division being 12,964 square miles or roughly 38 per cent of the total land area of the Territory).

The Territory is not deficient in its supply of food except in the Victoria Division where the existence of the ports at Tiko and Victoria, and the requirements of ships and the considerable labour force on the plantations, cause shortages of some foodstuffs.

Land Tenure

Laws and customs affecting land tenure among the indigenous inhabitants are not uniform. Over the greater part of the Territory the custom is for each family to cultivate its own separate holding within the community. All unoccupied land is the property of the village community. As long as an individual remains in occupation of the land he cultivates, it is considered as his property. In the northern areas land tenure is somewhat more formalized.

Under the Land and Native Rights Ordinance the whole of the lands of the Territory, except those disposed of before the Ordinance, has been declared native land under the control of and subject to the disposition of the Governor, who holds and administers the land for the use and common benefit of the indigenous inhabitants, with regard to their laws and customs. The Governor may grant a right of occupancy to any non-indigenous person for

/definite or

definite or indefinite terms within the limit of 1,200 acres and 12,500 acres for agricultural and grazing purposes respectively.

Approximately 469.6 square miles of the total area of the Territory, for the most part in the Victoria and Kumba Divisions, have been alienated. The alienated land comprises roughly 9.6 square miles held by the Government, 395 square miles leased to the Cameroons Development Corporation and 65 square miles occupied by non-indigenous individuals or organizations.

Livestock

The Territory's stock population in 1947 included approximately 8,853 horses, 138,776 sheep, 316,077 goats and 365,739 cattle.

Forests

The main principles of the forest policy are to preserve the proper climatic and physical condition of the country by the maintenance or rehabilitation of vegetation and the control of rainwater run-off, and to meet the demand for forest produce that must be assured by the acquisition and preservation of an adequate forest estate. Under this policy, 25 per cent of the land area of each Province should be dedicated to forests under planned management. The total amount of produce in terms of round timber at the end of March 1947 was 467,918 cubic feet and its value was estimated at £10,233.

Minerals

No mining operations have been undertaken in the Territory. The indications of mineralization thus far are in quantities of scientific interest only. All mineral resources are vested in the Crown. A licence was granted to two private companies jointly to explore for oil.

Arrangements have been completed for the formation of the Cameroons Mining Corporation Limited for mineral prospecting operations. The initial capital of the Corporation is £60,000, half of which is being provided by the Government of Nigeria and the other half by the London Tin Corporation. The voting control will rest with the Government.

Commerce and Trade

Apart from the Cameroons Development Corporation, five commercial enterprises operate in the Territory; four are branches of British trading companies and one is a French company dealing in the export of logs. The total investments of four British trading companies and of one British banking organization are estimated at £100,000.

On 31 March 1947, there were 35 co-operative cocoa sale societies in the Cameroons Province, with a membership of 1,422 and a share capital of £668.

The volume of trade through the two Cameroons ports of Victoria and Tiko was £479,655, which was made up of imports valued at £144,938 and exports valued at £334,917. Figures on total value or volume of trade for the Territory are not available since there are no statistics for the imports which reach the Territory overland from Nigeria nor for the produce which leaves the Territory by the same route.

The chief exports from the Territory are primary products such as bananas, cocoa, rubber, palm products, groundnuts, hides and skins. The important classified imports through the ports of Victoria and Tiko in 1947 were cotton manufactures, paints and colours, iron and steel manufacture, and cement.

Nigeria Cocoa Marketing Board; Other Marketing Schemes

In order to control cocoa marketing and export in the interest of the producers and to prevent violent price fluctuations, the Administration has established the Nigeria Cocoa Marketing Board. No representative on the Cocoa Marketing Board is an inhabitant of the Trust Territory. In addition to the use of its funds as a cushion against price fluctuations in the world market, it will be within the discretion of the Board to allocate funds for other purposes of general benefit to the cocoa producers and the industry. No proportion of these funds has been allocated specifically to the Cameroons.

Palm products in 1947 were also sold through a control scheme operated by the West African Produce Control Board and its agents, the Department of Commerce and Industry in Nigeria. In 1947, bananas were sold directly to the Ministry of Food by the Cameroons Development Corporation and its sales agent, Messrs. Elders and Fyffes Ltd.

Industry

No manufacturing industries exist in the Territory. Local handicrafts, which are mainly concentrated in the Northern areas on a small "cottage industry" basis, include spinning and weaving, indigo dyeing, mat, clothes and ornaments making, tanning and dyeing, etc. No developments in industrial enterprise are planned for the indigenous inhabitants with the exception of the introduction of a sugar crusher at Mubi in the Northern area.

Public Finance

As the Territory is not administered as a separate unit, neither the central government revenue derived from, nor full expenditure incurred by the Territory can be accurately stated. The total revenue and expenditure of the Territory for 1947 were estimated at £177,100 and £471,450 respectively.

/Customs and

Customs and excise, and interest on Government investments which are the main sources of revenue, were estimated at £66,000 and £51,000 respectively for the year 1947.

The ordinary and extraordinary expenditure in the Territory is met from the Nigerian budgetary revenue, with the exception of grants made from the United Kingdom Colonial Development Vote, which were estimated at £35,405 for the financial year 1946-47.

There are no specific loans, debts or reserves allocated to the Territory.

No national income estimates are available.

Taxation

Taxation of non-natives is paid into the revenue of the Nigerian government. Company tax which is at a flat rate of 7/5d. in the pound on profits, is paid in Nigeria, and no separate account is made of the proportion of company tax based on earnings in the Trust Territory.

Assessment and collection of the annual tax on indigenous inhabitants is undertaken by Native Authorities and is paid into Native Treasuries. The rate varies from area to area according to assessments of relative wealth of the area. In some areas a flat tax is paid by every taxpayer; in others, the rate per individual varies according to a rough assessment of the relative wealth and burdens of the individual taxpayers. In most parts of the Territory, individuals with wealth or salaries well above the average are levied for tax at rates in the £ on a progressive scale.

Any person who without lawful justification or excuse, the proof of which lies on the person charged, refuses or neglects to pay any tax payable by him under the Ordinance, is liable to a fine of £100 or to imprisonment for one year, or both. The usual sentence for tax evasion in a Native Court is a fine of 5s. and an order to pay tax forthwith or seven days' imprisonment.

Development Plan

The Trust Territory participates in the Ten-year Development Plan for Nigeria and the Cameroons. The cost of development in the Territory allocated over the ten years from 1946 to 1956 is estimated at £1,652,371. Funds for the execution of the plan are to be provided partly from Colonial Development and Welfare Vote and partly by the Nigerian Government. The highest expenditure on any one scheme in the plan is allocated to the improvement of road communications on which it is proposed to spend some £670,000. Development of the Scheme includes plans for medical and health, education, agriculture, forestry, veterinary, rural and urban water supplies, electricity, telecommunications, marine and building programmes.

/Cameroons Development

Cameroons Development Corporation

In accordance with the Ex-Enemy Lands (Cameroons) Ordinance No. 38 of 1946, the sum of £850,000 has been made available for the purchase of ex-German plantations in the Cameroons from the Custodian of Enemy Property. The Ordinance empowers the Governor to lease all or any part of these lands to the Cameroons Development Corporation. By means of an annual rental over a period of 35 years, the Corporation will repay the cost of the purchase of the land.

The Cameroons Development Corporation, established by Ordinance No. 39 of 1946, consists of a chairman and five members (including one indigenous member) appointed by the Governor. The functions of the Corporation include cultivation and stock-raising, and dealing in merchandise and produce of all kinds as producer, manufacturer, importer or exporter. Approximately 16,000 indigenous inhabitants are employed on the plantations of the Corporation.

All profits made by the Corporation after the payment of expenses and allocation to general or special reserves are to be applied for the benefit of the inhabitants in such a manner as the Governor may determine. In 1947 the Corporation showed a profit of £178,275, of which £158,000 was set aside as provision against taxation on current profits for the period 1946-1949, and £19,956 carried forward to the next year's accounts. No part of the profits for 1947 has so far been applied for the actual benefit of the people of the Cameroons. Taxes on profits are paid into the revenues of Nigeria.

4. SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT

Human Rights

With the exception of certain limitations on the rights of women in matters of betrothal and marriage, the law secures to all, full human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Subject only to the provisions of the law governing sedition and libel, no control is exercised over the subject matter published in newspapers. A number of Nigerian newspapers circulate in the Territory but there are no locally published newspapers. The principal outlet for the expression of public opinion is found in the time set aside daily by Administrative Officers for the hearing of "complaints".

Freedom of thought and conscience and free exercise of religious worship and instruction are ensured to all inhabitants. Petitions from the general public may be made under certain rules to the Resident, the Chief Commissioner, the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the Secretary of State. The National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroons is the only

/political

political organization active in the Territory. The programme of this organization is that Nigeria should achieve self-government jointly with the Camerouns.

No person can be arrested without a warrant except for offences specified under the Criminal Procedure Ordinance. No person may be held awaiting trial for a longer period than is sufficient to ensure the attendance of witnesses. There are no restrictions on the movement of population within the Territory or between the Territory and Nigeria except that a written permit is required for entry into an "unsettled" area.

Slavery

Slavery practices do not now exist in the Territory. The Criminal Code of Nigeria provides that any person convicted of slave dealing is liable to fourteen years imprisonment. In outlying districts cases have been known of children being pledged for debt.

Status of Women

Polygamy is an accepted custom in the Territory and child marriage occurs in some areas. The custom of bride price, which is practiced in the southern areas, does not extend to peoples of the Islamic faith. In Moslem areas, the law permits coercion into marriage by a parent, but only in the cases of a girl who has never been married.

Under the law administered by the Supreme and Magistrates' Courts, a wife is not liable for the contracts of her husband, but a husband is liable for those of his wife for her necessities. In other respects, the legal status of a woman is the same as that of a man.

There are no legal bars to the employment of women, but the customary bars vary considerably from tribe to tribe. The opportunities available to women to enter and train for government service depend upon their educational and other qualifications. At present, these are nursing, midwifery, teaching and clerical work.

Social Security and Welfare

No services are provided or contemplated with respect to widows' pensions, old age pensions, maternity benefits, relief or other forms of protection for the inhabitants of both sexes. The indigenous system of family solidarity is a safeguard against social insecurity.

Standards of Living

No family living studies or other surveys of cost of living have been carried out. No investigations have been conducted in regard to changes that may have taken place in the consumption of the principal groups of the population. There have been, however, considerable

/improvements in

improvements in wage rates and an increase in the prices of primary products grown in the Territory. The comparative shortage of consumer goods in relation to purchasing power has produced a tendency toward inflation.

Labour

The two outstanding labour problems are those in connection with the shortage of consumer goods and the development of a proper trade union organization for the plantation workers.

In the Southern areas the estimated number of wage-earners in 1947 was 23,914. The number of wage-earners in the Northern areas in 1947 was estimated at 1,425, of which 1,010 were employed by the Government. No workers have been recruited from outside the Territory.

None of the labour employed by the administration or by private concerns is recruited. Compulsory labour may be authorized by the Governor and by any Native Authority under the conditions prescribed by the Labour Code Ordinance (No. 54 of 1945).

With the exception of persons employed in full-time domestic service, the hours of work per week in the Territory range from 34 hours for certain clerical workers to 48 hours for most unskilled labour. The normal number of working days in a month is twenty-six. The average monthly wages in the southern areas for unskilled, skilled and clerical workers are 36/10d., 128/-, and 159/9d. respectively. In the northern areas the average earning of wage earners are in the neighbourhood of 5/- a week. Rations are nowhere provided by the employer as part of remuneration. The principle of equal remuneration for work of equal value is generally accepted in the Territory.

The development of trade unions is still in the most elementary stage and the majority of workers have no conception of the proper functions of a trade union. There are three trade unions in the Territory, with a total membership of 11,126, of which the largest is the Cameroon Development Corporation Workers' Union with a membership of 10,850. These figures are unreliable and are based on effective strength at the time of a dispute rather than on the numbers of paid-up members. In 1947 there were eight industrial disputes involving 2,978 workers. The duration of strikes varied from one day to six days.

The Nigerian Labour Department deals with labour issues in the Trust Territory. The personnel of the Labour Department included one senior and one assistant Labour Officer stationed in the Territory in 1947.

Legislative provision has been made for the partial application in the Territory of the provisions of conventions and recommendations of the

/International

International Labour Organisation. Nigerian Labour legislation is applicable to the Territory. No employer or employee was charged or convicted for offences against labour laws and regulations during the year 1947.

Public Health

The medical and public health services of the Territory form part of the services of the Nigerian Medical Department. In 1947 the medical and public health personnel in the Territory consisted of 7 registered medical officers, 3 licensed midwives, 53 qualified nurses, 1 assistant medical officer, 2 sanitary superintendents, 33 sanitary inspectors, 1 laboratory assistant, 7 dispensers, 26 dispensary attendants and dressers, and 4 vaccinators.

In 1947 the Territory had 11 hospitals (6 Government and 5 belonging to the Cameroons Development Corporation) with 679 beds, 40 dispensaries (26 Government and Native Authority, 12 belonging to the Cameroons Development Corporation, and 2 mission), and 1 mission Leprosy Treatment Centre.

There are no hospitals or doctors stationed in the Northern areas but the inhabitants there have access to hospitals in Nigeria and to medical staff stationed there.

For the purposes of preventive medicine the Territory is divided into 5 areas each under the control of a sanitary inspector who carries out vaccination programmes and inspects the villages. The curative service consists of five dispensaries. The only medical institutions within the Trust Territory providing in-patient treatment are to be found in the Cameroons Province. Between 2,000 and 3,000 out-patients are treated each year at each of the dispensaries; the hospitals also provide out-patients treatment. The classification of disease at the dispensaries is too unreliable to permit a useful analysis by major diseases.

There are no private practitioners in the Territory and no qualified mission doctors, but non-qualified indigenous practitioners are very active. No facilities are available for training medical personnel within the Territory.

Prisons and Crimes

There are eight prisons in the Territory under the control of the Nigerian Director of Prisons, with a daily average of 400 prisoners. During 1947, 1,636 persons were charged and 1,127 convicted by the Supreme Court and Magistrates' Court, and 4,308 criminal cases heard and 3,871 persons punished by Native Courts in the Cameroons Province; while in the northern areas there were 4,164 criminal cases heard and 3,383 persons punished.

/Of these

Of these 5,851 were fined, 1,955 imprisoned, 175 bound over, etc., 36 were whipped, 4 sentenced to death, and 360 classified as other punishment.

Prisoners who are not ordered to be kept under hard labour, are normally employed extra-murally on works of general station sanitation; they do not work for private employers, are always under a warder's supervision, and are not paid. Sentences of whipping, forfeiture or deportation imposed in accordance with the Criminal Code or Criminal Procedure Ordinance are applicable to both indigenous and non-indigenous inhabitants.

Juvenile Delinquency

Juvenile delinquency is comparatively rare and is usually corrected by parental action. Long sentences are served in an approved institution in the Eastern Provinces. The sentence of imprisonment is not as a rule given, but a sentence of whipping may, in less serious cases, be imposed upon juveniles. No special laws applying to juveniles have been made applicable to the Territory, and there are no special courts to deal with them.

5. EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Administration

The educational system of the Territory is under the control of the Nigerian Director of Education. The schools in the Territory have been affected by the shortage of equipment, school books and other literature, and trained teachers.

In the Cameroons Province no new school may be established without the approval of the governor on the recommendation of the Director of Education and a committee of the Board of Education, while in the northern areas the establishment of new schools or classes for religious instruction requires the prior approval of the Resident of the Province concerned.

Government expenditure on Education

The educational expenditure in 1947 amounted to £42,934, made up of £26,451 from Nigerian Revenue and £16,483 from Native Authority Revenue. The Government made a grant of £8,554 to voluntary agencies operating schools in the Territory, while £7,309 was provided for maintenance of schools, etc. Since the early nineteen-thirties, financial assistance given by Government to Voluntary Agency Schools has not been determined by any set of fixed principles, but has been on the basis of helping voluntary agencies to meet rising staff costs.

Staff and Teachers

In 1947 the educational personnel employed in the Territory consisted of 48 Government staff, 255 Native Authority Teachers and 1,017 Voluntary Agency Teachers. The total number of teachers in schools in the Territory
/was 1,320

was 1,320 which consisted of 1,292 Africans and 28 non-Africans.

Schools and Curriculum

In 1947, there were 250 schools in the Territory, made up of 244 primary, 4 teacher training and 1 secondary schools, and 1 apprentice's class. No facilities for higher education exist in the Territory. Scholarships are available for suitable candidates who are eligible for entrance to the University College at Ibadan, Nigeria, and at institutions in the United Kingdom. There were, in 1947, four indigenous inhabitants of the Territory studying in the United Kingdom with the aid of scholarships.

In the elementary schools two vernaculars, viz. Balin and Duala, are used in the Cameroons Province, while Hausa is used in the remaining parts of the Territory. English is taught in the middle and secondary schools and in the upper classes of some elementary schools.

Pupils

In 1947 the number of students in elementary and primary schools was 26,304, as compared with 543 in attendance at schools for post-primary education. The total number of children of school age may be estimated as between 250,000 and 300,000. The degree of literacy among children of school age is 5.5 per cent in the Cameroons Province and 0.2 per cent in the North. The student enrollment in the Cameroons Province in 1947 was 25,514 as compared with that of 1,072 in the rest of the Trust Territory. The low enrollment in the north is attributed to an apathy toward western education, a prejudice against education of girls in the Mohammendan areas, and the prejudice of Moslem Native Authorities against the educational activities of missionaries owing to the fear of proselytization.

The fees in the junior primary schools are, on an average, ten shillings per annum and those in a senior primary school one pound per annum.

Illiteracy and Adult Education

The percentage of illiteracy is almost 100 per cent in the remote parts of the north and about 75 per cent in the Cameroons Province. Attempts are being made to start an anti-illiteracy campaign, organize a mobile cinema, circulate the Nigeria Review and Gaskiya taf Kwabo, provide reading materials and rooms for the public, and establish adult education centres and classes.

There are no libraries or museums in the Territory.

PART II

Observations of Members of the Council

1. GENERAL

General Advancement

The representative of the United Kingdom referred to a tendency in some quarters to overlook the positive advancement of the Territory due to British administration and to see only the admitted backwardness. The British Colonial Administrators were well aware that a great deal remained to be done; they deplored as much as anyone the slow progress in certain fields. Another tendency was to regard British policy in the Colonies as less advanced than that laid down in the Charter for Trust Territories. The Charter and Trusteeship Agreements were based very largely on British policy. Owing to that policy, the people in Nigeria were much further advanced than in the Cameroons which had been under British rule for only a little more than 25 years. It was British policy to bring the peoples of the Trust Territories up to the level of their neighbours as quickly as possible.

The representative of New Zealand thought the Council would be well advised to reserve its final opinion on the Territory and to formulate only tentative conclusions until the report of the Visiting Mission was received.

The representative of the United States noted that the policy of the Administering Authority was to bring the peoples of the Trust Territory up to the level of their neighbours in Nigeria as quickly as possible. He believed that the Administering Authority should increase its efforts in this direction.

Differences Between Northern and Southern Sections

The representative of Belgium noted the contrast in development in the two sections of the Territory. The situation was encouraging in the South; in the North it was much less so. It appeared that the efforts expended by the Administering Authority had been less intensive in the North than in the South. It could be asked whether the Administering Authority should not take active steps to speed up the development of populations which had less contact with modern civilization.

Unsettled Areas

The representative of Belgium observed that in unsettled areas no one, not even missionaries willing to do so at their own risk, was allowed to enter.

2. POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT

General Observations

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that a characteristic feature of the Territory was the complete absence of political rights for the inhabitants. He believed that the Administering Authority was not complying with the requirements of the Charter of the United Nations to promote the development of the inhabitants towards self-government or independence. He thought it incumbent on the Council to adopt recommendations which would ensure compliance with these requirements.

The representative of New Zealand felt that the Territory was only at the beginning of political development and in time, a self-governing institution for the whole Territory could develop out of the present system of local government. He noted the amalgamation of small Native Authorities as a step in this direction and hoped this process might encourage the participation of the inhabitants not only in local matters, but in the national sphere.

Administrative Integration of the Territory with Nigeria

(i) Identity of the Territory; Supervision by the Council

The representative of the Philippines observed that the Territory had been divided into Southern and Northern regions and that these regions had been incorporated for administrative purposes into various provinces of Nigeria. His delegation felt that because of this incorporation it was difficult, if not impossible, for the Council to exercise its supervisory function over the Territory as was required by the Charter. As a specific example, he mentioned the difficulties of ascertaining what proportion of the budget was allocated to the Cameroons. He remarked that effective administrative control of the Territory was located outside the Territory and that even the various parts of the Territory seemed to be handled under different policies. Nigeria managed those parts of the administration which should properly be reserved for the Trust Territory.

The representative of Iraq believed that the administration of the Trust Territory from the adjacent colony was a cumbersome arrangement. There were obvious fundamental differences distinguishing a Trust Territory from a colony. The Administering Authority was responsible for developing the Trust Territory towards self-government. With the establishment of the centre of administration outside the Territory

/itself it was

itself it was difficult for the Council to form an accurate appraisal of the Territory's progress.

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the Administering Authority had annexed the Trust Territory to Nigeria. The Governor of Nigeria was also the Governor of the Cameroons; the Territory had no administrative or legal autonomy; and the inhabitants and the Territory itself had no special or separate status. Even within the framework of this unified Administration the Territory was neglected politically, economically and socially. He therefore considered that the unification of the Cameroons with Nigeria was incompatible with the provisions of Article 76 of the Charter.

The representative of China noted the lack of legislative, judicial or budgetary autonomy for the Territory which was integrated with the administration of Nigeria. The integration was of such a nature that various portions of the Territory were integrated separately for administrative purposes into different administrative divisions and subdivisions of Nigeria. This integration was carried down even to the lowest level of administration so that certain sections of the Territory were administered as parts of Native Authorities having their seats of administration in Nigeria. The Trusteeship Council could hardly consider the Cameroons as an entity having a separate political existence. In actual fact the Territory was merely administrative bits and pieces of Nigeria. The Trust Territory should preserve its international status, its own administrative unity so that it might be a potential self-governing or independent body. The Territory was so completely integrated with Nigeria that it was very difficult for the Trusteeship Council to gain a clear understanding of the conditions which existed in the Territory.

The representative of New Zealand stated that there were three obvious comments to be made on administrative unions. First that circumstances could be conceived where such an administrative union would be of real tangible benefit to a Territory. Secondly, where a Trusteeship Agreement specifically established the right to form an administrative union there could be no question of the legitimacy of such an action. Thirdly, where an administrative union had been established it inevitably made for difficulties as there was no doubt that the Council was severely handicapped in its work because the separate figures to which the Council was entitled were not available.

The representative of the United Kingdom could not agree that the administrative structure of the Cameroons was a handicap. It was a practical method fully in accord with the Trusteeship Agreement. This
/administration

administration had been enforced for 25 years and was known to exist when the Trusteeship Agreement was accepted. Nor was the relation of the Cameroons to Nigeria an administrative union in the ordinary sense of the term. He referred to Article 5 (a) of the Agreement from which the arrangement in the Cameroons had been derived; Article 5 (b) of the Agreement was not applicable. He emphasized that the question of administering the Cameroons as an integral part of Nigeria was entirely distinct from that of administrative unions. He also wished to emphasize that the Cameroons was small and sparsely populated as compared with Nigeria. It would not only be an economic and social loss for the Cameroons to be divorced from Nigeria, it would even be a political step backward because the Trust Territory had a greater chance of reaching self-government in association with Nigeria than as an isolated, distinct Territory. Furthermore, Nigeria had financed development in the Cameroons for 25 years.

(ii) Separate Information

The representative of Costa Rica stated that if the Council was to be in a position to supervise the manner in which the Administering Authority carried out its obligations in the Cameroons, it should request that future reports should include precise and separate data with respect to those services which were common to the Trust Territory and Nigeria.

The representative of New Zealand stated that his delegation had difficulty in reaching conclusions because in most cases separate statistics for the Cameroons had not been supplied. For this reason he welcomed the assurances given by the Administering Authority that efforts would be made to provide separate financial and other records in the future. The Council was entitled to this information.

The representative of China noted that the Special Representative had promised to try to secure figures and facts relating to the Cameroons in future annual reports.

The representative of the United Kingdom said he appreciated that the absence of exact statistics, and especially of a separate budget, made it difficult for the Council to judge conditions in the Territory clearly. But he would remind members that the revenues of the Territory had never been as great as their expenditure and therefore the point did not carry as much weight as it might. He would, however, gladly call the attention of his Government to the matter and hoped that, in future reports, satisfactory figures would be supplied to the Council.

Executive, Legislative and Judicial Systems

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics proposed that legislative organs be established in the Territory independently of
/other organs

other organs created on the basis of the unification of the Cameroons with Nigeria. The Trusteeship Council should recommend to the Administering Authority that it carry out legislative or other measures which might ensure the participation of the indigenous population in legislative, executive and judicial organs of government.

The representative of the United Kingdom stated that in respect to representation on legislative and other bodies, the Cameroons had only a small population as compared with neighbouring parts of Nigeria.

The representative of the United States believed that the Trusteeship Council should urge the Administering Authority, as part of the constitutional reform which was being studied in Nigeria, to consider the possibility of increasing the representation of the Cameroons in the Executive and Legislative Councils.

The representative of Belgium thought it desirable that the Cameroons should have more representatives in the Councils of Nigeria. He could not agree with the Administering Authority that such representation would not be justified in view of the smaller ratio of population in the Cameroons. The fact that the Cameroons was a Trust Territory should justify an increased representation than obtained at present.

The representatives of China and the Philippines observed that no indigenous inhabitants of the Cameroons were members of the Executive or Legislative Councils of Nigeria. They believed that the Trusteeship Council should urge that the Cameroons be represented in the Legislative Council and Executive Council of Nigeria.

Native Authorities

The representative of Iraq observed that the method of using tribal chiefs as a medium of administration was not conducive to the abolition of a system that was incompatible with modern administration, particularly since a first lesson in democracy must be taught.

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the Territory lacked organs of self-government. Indigenous inhabitants did not participate in the selection of so-called Native Authorities. The prevailing tribal system, encouraged by the Administering Authority, was incompatible with the progressive development of the Territory towards self-government or independence. The Trusteeship Council should recommend to the Administering Authority that it take measures to ensure the transition from the tribal system to one of self-government built upon democratic principles.

/Suffrage

Suffrage

The representative of Costa Rica pointed out that in the Cameroons under British Administration there was no suffrage law and no electorate while in the Cameroons under French Administration suffrage laws had been introduced with a body of eligible voters numbering 500,000.

The representatives of China and the Philippines proposed that the Trusteeship Council should urge that some system of suffrage be instituted for the election of Cameroons representatives to the various councils of Nigeria and the Cameroons.

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics observed that no electoral system existed in the Cameroons.

3. ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

General Observations

The representative of the United States believed that the Administering Authority might extend the activities of the Department of Commerce and Industries of Nigeria to the Cameroons at the earliest possible moment to encourage the indigenous inhabitants to develop local industries in the Trust Territory. He expressed the hope that other departments in the economic field would pay increasing attention to the Cameroons in the future.

Ten Year Plan of Development and Welfare

The representative of the United States expressed his appreciation for the presentation of details on the Ten Year Plan of Development and Welfare which he found interesting and encouraging.

Lack of Budgetary Autonomy

The representative of China noted that since the Cameroons did not have budgetary autonomy, it was impossible for the Administering Authority to prepare exact estimates of the Territory's revenue and expenditure. The table showing the budget of the Cameroons did not seem complete; one realized that as long as the Territory had no budgetary autonomy, all figures of public finance were at best approximations.

The representative of the United States expressed his appreciation to the Administering Authority for furnishing budgetary estimates. He realized that the close administrative union between Nigeria and the Trust Territory made it difficult for the Administering Authority to present accurate budgetary figures. It appeared to him, however, that the methods used in presenting revenues and expenditures were perhaps less detailed than those employed in the Reports to the Permanent Mandates Commission. The Administering Authority should make every effort to give exact figures wherever possible.

/The representative

The representative of the Philippines stated that since an autonomous budget for the Cameroons had not been presented, it was impossible to determine any definite item of expense or revenue. This aspect of the result of the integration of the Trust Territory with Nigeria made it impossible for the Council to clearly understand conditions in the Territory and to ascertain whether the basic objectives of the Charter or the duties imposed upon the Administering Authority were being carried out. His delegation felt that the present system of presenting budgetary items for the Cameroons, based upon estimates which must remain arbitrary under the present type of fiscal incorporation with Nigeria, would always be unsatisfactory. This problem, therefore, should be immediately settled by the Trusteeship Council. For that reason, his delegation suggested that the Council should recommend to the Administering Authority that a separate budget be established for the Cameroons, distinct and apart from the budget for Nigeria so that the Council might be in a position to assess more accurately the manner in which the Administering Authority was discharging its obligations under the Charter.

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that since the Trust Territory lacked an independent budget, the Administering Authority was unable to supply separate statistics on the collection of taxes from individuals or on the incomes of British companies which exploit the resources of the Cameroons. No account was furnished as to the proportion of profits made by the Cocoa Marketing Board in the Trust Territory itself. The taxes payable by the Cameroons Development Corporation would be paid directly to the Nigerian Treasury, and there was no indication that the proceeds of these taxes would be specifically devoted to improve the economic and social conditions of the indigenous inhabitants of the Trust Territory. He noted also that import and export duties were collected by the Nigerian customs system and that the income therefrom was not used for the development of the Trust Territory.

The representative of Costa Rica expressed the view that the revenue derived from the tax on the earnings of companies operating in the Cameroons should be included in the budget of the Territory.

Taxation

The representative of Costa Rica expressed the opinion that the flat rate of taxation of 7/6 d. on each pound of the earnings of companies was not as desirable as a system of progressive taxation. The latter method would make it possible for companies operating on a large scale to contribute
/more generously

more generously to the expenses of governmental administration. He suggested therefore that the Council should ask the Administering Authority to revise its taxation rates with a view to instituting a more equitable system based on the principle of progressive taxation.

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the poll tax system placed the burden of taxation on the poorest part of the population, the overwhelming majority of the inhabitants. This system should be replaced by a form of progressive income tax or at least by some type of percentage system which would take account of ability to pay.

The representative of Costa Rica felt that the system of imprisonment and forced labour for the non-payment of tax was contrary to elementary rights. He was of the opinion that, if at the present stage of the Territory's development, such penalties could not be abolished immediately, the obligation to pay tax should cease once a defaulter had served his prison sentence.

The representative of the United Kingdom stated that an attempt to impose a progressive income tax on companies would only result in the creation of a number of subsidiary or allied companies to reduce the apparent profit of the parent company. He could not agree that the punishment of hard labour imposed by court on a prisoner convicted of an offence could be related to forced labour in its ordinary significance.

Cocoa Marketing Board

The representative of the United States suggested that the Council should take note of the organization and objectives of the Nigerian Cocoa Marketing Board and should ask the Administering Authority to include full details of each year's cocoa production and marketing in the annual reports.

The representative of New Zealand expressed his agreement with the general principles of the stabilization scheme which had been set up in the Territory. He would not question too much the extent of the reserves established so long as it was clear that this money, sooner or later, went to the owners of the original product. He thought that the Council should be given detailed information in connexion with the entire scheme, particularly in view of the apparently wide spread between the world price and the price paid to the producer.

The representative of the United Kingdom noted the desire of the Council to have more figures. He wished to assure the Council that the difference between the world price of cocoa and the amount paid to the producer went to the stabilization fund. This fund would have to be substantial in order to cushion the shock to the producer resulting from the enormous variations in world price.

Cameroons Development Corporation

The representative of China stated that, in the past, the profit from the estates now comprising the Cameroons Development Corporation was for the benefit of European companies; now it was to be for the benefit of the indigenous inhabitants. The Council should commend the Administering Authority for trying to repair the omissions of the past. He was concerned, however, that it would take 35 years before the purchase price of £850,000 was paid and before the inhabitants could enjoy the full profits of the Corporation. The purchase was in the nature of a reparation transaction; the purchase price would be lost to the Territory and the available profits would be diminished for the next 35 years by the annual repayment charge. He understood that the Administering Authority was obliged to enter this sum against its reparation share, but he considered that in view of the special circumstances, the Administering Authority might consider trying to find a way to reduce or remove altogether the considerable drain on the profits from the plantations for the next 35 years.

The representative of Iraq considered that there did not seem to be sufficient indication that the Administering Authority was taking effective steps to ensure that the Cameroons Development Corporation was working for the benefit of the indigenous population. The report referred to the fact that all the profits made by the Corporation were to be used for the benefit of the inhabitants in such a manner as the Governor might decide. It was to be hoped that future reports would clearly and sufficiently indicate that effective steps to that end had been taken by the administration.

The representative of the Philippines felt that the Administering Authority should be congratulated in its attempt to make up for the omissions of the past by the establishment of the Cameroons Development Corporation which was stated to be for the benefit of the inhabitants. However, the profits of this Corporation in 1946/1947 were £178,275. Since the price which the Nigerian Government would have to pay for these plantations would be about £850,000, it seemed that in five years, the Nigerian Government would have paid this debt. It appeared therefore that 35 years was too long a period for the indigenous inhabitants to wait before achieving full benefit from the earnings of the Corporation. The Trusteeship Council should call the attention of the Administering Authority to these facts.

Bakweri Land

The representative of China stated that the Council should consider the present circumstances of the Bakweri people, much of whose land was now incorporated into the estates of the Cameroons Development Corporation.
/They have been

They had been dispossessed, disinherited and discouraged and they were in danger of disappearing. The Trusteeship Council should therefore request the Administering Authority to give special attention to the Bakweri people and to take such measures as would enable them to participate not only in the cultivation, but also in the management of the estates. The Special Representative had indicated that this was the policy and it was to be hoped that future annual reports would contain complete details on the application of this policy.

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics referred the Council to the petition of the Bakweri Land Committee, which stated that the fraction of land left to the Bakweri was unsuitable for agriculture. The land taken from the Bakweri, which had proved a source of tremendous profit for the European owners, was now being exploited by the Cameroons Development Corporation where strikes had arisen because of miserable working conditions. The Administering Authority should return to the indigenous population the lands taken from it and cease any further expropriation of native land.

The representative of the Philippines believed that the manner in which the previous large plantations were being disposed was a matter of great importance to the progress of the Territory. Since large tracts of the best agricultural land had been taken from the Bakweri people by the Germans, they had been forced to live in narrow stretches between the plantations. This had had the effect of keeping them backward, politically, socially and economically. He believed that the Trusteeship Council should call the attention of the Administering Authority to the need for a prompt and satisfactory solution in which the Bakweri and other indigenous peoples would share more quickly and more directly in the proceeds and operation of the Cameroons Development Corporation.

The representative of the United Kingdom, in reply to the suggestion of the representative of the Philippines, that the backwardness of the Cameroons might be due to the alienation of the Bakweri lands, stated that there was not an acre of a European plantation in the north of the Territory which was admittedly the most backward part.

Trade

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the indigenous population of the Cameroons did not participate in the export or import trade which was solely in the hands of British companies. The quest for profits on the part of such companies doomed the inhabitants to a life of misery; the companies paid starvation wages to hired workers.

/Transport and

Transport and Communications

The representative of Iraq observed that communications were in a condition that did not facilitate trade and commerce; an effort in that direction seemed urgently needed.

4. SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT

General Observations

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that as a result of the absence of any care for the social development of the population on the part of the Administering Authority, the indigenous inhabitants were living in conditions of backwardness, and illiteracy.

Child Marriage

The representative of Belgium was of the opinion that child marriage, which was the union of persons obviously incapable of consent, was most regrettable. Since such unions were rare and appeared to be disappearing, he felt that they should be prohibited by law and thus abolish once and for all a custom which was contrary to the principles of civilization and morality.

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics observed that the horrible custom of child marriage was not even prohibited by law.

Status of Women

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics considered that women in the Cameroons were in a state of virtual slavery. In both sections of the Territory, they had a lower political status than men.

Wages

The representative of Costa Rica thought that wages should be established at a level which would not only enable workers to meet the expenses of everyday life but would also raise progressively their standard of living.

The representative of the United States suggested that the Administering Authority might wish to consider the possibility of advancing wages to immigrant workers of the Cameroons Development Corporation to enable them to marry and thus bring their wives with them. He felt that such an arrangement would solve an important social problem.

Standard of Living

The representative of Costa Rica expressed his regret that surveys on cost of living, as recommended by the Salaries Commission, had not yet been undertaken. Since such surveys would provide the Council with

/important

important information on prevailing conditions and might serve as a basis for a realistic policy designed to ensure the well-being of the indigenous population, he considered that the Council would be well-advised to recommend to the Administering Authority that such studies be undertaken as soon as possible.

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics noted the exceedingly high cost of food in the Cameroons. This was another indication of the lack of due care for the interests of the indigenous population.

Corporal Punishment and Deportation

The representative of Costa Rica expressed the view that corporal punishment was a humiliating practice inconsistent with the provisions of the International Declaration of Human Rights. The Trusteeship Council should call upon the Administering Authority to abolish that practice, as well as the penalty of deportation of indigenous delinquents from the Territory.

The representative of the United Kingdom wished to remind the Council of the restrictions by which corporal punishment was controlled, and that it was imposed only in such serious cases as rape.

Health Services

The representative of Costa Rica declared that the information on medical services lacked clarity because of the unification of medical services of Nigeria and the Cameroons. This was particularly true for the Northern parts of the Territory where there were no doctors or hospitals for the 525,000 people of that area. Although certain medical facilities in Nigeria were stated to be available for these inhabitants, no precise information was given. The Council therefore had no information on certain elements of medical service for the Cameroons. The Council should request the Administering Authority to provide information on medical services in a manner that would enable the Council to understand the extent to which such services affected the inhabitants of the Cameroons.

The representative of Iraq observed that there was room for energetic improvement of health conditions in the Northern Section of the Cameroons. He was confident that these conditions, of which the administration was aware, would have improved considerably by the time of the next annual report.

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the medical treatment of the indigenous inhabitants was marked by its absence. It was understandable therefore that the miserable existence
/of the mass

of the mass of the population led to the broad threat of endemic diseases and a high morbidity and mortality, particularly among children.

The representative of Costa Rica compared health facilities offered in the Cameroons under French Administration with those offered in the Cameroons under British Administration. In the British administered territory there were 11 hospitals with 7 beds for every 10,000 inhabitants; in the French administered territories there were 47 hospitals with 16.5 beds for every 10,000 inhabitants. In the Cameroons under British Administration there were 7 registered doctors, or one doctor for every 141,586 inhabitants; in the Cameroons under French Administration there were 105 doctors, or one doctor for every 25,812 inhabitants.

The representative of the United States recalled that the representative of the Administering Authority, who had pointed out several times the shortage of medical personnel in the Cameroons, had informed the Council that there was no objection in principle to recruiting doctors of non-British nationality. He believed that the Trusteeship Council might recommend that the Administering Authority should consider recruitment of needed doctors from among displaced persons in Europe as well as from other sources.

Vital Statistics

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics observed that there were no statistical records of births, deaths and morbidity.

5. EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT

The representative of the Philippines expressed the adherence of his delegation to three basic education policies which he believed should be followed in all Trust Territories. These were: (1) the direct assumption on the part of the Administering Authority of its responsibility for education; (2) free education in government established schools; and (3) the use of a common language.

The representative of the United States recalled the statement of the special representative that the degree of literacy among people of school age was 5.5 per cent in the Cameroons Province, and only 0.2 per cent in the Northern Section. His delegation believed that the Trusteeship Council should urge the Administering Authority vigorously to increase its efforts to develop educational facilities in the Cameroons.

The representative of Costa Rica compared educational facilities offered in the Cameroons under French Administration with those offered in the Cameroons under British Administration. In the British administered
/territory, out

territory, out of a school age population of 247,775, only 26,586 or 10.73 per cent actually were in school; in the French administered territory, out of a school age population of 425,000, 115,115 or 27.09 per cent actually were in school. He also pointed out that in the Cameroons under French Administration, primary education was free while in the Cameroons under British Administration it was extremely expensive.

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the Administering Authority was taking no measures toward the appropriate development of education in the Territory, but of the entire population of the Cameroons, only a little more than 26,000 pupils were in elementary schools and illiteracy among the indigenous population was above 90 per cent.

The representative of Iraq observed that there was room for energetic improvement of education in the Northern Section of the Cameroons. He was confident that these conditions, of which the Administration was aware, would have improved considerably by the time of the next annual report.

The representative of New Zealand pointed out that political advancement depended almost entirely upon educational advancement. It was for that reason that he was pleased to learn of the plans for educational development which were being applied. He hoped that, especially in the Northern Section where educational facilities were meagre, the Administering Authority would press forward energetically with its plan.

The representative of China noted the great discrepancy in educational development between the Northern and Southern Sections of the Territory. He observed that out of a population of almost half a million in the Northern Section, less than 1,000 pupils were in school. This percentage of literacy appeared to be the lowest in any area in any Trust Territory which the Council had examined. His delegation, in noting the memorandum on educational policy for Nigeria, including the Cameroons, had felt that even if these plans were successfully carried out they would not go very far to promote education. It was earnestly hoped that the Administering Authority would find it possible further to expand educational facilities and to make primary education free and secondary education much less expensive than at present.

The representative of Iraq expressed the opinion that the Administering Authority must make an earnest effort to disseminate education among the groups of the population belonging to the Moslem faith, by establishing schools and educational centres to suit their own particular culture and background.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

Form of the Report

The representative of Iraq congratulated the Administering Authority on the manner in which the report had been prepared and noted the inclusion of photographs.

The representative of New Zealand thought that all members of the Council should join in congratulating the Administering Authority on the quality of the report which was of literary interest and great human significance.

PART III

Conclusions and Recommendations of the Council

1. POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT

General

The Council, concerned over the difficulty in performing its supervisory functions with respect to the Trust Territory arising from the fact that the Territory has been integrated for administrative purposes into different administrative divisions and sub-divisions of the British Protectorate of Nigeria and from the fact that the integration is so carried out that even on the lowest levels of administration certain portions of the Trust Territory are being administered by Native Authorities with seats outside the Territory, with the result that there is no legislative, judicial or budgetary autonomy in the Territory; and consequently, there are no adequate figures and data as would enable the Council to appraise the exact status or situation of the Trust Territory; recommends that, pending a final solution of the question of these administrative arrangements, the Administering Authority review the situation and take steps or institute measures such as budgetary autonomy for the Territory, which will enable the Trusteeship Council better to perform the duties and functions vested in it by the Charter, and requests that the Administering Authority include in future annual reports precise and separate data on all common services.

Differences between Northern and Southern Provinces

The Council, considering that the Northern Provinces are notably less developed than the Southern Provinces, recommends that the Administering Authority take such measures as will rapidly develop the Northern Provinces.

Executive and Legislative Councils

The Council urges the Administering Authority, as part of the constitutional reforms being studied in Nigeria, to consider the possibility of giving distinct representation to the Trust Territory in the Executive and Legislative Councils.

Suffrage and Participation in Organs of Government

The Council, recommends that the Administering Authority consider the possibility of establishing as soon as practicable such democratic reforms as will eventually give the indigenous inhabitants of the Trust Territory the right of suffrage and an increasing degree of participation in the executive, legislative and judicial organs of government preparatory to self-government or independence.

2. ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

Cameroons Development Corporation

The Council, noting the establishment of the Cameroons Development Corporation, which is to administer the ex-enemy lands for the common benefit of the inhabitants of the Trust Territory, and having in mind that a Visiting Mission will go to the Territory in 1949; expresses the hope that future reports of the Administering Authority will clearly and sufficiently indicate that effective steps are being taken by the administration to ensure that the Cameroons Development Corporation is working for the benefit of the indigenous population; in particular, recommends that the Administering Authority consider the possibility of shortening the period of thirty-five years which must under present arrangements elapse before the indigenous inhabitants achieve full benefit from the earnings of the Corporation, and requests that the annual reports of the Corporation be appended to the annual reports of the Administering Authority.

Communications and Trade

The Council recommends that communications be improved in order to facilitate trade and commerce.

3. SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT

General Conditions

The Council recommends that uncivilized practices which are gradually disappearing, such as child marriage, should be expressly forbidden by law.

Wages

The Council recommends that the Administering Authority take appropriate measures to establish wages at a level which would not only enable workers to meet the expenses of everyday life but would also raise progressively their standard of living.

Standard of Living

The Council, considering that cost of living studies would provide important information on prevailing conditions and might serve as a basis for a realistic policy designed to ensure the well-being of the indigenous population, recommends that the Administering Authority undertake such studies as soon as possible.

Corporal Punishment

The Council, considering that corporal punishment is a humiliating practice inconsistent with the spirit of the International Declaration on Human Rights, urgently recommends that the Administering Authority immediately abolish this practice.

/Deportation

Deportation

The Council recommends to the Administering Authority that the deportation of indigenous inhabitants from the Territory be abolished.

Health

The Council, noting with concern that only a few medical officers are stationed in the Cameroons and that hospital, dispensary and other medical and health facilities are inadequate for a reasonable programme of medical and health care for the population of the Trust Territory, recommends that the Administering Authority take measures to increase the number of doctors and other trained personnel and to take all further steps necessary to provide for the medical and health needs of the indigenous population.

Health and Education

The Council recommends that the Administering Authority increase the budgetary allocations for educational requirements, and other cultural needs as well as for the public health services.

4. EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT

The Council notes the plans of the Administering Authority for educational development and recommends that the Administering Authority press forward energetically with these plans especially in the Northern Provinces of the Territory.

The Council, desiring to emphasize the decisive influence which education plays in the political, economic and social advancement of a people, and noting that in the Cameroons under British Administration, education is still backward, and almost entirely left in the hands of private initiative, that it is not available free of charge and that generally the fees payable are too high, urges the Administering Authority to press forward more vigorously in its efforts to develop and increase educational facilities, particularly in the Northern Provinces where literacy is admittedly only one-fifth of one per cent of the population of school age, and to devise ways and means to make education as inexpensive as possible so as eventually to make primary education free and secondary education not dependent on means; welcomes present attempts of the Administering Authority to encourage higher education, and expresses the hope that efforts in this direction will receive added momentum through an increasing number of government scholarships abroad.

The Council urges that the Administering Authority make an earnest effort to further develop through educational channels the various indigenous cultures of the population.