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EXAMINATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS: CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION, 1948.

Written questions put to the Special Representative
of the Administering Authority by members of the
Trusteeship Council and replies by the
Special Representative.

I. GENERAL

Population

Question 1: Note is made of the fact that the European population in the Trust Territory has almost doubled from 3,875 in 1946 to 5,800 in 1948. Kindly explain the noticeable trends in this accelerated influx of the European population, the lines of their activities, under what conditions they enter and operate in the Territory, and what safeguards are being taken to ensure that the native population will not be submerged to their detriment.

(Philippines)

Answer: The increase in the European population of the Cameroons, which has since become still greater, is to be explained by various factors, the main one being the great effort to promote the general equipement of the Territory made since 1946. The considerable projects undertaken against the credits of the 10-year plan, and which relate both to the economic infrastructure

(roads and bridges, railways, ports and harbours, airports, telecommunications, etc.) and to cultural and social activities (health, education, laboratories, etc.) have necessarily produced a need for technicians, specialists, firms, engineers and workmen, who have thus increased the white population to that extent. At the same time, the beginning of the industrialisation of the country, facilitated by the electric power production of the Edea dam, also brings specialists to the Territory. Finally, the growing complexity of the administrative services, resulting from the actual progress in the development of the Cameroons, increases the number of officials. The European staff of the Administration has risen from 717 in 1938 to 1,267 in 1948. (During the same period, the African staff has risen from 2,685 to 6,013).

It may be concluded from the above that the increase in the white population is partly accidental and temporary. All those who have come to the Cameroons to carry out specific duties will of course leave the Territory after that work has been completed. There will nevertheless remain a normal increase resulting from the economic, industrial and social progress of the Territory.

The conditions of access to the Territory are described in the 1947 Report, page 20. As regards European and assimilated persons, immigration is governed by the Decree of 7 October 1920 which provides for previous authorisation and the payment of a repatriation deposit. No difference is made between nationals of States Members of the United Nations.

As for a danger of submersion of the indigenous population by immigrants, that hardly seems likely, as the European population does not exceed 0.3% of the African population!

II. POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT

A. National Consciousness:

Question 2: One of the unique features of French liberalism in its administration of the Trust Territory, as stated last year in the examination of the 1947 Report, is its development of a sense of unity or common identity among the people of the

Territory, reason for which the Trusteeship Council recommended the fostering of this development by all possible means. Kindly state fully the steps taken in this regard. Is this national consciousness developed in the direction of French national consciousness or Cameroonian?

(Philippines)

Answer: It is still too soon to speak of "national sentiment" or "national consciousness" in the Cameroons. Such a sentiment presupposes community of origin, of tradition, of culture and of interests, the memory of trials shared, and a minimum of geographical, historical and economic vocation. The Cameroons are a historical accident of too recent creation for these elements to have been able to develop there.

However, it is true that a combination of political contingencies and centralising organisations are developing among the inhabitants of the Cameroons the notion of public welfare and a sense of the State, which might give birth, at a later stage, to a sentiment of solidarity which could develop into national consciousness.

In this connection mention should be made of the complete administration and judicial autonomy of the Territory; the unification of the penal code, the progress in education, the creation of an electorate on a democratic basis, and finally and above all the establishment of the Representative Assembly, which gives to the Africans who are of age the management of the Territory's affairs and develops their sentiment of collective responsibility.

B. Suffrage

Question 3: The Trusteeship Council last year recommended the progressive development of universal suffrage which might be applied in the more advanced areas and in the election of regional councils and municipal commissions. Kindly explain what has been done in this direction.

(Philippines)

Answer: The growth of the electoral body of the Cameroons since its establishment and at the time of the various revisions:

5 September 1945:	12,467
May 1946:	16,086
November 1946:	38,507
February 1947:	39,576
February 1948:	41,487
February 1949:	50,355 ⁽¹⁾

(1) (Including 2,910 Europeans)

With regard to the revision of 1950, information from the Territory is not yet all to hand. Owing to the High Commissioner's instructions to encourage all who are eligible to register, there will probably be a considerable increase in the number of registered electors. The first results, relating to 17 sub-divisions, show an increase of 58% over 1949.

It is to be noted that the number of registrations increased rapidly between 1945 and 1947, a period when there was a consultation of the people on several occasions, but that the movement slowed down subsequently, during the years when there were no elections.

Question 4: Seeing that electoral rolls are revised annually, even when no elections are held, is it possible to know how many new electors in the second college were added to the rolls in 1948 and how many in 1949?

(China)

Answer: See answer to Question 3.

Question 5: It is noted in the reply to question 24 that the Representative Assembly rejected as premature the proposal of the Administration to try universal suffrage in the Douala municipal elections. Could the Administering Authority give any further information as to the factors that led to this decision of the Representative Assembly? Are further steps towards universal suffrage contemplated by the Administration?

(United States of America)

Answer: The question of the municipal organisation of Douala raises several rather delicate problems. The region where the town is situated originally belonged to the tribe of the Doualas, who by natural disposition and their long-standing contacts with Europeans are much the most highly developed indigenous inhabitants of the Territory. However, the rapid development/ of the port and the accelerated growth of the economic capital have brought to Douala an influx of population from other regions in the Cameroons. Today, the population of the town contains 40,000 Doualas as compared with 60,000 "strangers". This situation is complicated by the fact that the strangers have settled in a quarter which was ceded to them on a provisional basis by the original Douala occupants. At the present time, the strangers are asking to become the owners of the quarter, which their occupation and work is developing.

Under these conditions, elections on the basis of universal suffrage would give the majority to the strangers and would ultimately result in the eviction of the Doualas. It is easy to understand the resistance to which this innovation gives rise, and the prudence which must be exercised by the Administration in settling these delicate problems.

The Special Representative has asked the Cameroons to send the Minutes of the session of the Representative Assembly at which this question was discussed. This document will be transmitted to the members of the Council as soon as it arrives.

Question 6: Could the Special Representative give any details regarding the attitude of the Representative Assembly when the question arose of considering a trial system of universal suffrage for the Douala municipal elections, as mentioned on page 14 of the Annual Report?

(China)

Answer: See answer to Question 5.

C. Representative Assembly

Question 7: The Annual Report for 1948 for Togoland

under French Administration states that a draft law modifying and extending the powers of the Representative Assemblies of Togoland and the Cameroons has been submitted by the Deputy for Togoland to the National Assembly of the French Union, and that the draft law is at present tabled in the Assembly. The Report on the Cameroons is silent on this point. What is the present position?

(China)

Answer: The Representative Assembly of the Cameroons was constituted under Article 77 of the French Constitution and the Law of 7 October 1946. Both of these provided that its composition, functions and powers would be fixed by means of a law. Pending the coming into force of that law, the Decree of 25 October 1946 instituted the Representative Assembly and laid down its procedure. The above-mentioned law was introduced by the Government, approved by the Assembly of the French Union and by the National Assembly. It is at present being discussed by the Council of the Republic. That is the law to which the Togoland Report alludes.

The draft law takes into account the experience acquired under the provisional régime. It provides for a certain increase in the Assembly's prerogatives, particularly in respect of agricultural and forestry concessions, in respect of which the former limitations are abolished. Henceforth the Assembly will decide with regard to concessions, whatever their extent. The new text also provides that the Assembly shall examine the Territory's accounts. Its official powers are widened by the Article specifying that it deliberates on "...27 - all other subjects of local interest on which it is called upon to deliberate by the laws and regulations and which are brought before it either by the Chef du Territoire, or by one of the members of the Assembly or of the Permanent Commission".

Question 8: In the examination of the 1947 Report, the Trusteeship Council urged progressive extension of the powers of the Representative Assembly, particularly in the field of legislation. What steps have been taken on the matter?

(Philippines)

Answer: See answer to question 7

Question 9: The Representative Assembly, it is noted, has no power to initiate legislation or of discussing political matters. What are the basic considerations in this limitation of power? (Philippines)

Answer: There appears to be a certain amount of confusion in these questions, which may perhaps be due to uncertainty of translation, between the legislative power and the power to make regulations.

The very spirit of Trusteeship requires that the legislative power should remain in the hands of the authority which has assumed responsibility for administration. If the Territory were in a position to take proper responsibility for its own legislation, it is difficult to see what purpose would be served by the administering nation or by the Trusteeship Council itself! The Trusteeship Agreement is quite specific on this point, and lays down in Article 4 that: "... the authority responsible for administration shall administer the Territory in accordance with French legislation". The French Government has in fact gone far beyond its obligation in inviting the Trust Territories to be represented in the Metropolitan legislative assemblies.

The position is quite different as regards the power to make regulations, which is the application to local conditions of the principles established by law. In this matter, the decree of 25 October 1946 grants very wide powers to the Representative Assembly, and it is not correct to say that the elected representatives of that Assembly cannot "discuss political matters" or "deal with legislation of purely local interest".

Question 10: Does the Administering Authority feel that legislation of particularly local concern can be better handled by the organs of the French Union than by the duly elected representatives of the Trust Territory? (Philippines)

Answer: See answer to Question 9.

D. Councils of Notables:

Question 11: In the answer to questions 21 and 25 the

Administering Authority refers to a plan for broadening the composition of the Councils of Notables. The 1947 Report also referred to such a plan. Is further information available as to the steps which are being taken to implement this plan and as to the success with which the Councils have been functioning? With what types of questions do the Councils normally deal? (United States of America)

Answer: The Councils of Notables were established by a decree of 9 October 1925, amended on points of detail (procedure, holding of meetings) by decrees of 29 July 1933, 20 June 1939 and 17 August 1939.

The Councils were recruited, under the terms of these texts, from the customary Chiefs and notables. They were responsible for "assisting the Chief of the district (région) in examining questions of a financial, economic or social nature, enlightening the Administration with regard to the resources and needs of the district, and for expressing the wishes of the indigenous population".

During the 1939 war the Councils of Notables were left dormant in many areas, owing to the lack of European personnel: the chefs de région and of sub-divisions, deprived of assistance, and often obliged to rule over several administrative districts at the same time, only managed, by exhausting themselves with overwork, to despatch current business and tackle the new tasks arising from war legislation. Under those conditions, they had to resolve to give up many administrative practices through lack of time and means.

From 1944 - 1946 this abandonment of the Councils of Notables continued owing on the one hand to the "change-over" from the state of war to the state of peace, and on the other to the application of the new institutions resulting from the constitution of the Fourth Republic.

It soon became clear that the abandonment of these Councils was disastrous. The new institutions had the defect of being to some extent beyond the comprehension of the great mass of the "bush" population,

particularly because the new assemblies, owing to geographical distance, were unable to keep in sufficiently close contact with the villagers. In addition, the functions of certain metropolitan assemblies naturally left out of account certain purely local questions - what one might call "parish politics" - and the same applied, although to a lesser degree, in the case of those of the Representative Assembly of the Cameroons, which deals in the main with questions concerning the Territory as a whole.

It was therefore found necessary to take an interest again in the Councils of Notables, which had been somewhat forgotten since 1939. Experience showed that the decree of 1925 had become out of date and no longer met the needs of the hour. A new text was therefore prepared, in collaboration with the Notables themselves; it became Decree No. 339 of 28 January 1949, which repealed the former decree of 9 October 1925.

The new text widened the composition of the Councils, as regards both numbers - 40 members instead of 30 - and quality: members of the traditional, economic (co-operative) and trade union associations are now represented. The members of the Representative Assembly of the Cameroons are ex officio members of the Councils of Notables, thus ensuring effective liaison between the regional level and the territorial level. Owing to the progress of education the minimum age of members has been reduced from 30 to 21.

The first results of the reform have been most encouraging, and the institution appears to have a great future ahead of it.

What will be the evolution of the Councils of Notables? Their powers, as mentioned above, have been deliberately made fairly extensive. They will tend gradually to pass from the purely advisory stage, to the deliberative stage. For instance a start is being made with getting the sub-divisional Councils to decide on the use of the proceeds of certain taxes.

Recruitment to the councils will follow similar lines of development. Originally appointed by authority, the notables are now designated after consultation with the social groups concerned. At a later stage, they will be elected in accordance with a procedure which will doubtless be somewhat similar

to that for the French Conseils généraux.

Thus the Council of Notables, an assembly which is more administrative than political, allows and will increasingly allow the great mass of the peasants who form the basis of the population to become conscious, over and above tribal particularism, first of the general interests of the sub-division then of the Région and finally of the Territory.

Question 12: It is gathered from the Report that in 1948 a proposal was submitted for the modification of the traditional form of authority and to give the population greater participation in the conduct of local affairs. What developments came out of the proposal? How are the Councils of Notables presently constituted, who chooses or elects them into office, and what is the scope of their functions or powers? (Philippines)

Answer: See answer to question 11.

E. Judicial Organization:

Question 13: In the answer to question 32 it is stated that there was in preparation a bill to complete the organization of the civil courts, which has as one objective the extension of African participation in the administration of justice. Would the Administering Authority inform the Council of the present status of this bill? (United States of America)

Answer: The draft decree mentioned on page 18 of the Report has been changed into a draft law and is at present before Parliament. Its purpose is to increase the participation of Africans in the administration of justice and to revise and bring into harmony the previous texts governing civil justice. It will increase to five the number of members of the court of appeal, a second magistrate and a second indigenous assessor being attached to the present court of appeal.

Question 14: At what date will it be possible for the new judicial system whereby all penal cases are to be tried by magistrates (page 18) to come into full operation? Is it proposed that as regards the exercise of judicial functions all subdivisional chiefs shall be replaced by professional magistrates? (China)

Answer: The complete substitution of professional magistrates for occasional magistrates involves numerous difficulties:

1. It is difficult to recruit competent professional magistrates at short notice. A sudden inflow of inexperienced young magistrates hastily recruited would be a remedy worse than the evil;

2. It is difficult to construct at short notice all the judicial buildings and all the magistrates' accommodation necessary for the practical working of the courts;

3. The financial cost of increasing the number of magistrates and buildings to be constructed would weigh heavily on the local budget. The Representative Assembly would be the first to consider that this expense should be spread over several years, and that the complete separation of administrative and judicial powers could not be effected at short notice.

Such separation is, however, the target at which our reform is aiming, and all the posts of justices of the peace with extensive powers or ordinary powers have already an occupant belonging to the magistrature or, if he is an administrator (with a law degree), relieved in any case from every other duty.

Question 15: Has the position of the corps of professional magistrates improved since the end of the period covered by the 1948 Report? What is the present proportion of professional magistrates exercising office in the three higher grades of courts? (Belgium)

Answer: A certain number of professional magistrates arrived in the Territory during 1949. The Territory has been asked for details with regard to the questions put; they will be transmitted to the Council as soon as the reply from the Territory has arrived.

F. Africans in Administrative Posts:

Question 16: What is the precise number of African officials from among the cadres communs supérieurs who have been appointed to certain posts formerly held by European officials (page 22 of the Annual Report)? Is it possible to have additional details on this point? (China)

Answer: The number of African officials replacing Europeans is already considerable and is increasing as highly educated indigenous inhabitants of the Cameroons complete their training. Africans have almost completely replaced Europeans as special agents (Treasury agents), a great many

are in charge of post offices, there are 23 African doctors, several heads of offices in the municipal services, a number of clerks, and one head of department..

The Territory has been asked for the precise figures, and these will be transmitted to the Council as soon as received.

Question 17: In answering questions 113 to 116, reference is made to the difficulties in recruiting Africans in the Postal and Telecommunications Service, apparently due to the arduous and responsible nature of the work in this service. In view of the expansion of this service, as well as the growing need in the Territory for experienced, responsible African administrative personnel, would the Administering Authority indicate what steps are being taken to attract Africans to this service? (United States of America)

Answer: It is true that young Africans do not show much enthusiasm to serve in the Postal and Telecommunications Services, preferring more flattering and less absorbing duties. This repugnance, however, does not actually interfere with recruitment: the Post and Radio Service includes 65 white officials and 566 African officials. It deals without difficulty with the continuous increase in traffic, and the Visiting Mission was able to note the excellent way it functioned, even in exceptional circumstances.

One measure which has been very well received by the African personnel is the sending to France of "holders of advanced training scholarships", chosen from among the best members of the Service to undergo a period of training in the Metropolitan Technical Services. This measure has added considerably to the inducements offered by the Service to young Africans seeking employment.

G. Native Administration:

Question 18: What is the present position with regard to the new Statute of Chiefs, referred to on page 23? (China and the Philippines)

Answer: The status of the native chiefs at present raises a problem which in appearance is somewhat difficult to solve: How can the existence of customary chiefs, whose authority in the majority of cases has a

religious basis, be reconciled with the democratic principles of the Constitution of the Fourth Republic?

In point of fact, the difficulty is much more apparent than real. It may be noted in the first place that it arises from a certain confusion between executive and legislative powers; in most of the African tribes, the chief does not create custom, he is only its guardian. Further, there are many tribes where the chief is elected, under conditions sometimes very closely akin to universal suffrage. Finally, the French system of direct administration tends to guarantee the population concerned against abuses contrary to the European conception of natural law of which they might be victims. In particular, the fact that the customary chiefs have not retained the power to inflict penalties protects their subjects effectively against the most serious abuses.

Nevertheless, in the years 1945 and 1946 particularly, a certain uneasiness was noted, which still remains to some extent. To what was it due? Very simply to the fact that the new French Constitution, while guaranteeing to the Africans respect for their traditional Statutes, inevitably left the details of such Statutes outside its provisions. The chiefs, in the course of electoral campaigns, were then attacked either by rival claimants, or by "detrribalized" educated persons who indulged in demagogic propaganda. It should be noted in passing that many of the chiefs were elected to the various assemblies, which proves that their position was to the peoples' liking. It is nevertheless clear that the verbal excesses of the electoral campaigns did nothing to raise their prestige with rival families or with the detrribalized members of the population.

What is, by and large, the present position of the chiefs? The best reply is furnished by the preamble to the draft law on their status prepared by the Department for submission to the Chambers:

"The existence of customary or traditional chiefs formerly called native chiefs constitutes one of the original features of the African societies. These chiefs are primarily the representatives of a human group. Thus the sedentary communities are represented by chiefs of provinces, cantons, villages

and lands, and the nomadic communities by chiefs of tents, feriks or camps, and groups. This list is not exhaustive nor does it indicate a clearly fixed and unchangeable hierarchy, but allows for numerous local variations.

"The French Administration, faithful to its principle of respecting customs, had maintained this institution, recognizing that it had the force of positive African law but surrounding it with regulations which varied according to the territory, and which may have incurred the reproach of being too superficial or too complex.

"At the same time, the rapid evolution of French Black Africa in recent years has brought about such great changes in the political, economic and social life of the indigenous population that the question has arisen to what extent the rule of the customary chiefs could adapt itself to new modes of life of the population. Experience has shown that it remains an essential factor of African society. The French Republic therefore intends, as in the past, to maintain this institution, stressing, however, its evolutionary aspect.

"Indeed, as Governor-General EBOUE used to say, 'political custom should not be regarded as something fixed and immutable like a museum specimen. Obviously custom changes and will continue to change, and it is not for us to sterilize it by fixation'. That is why it seems necessary to mention, in a text of general scope, both the legal principles underlying the institution of customary chiefs and the methods by which local authorities can evolve rules consonant with the particular sentiment of the peoples of each Territory.

"In general these principles have been implicit in the steps taken previously, but their proclamation will ensure fundamental uniformity in the legislation and will satisfy the legitimate desire which the African representatives have expressed that one of their most important and authentic institutions should be made statutory".

This draft law, which has been prepared in close collaboration with the chiefs and the elected representatives of the populations, corresponds as closely as possible with present-day needs. It lays down the general principles which are valid for the whole of French Black Africa, and leaves it to the local

administrations to adapt the details of its application to the conditions of each particular Territory.

This draft was submitted for an opinion to the Representative Assembly of the Cameroons, which unanimously approved it, with five abstentions, on 10 February 1949.

Only a resolution of Parliament is therefore now required for its entry into force.

H. Maintenance of Law and Order:

Question 19: A series of measures to assist in maintaining public order (page 17 of the Report) were taken. Is it possible to give the reasons for the adoption of these new provisions? (China and Philippines).

Answer: These measures follow naturally from the application to the Territory of the French Penal Code. A series of provisions of metropolitan legislation had not been promulgated in the Cameroons but were embodied there in a set of special regulations corresponding to the former native code. Other provisions had not been promulgated because the state of development of the Territory would have made them either useless or inapplicable.

These included the laws providing for the closing of brothels, forbidding prostitution and vagrancy, regulating the carrying of arms, forbidding the practice of magic and witchcraft, etc. All these provisions mark the moral and social progress of the Territory.

Question 20: Does the police force recruited from nationals of the Territory affording unimpeachable guarantees as to their moral character (page 17) give satisfaction? Have there not been complaints regarding its behaviour? (China)

Answer: The present police force receives the same training as the French gendarmerie. It is a considerable improvement on the former native guard and is completely satisfactory.

It is quite true that several complaints have been made against acts of the police at Douala. It must, however, be remembered that the police have a

particularly difficult task in that town, which has a large floating population and attracts all the most disreputable persons - the parasites, pimps and other vagrants - in the Territory,

The police have, it is true, sometimes carried out their duties too rigidly. Nevertheless, although their zeal may have been excessive, the police there have not been guilty either of misconduct or of dishonesty. Moreover, all offences brought to notice have been punished.

III. ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

A. General:

Question 21: It is noted that the Administering Authority has instituted a substantial programme of economic development in the Territory. To what extent does the Administering Authority consider that the Territory, through its own human and natural resources, will be able to continue and to maintain the level of development thus attained? In this programme of economic development has the Administering Authority been able to take advantage of the expanding technical assistance programme of the United Nations or other training facilities available through international agencies? (United States of America)

Answer:

1. The Ten-year Development Plan makes allowance for the different factors in the general progress of the Territory. Its object is not a static or definitive outcome related to the present possibilities of the Cameroons. On the contrary, it aims at developing in the future all the latent potentialities of the Territory, in accordance with the principle that development leads on to development and that a still primitive economy should evolve in all kinds of directions. The plan builds, on the basis of a natural agricultural, pastoral and forest economy, the conditions under which that economy may be developed, improved and expanded, by creating the necessary sustructure and encouraging a new industry to arise naturally out of the needs of local production. At the same time, the people, who must work this economy, are improved physically by the development of hygiene and health

services, and in usefulness and skill by the development of education. A progressive increase in the population should normally be expected.

2. Up to the present France has not received from the United Nations any offer of technical assistance or of expended technical assistance for the Territory. However, the position taken by France in the Second Committee and the General Assembly clearly showed that any co-operation from the United Nations would be welcomed, subject only to the understanding that, to avoid waste of effort, any technical assistance from the United Nations should form part of the general inter-African scheme of technical co-operation. The Trust Territory would thus be most surely enabled to derive the greatest possible benefit.

3. The same would apply to any offer of co-operation by an international organization. The French Government has accepted the principle of UNESCO Fellowships.

Question 22: Does the Cameroons occupy a special place within the new economic organization of the French Union (page 25), from the economic point of view, in virtue of its status as a Trust Territory, or is no distinction made between it and the French colonies generally? (China and Philippines).

Answer: Where the Report mentions the "new economic organization of the French Union", it refers essentially to the Ten-year Plan, made for all French territories in black Africa. This, however, is fully adapted to the particular conditions in each of those territories. In regard to the Cameroons it necessarily allows for the particular factors which result from the Territory's special status, and especially for the principle of economic equality.

The chief benefit shared by the Cameroons with the other Territories relates to financial facilities: generous loans on very favourable terms, and large subsidies given for no return.-

B. Public Finance:

Question 23: In the 1947 Report it is stated that the latest figures available on actual receipts and expenditures are those of 1944, while in the 1948 Report the latest figures are those of 1945. Why should such a long period elapse before figures on actual receipts and expenditures are available? (Philippines).

Answer: It is a rule of French accounting that public accounts are not finally closed until three years have elapsed. For that reason the Territory can submit final accounts only for financial periods three years earlier than the budget under consideration.

If the Council should so wish, the Territory could endeavour to submit more recent accounts, but these would be approximate only.

C. Taxation:

Question 24: Direct taxes, which are imposed without distinction of race or nationality, include a personal tax the rate of which varies from one area to another and which is levied on male persons of sixteen years of age or over whose income is below the minimum at which assessment for scheduled taxes begins. The Administering Authority has regarded this tax as being of questionable financial justice, being fixed on the basis of the lowest incomes. With this admission on the financial injustice of the personal tax, kindly explain what efforts have been taken to remedy the situation. (Philippines).

Answer: Last year, in his reply to written questions, the Special Representative explained the difficulties which prevented the local government from abolishing the personal tax. Those difficulties are equally great to-day. Nevertheless, the Territory is endeavouring to encourage the extension of scheduled taxes. In particular, it has increased the staff of the direct taxation service by recruiting new metropolitan controllers.

D. Land:

Question 25: Who were the grantees of the 13 rural concessions for 1200 hectares referred to on page 54? What kind of rural concessions were they? (China).

Answer: Concessions granted in 1948 consist of:

9 agricultural concessions amounting to 1167 hectares.

3 dwelling concessions, amounting to 21 hectares.

1 cultural concession (to a mission), of 58 hectares.

Question 26: It is stated on page 54 of the Annual Report that the area of the land at present owned by indigenous inhabitants is in the region of 170 hectares in the case of urban land and 2,700 hectares in the case of rural land. Yet it is stated on page 66 of the 1947 Report that 4,500 hectares of rural land had been granted to individual indigenous inhabitants and 3,000 hectares to indigenous communities, making a total of 7,500 hectares.

What is the explanation of this difference between the 1948 figure of 2,700 and the 1947 figure of 7,500, particularly as an additional 799 hectares of rural land were recorded in 1948? Do the figures relate to non-comparable data? (China and Philippines).

Answer: The contradiction between the figures of the 1947 Report and those of the 1948 Report is more apparent than real.

Lands held by indigenous inhabitants under a regular title may be divided into two categories: (1) land belonging to individuals or communities who have established their proprietary rights by the procedure laid down in the decree of 21 July 1932, and (2) land conceded to indigenous inhabitants by the ordinary procedure of concession for agricultural or industrial use.

The figures given in the 1947 Report combined these two categories. The 1948 Report deals only with land over which indigenous inhabitants have established proprietary rights.

Question 27: Apart from the references in the Annual Report to land concessions, what are the attitude and policy of the Administering Authority as regards European colonization, whether for farming or other purposes? How many Europeans or non-indigenous settlers are there in the Territory? How many settled there in 1948? (China).

Answer: It was stated in the 1947 Report that the grant of rural concessions had been suspended for a long time in order to prevent the available labour force from being absorbed into plantation work. This policy of stabilization could not be maintained in view of the progress made in development and mechanization, which has set free a large part of the labour force fit for plantation work. Moreover, the institution of a processing industry, the increasing importance of indigenous co-operative enterprises, and the desire expressed by some indigenous inhabitants to establish banana or coffee plantations, have induced the Government to reconsider its policy and to grant fresh agricultural concessions. This policy has, however, been carried out discreetly, as the figures given above (in answer to question 25) show. In addition, the grant of concessions is scrutinized closely by the Representative Assembly, which has rejected a certain number of applications submitted to it. The local government respects absolutely the views of the Assembly and grants only such concessions as the latter approves.

Exact figures for the number of European colonists and planters established in the Territory and of those settling there in 1948 have been requested of the local government and will be sent in as soon as they arrive.

E. Mines:

Question 28: The Annual Report states on page 46 that all inhabitants of the Territory without distinction may acquire mining properties under the general provisions laid down in existing regulations. Are there any indigenous inhabitants who have actually acquired

mining property, who are engaged in prospecting and working minerals, or who own interests or shares in mining companies? (China, Philippines and the United States of America).

Answer: The mining industry in the Cameroons is relatively new. The first workings were opened only in 1933, and are confined almost entirely to rutile, cassiterite and gold. Total output is still very small, as is apparent from the figures given in the Report (page 43). None of these products has been traditionally mined by indigenous inhabitants, as was gold in Guinea (Siguiiri).

These early attempts at prospecting and working called, of course, for technical, scientific and financial resources which the indigenous inhabitants could not provide. The part which these take in present working is still very limited. A mining licence was, however, granted to an indigenous inhabitant in 1948, and about 130 inhabitants of the Cameroons hold quarrying licences.

Question 29: What is the extent of the participation of the "Bureau de Recherche et de Participation minière" in any profits made by the mining companies? (Belgium).

Answer: Both in prospecting and in working the policy of the Mines Bureau is to combine wherever possible with private capital. To this end, for prospecting it forms companies or, by a more flexible system, prospecting syndicates constituted as partnership associations. For working it takes partnership shares in existing or projected companies. It has, however, power to undertake directly any industrial or commercial operation necessary to work a deposit. It never insists on holding formal control, nor on managing an association which it is satisfied will be properly conducted.

The Bureau combines either with metropolitan or with local capital. It invites participation by local, especially private, capital, even on a modest scale, and all necessary provision will be made to give local capital priority of investment in working companies.

The Bureau has been set up only recently in the Cameroons and its local administration is still being organized.

This has completed the construction at Yaoundé of offices and laboratories for its research section, and is prospecting for tin and tungsten under a general licence in the north of the Territory.

No plan has yet been made to form a working company or to take shares in any existing company.

Question 30: What are the conditions governing the grant of mining concessions in reserved areas? (Belgium)

answer: The answer to this question is given on page 45 of the Report (at the foot of the first column). The special leasehold prospecting permit is issued by the High Commissioner on the recommendation of the Representative Assembly.

The special leasehold exploitation permit is issued on the basis of the special prospecting permit if the holder can prove the existence of a strike.

The general prospecting permit is issued by order on the High Commissioner's proposal on the recommendation of the local Representative Assembly and the Bureau of Mines of Overseas France.

Question 31: Note is made of the rapid expansion of mining activities in the Territory. It has increased for gold from 371 kilos in 1946 to 6,603 in 1948; for rutile, from 1,260 tons in 1946 to 14,146 tons in 1948; and for cassiterite, from 160 tons in 1946 to 3,690 tons in 1948. Kindly explain in detail what concrete steps have been taken to safeguard the interests of the native inhabitants and to ensure that their mineral wealth shall not be exploited without deriving their just share thereto. (Philippines).

answer: The figures quoted in this question are based on a misunderstanding. They relate, not to 1948 production, but to total mining production from 1933 to 1948. The production figures for 1948 are given on page 169 and are as follows:

Gold:	328 kg
rutile:	631 tons
cassiterite:	145 tons

These figures fall short of those for preceding years. This recession is attributable to the efforts made by the principal companies to introduce a rational and mechanized operational system in place of the primitive mining methods hitherto employed.

Question 32: Can approximate and overall figures be supplied for the various heads of revenue received by the Territory from mining activity (page 46) as compared with the total profits of mining companies? (China and Philippines).

Answer: It is somewhat difficult to give a specific reply to a question of this kind. While it is a simple matter, of course, to work out the revenue received by the Territory from mining royalties, it is much more difficult to ascertain, even approximately, the actual profits derived by the mining companies. As stated earlier, these companies are in process of modernising their equipment and are thus subject to heavy expenditure. The principal companies do not confine their activity to the Cameroons but operate mines in Ubangi, Gaboon, the Congo etc., often under a common technical administration. It is extremely difficult, in these circumstances, to determine what proportion of the profits accrues from operations in the Cameroons.

In view of the very minor part played by mining production in the Territory's overall economic activity (total exports in 1948: 9,116 million francs CFA - export of mined products: 42 million francs CFA), the Trusteeship Council will no doubt consider that questions on that point are not of key importance at the present time.

F. Agriculture

Question 33: How are the profits of the new pilot plants for palm oil production (page 48) to be distributed?

Could not the African producers be more closely associated with industrial processing by remunerating them in accordance with the amount obtained for the oil exported, e.g., on co-operative lines? (China).

Answer: The Special Representative is unable to give a specific reply to that question. Supplementary information is being requested from the Territory.

Question 34: (a) Is the factor still limiting the extension of banana-growing the present state of railway rolling stock (page 27)?

(b) In view of existing transport difficulties, what happens to the bananas produced by African planters? Are they able to export an adequate part of the crop, or is the crop primarily destined for local consumption?

(c) What are the prices obtained for bananas sold on the domestic market as compared with the export prices? (China)

Answer: (a) The banana being a fruit presenting difficult storage problems, it has to be picked and transported to the port of shipment at the exact time of arrival of the banana ships. This state of affairs will continue to exist at any rate until air-conditioned warehouses have been constructed at Bonabéri. Under these conditions, the transport of bananas requires a tremendous peak effort on the part of the railway at the time of shipment of the fruit.

The delivery of rolling stock ordered several years ago now makes it possible to step up transport capacity and hence to increase the amount of land under bananas.

(b) A Joint Banana Committee allocates export availabilities among African and European planters in accordance with the size of plantations. The present proportion is 32 for Africans as against 68 for Europeans, thus representing a very considerable increase in favour of the Africans, bearing in mind the fact that this export crop is quite a recent development among the natives.

The variety of bananas destined for local consumption is completely different from that destined for export. I do not have the exact figure for the production of the former type of banana, but it is certainly much higher than that for the export banana.

(c) The price of the fofou banana depends on market demand, and varies from one place to another. In any case, it is much lower, weight for weight, than that of the export banana.

Question 35. How does the system of prior authorization for planting new areas of coffee-shrubs work (page 30)? (China and Philippines).

Answer: Details of the regulations governing the system for coffee plantations have been requested from the Territory and will be transmitted to the Council.

They are based on the administration's objective of preventing industrial plantations from outstripping their owners' facilities for tending them. Were that to happen, the inevitable result would be a reduced yield and a lessened resistance to phyto-pathological agents. Moreover, it is essential to maintain a satisfactory balance, particularly in such densely populated areas as the Bamileké country, between export production and production for food supply purposes.

Question 36: Are African agriculturists interested in the possibilities of using animal power, and do they become owners of the teams placed at their disposal by the experimental stations (page 31)? (China)

Answer: Rapid progress cannot be expected when attempting to change the centuries-old ingrained habits of the farmer. This is as true for the Cameroons as for any other country. Moreover, the ancient prejudice dividing, and frequently pitting against each other, the cultivator of the soil and the stock-breeder exists in the Cameroons. The growers dislike breeding cattle, and the nomadic herdsmen care nothing for agriculture.

This explains why our effort to extend the use of teams for farming, however valuable the results might be, will require years of demonstration and propaganda before they affect extensive areas in the Territory.

Question 37: What results were achieved in the experimental transport of meat from the North to supply the South as planned for 1949 (page 40)? (China).

Answer: The experiments with a view to improving the meat transport are yielding highly encouraging results. The preliminary work carried out on a loan basis for preparing and equipping cattle tracks between Adamawa and the South Cameroons (drinking troughs, rest-pastures, sheds en route, anti-parasite baths etc.) have already produced valuable results: of the 45,000 head of cattle making the annual trek, losses fell from 15% in 1946 to 1% in 1949.

IV. SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT

A. Standard of Living

Question 38: In the examination of the 1947 Report, it was found that in the French Cameroons, as in African Trust Territories generally, wage rates rarely went beyond the minimum subsistence level. The Trusteeship Council therefore fittingly recommended the carrying out of a special study of the problem of wages and standards of living of the indigenous inhabitants, and urged that all possible measures be taken to raise the wage level and improve the standard of living of the people. Please give details of steps taken and the results obtained, (Philippines)

Answer: At the time of the examination of the 1947 Report, the Special Representative pointed out that wages were usually above, and often much above, the minimum subsistence level.

A study of the problem of standards of living was ordered by the Haut Commissaire in all regions and sub-divisions in 1949. The results are not yet known.

Question 39: Since the standard of living of the inhabitants is in some degree dependent upon imports of consumer goods, would the Administering Authority indicate what steps have been taken or what plans exist (a) to make such goods physically available and (b) to bring about conditions which will provide the inhabitants with the purchasing power to acquire such goods? To what extent has the cost of living for Africans, particularly in urban areas, risen? Has the purchasing power of African wages risen proportionately? (United States of America)

Answer: Consumer goods consist partly of manufactured goods imported into the Territory and partly of goods produced in the Territory itself.

In the case of the former, the post-war years and the general shrinkage of production resulted in a certain shortage, and items of prime necessity such as sugar, textiles, fuel, hardware etc. were difficult to obtain on the market. A black market in these scarce commodities developed spontaneously, and their prices rose to an extent which placed them practically beyond the reach of the average native. To-day, this situation has completely changed. Imports of consumer goods are back to normal, and ~~there is~~ an abundance on the market of all the necessary products.

In the case of locally produced goods, the problem is one of distribution rather than production. The growth of the urban population, especially at Douala and Yaoundé have rendered necessary an abundant supply of fresh food which had to be organized. The Administration tackled this problem by establishing special tariffs for the transport of fresh food, by organizing supply co-operatives with priority of way for food lorries, by purchasing a bawler to supply Douala with fish, and by setting up pilot-shops where the prices of goods are fixed in order to counteract the increased cost of living. As a result of these measures, the towns are abundantly supplied and prices remain reasonable.

The purchasing power of labourers is maintained through the medium of periodical meetings of the joint commissions of employers and workers which are responsible for determining the minimum subsistence level. Since these commissions meet every six months, wage rates closely follow the fluctuations in the cost of living.

Question 40: Are further details available with regard to the solution of the problems outlined on page 99 of the Report arising from the rapid increase in the urban population of Douala? Are details available, in addition to the information given on page 123 et seq., in respect of the housing conditions at Douala and Yaoundé for Africans who have recently come there to work? (China and Philippines)

Answer: The Report refers (on pages 123 - 126) to the housing difficulties in the urban centres, especially at Douala and Yaoundé. These difficulties exist both for the African population and for the whites. However, the problem is less pressing in the case of the natives, who are able to build houses on the outer fringe of the towns outside the urban perimeter. The light-weight, cheap huts constructed on the traditional model provide a temporary remedy for the housing shortage.

The Administration, for its part, is engaged in improving indigenous housing conditions. A credit of 868 millions has been earmarked under the Ten-Year Plan for large scale town-planning works, the laying out parks, water supplies, electric lighting and the construction of standard huts and model villages.

The work is already well advanced in the towns of Yaoundé, Douala and N'Kongsamba, A further sum of 567 millions is earmarked for the construction of dwellings for African officials. Finally, the Crédit Camerounais offers credit facilities on extremely favourable terms to Africans wishing to build permanent houses.

Question 41: As regards supplies of drinking water, it was stated on page 111 of the 1947 Report that the system of drinking fountains provides sufficient water for only one-fifth of the indigenous population. It is stated on page 126 of the 1948 Report that the work of improving the water supply at Douala will take a long time. What is the present situation in this respect? Is there a shortage of water and is the water used safe from the health point of view? (China and Philippines)

Answer: When the present water supply system was installed, the town contained only 20,000 or so inhabitants, and there was nothing to indicate its future headlong development. In the course of a few years, the population at Douala has passed the 100,000 mark and is still rising.

A plan for the complete reconstruction of the water supply system was drawn up in 1946 and is now being carried out. The plan provides for new reservoirs and reconstruction works which will ensure an abundant supply of water for the entire population. The water now supplied is treated at the waterworks, where it is chlorinated, disinfected and made absolutely safe. A new waterworks, larger than the present one, is included in the Douala town planning scheme and is also under construction.

B. Freedom of the Press

Question 42: How many newspapers, magazines or bulletins are published in the Territory? Is there any requirement for the posting of a bond to settle possible libel claims before a newspaper may be published? What are the prerequisites before a proprietor may publish his newspaper? (Philippines)

Answer: The list of newspapers and periodicals published in the Territory is given on page 92 of the 1947 Report and is supplemented by the particulars given on page 93 of the 1948 Report. A further addition is the "Bulletin de l'Enseignement du Cameroun", a quarterly review which has just begun publication.

The press regulations are exactly the same as those in the Metropolitan country, the press laws of which are promulgated in the Territory. These laws make no provision for the posting of a compulsory bond. All that is necessary before a periodical can be published is a declaration of the names of the director, the responsible manager, the administrators and the printer.

C. Labour

Question 43: What laws or regulations now govern labour in the Territory?

There seems to be an alarming increase of labour accidents in the Territory, in that in 1946 there were only 200 labour accidents recorded out of 120,478 workers, resulting in 18 deaths; whereas in 1948 there were 775 labour accidents out of 124,000 workers, resulting in 58 deaths and 320 permanently incapacitated for more than 10%. What has been done to remedy this situation?
(Philippines)

Answer: The increase in labour accidents is largely due to the introduction of new machinery and the general growth of industrialization. The technical backwardness of operatives and labourers, combined with the natural carelessness of the African, result in accidents which could easily be avoided. (A typical example is afforded by the case of workers taken by lorry to their place of work and who, despite repeated bans, continue to sit on the edges of the lorry. At the first bend, they are thrown out on to the road by centrifugal force. This type of accident is extremely frequent).

Labour legislation had hitherto made no provision for the special protection of the worker against the dangers of machinery. The Government proposed a provisional text in 1949 to fill this gap, but the Representative Assembly refused to approve it on the ground that it was preferable to await the impending publication of the Labour Code for Overseas France before proceeding to regulate the question on an overall and final basis.

Question 44: What stage has been reached with regard to the Labour Code now being drafted (page 100)? Were the trade unions or other groups of indigenous workers consulted during the preparation of this Code and, if so, what were their reactions and their claims?
(China and Philippines)

Answer: The Labour Code for Overseas France is at present on the agenda of the National Assembly. It has been approved by the Assembly of the French Union, which discussed it at length and remodelled it.

The local trade unions were not consulted when it was drawn up, but these unions are strongly represented in the metropolitan Assemblies, and their views are vigorously defended. I have no knowledge of the local unions ever having raised objection to the draft labour code. On the contrary, many of their claims are based on its provisions.

Question 45: What mode of settlement is employed for the disputes mentioned on page 104, arising when, subsequent to completion of six months' service, daily workers and workers on a monthly basis fail to observe the 8 days' and one month's notice period respectively? Is penal action taken, and if so, what? How many cases of this kind have come before the Labour Inspectorate? (China)

Answer: The Territorial Administration has been asked for supplementary information on this point, which will be submitted to the Council as soon as received.

Question 46 (a) Does the African workers' reluctance to sign contracts (page 101) make for an unstable labour force which hampers the development of new industries or works carried out in the Territory?

(b) Is the situation the same in the case of workers recruited at a distance (page 101) or is it easier to keep them longer on the same job? Is their recruitment also carried out without the signing of contracts? Where a contract exists, what is its normal duration and what proportion of workers break their contract before it duly expires?

(c) Is there any considerable variation in stability as between workers earning low and those earning high wages and as between workers enjoying better housing conditions, food, medical treatment etc. and those whose conditions are less good? (China)

Answer: (a) It is quite true that the reluctance of the Africans to enter into long-term contracts results in a troublesome instability of labour and forces employers to adapt their operations to an unstable and fluctuating labour force. A long and patient education of the workers, with the collaboration of employers, the administration and labour unions, will be needed to alter this state of affairs.

(b) Even in the case of workers recruited at a distance, contracts are by no means universal. All the same, this type of labour is more stable. The terms of employment stipulate that the employer shall return the labourer to his home on the expiration of his engagement. Contracts are usually for six months or a year, in exceptional cases for two years. In general, there are few cases of workers breaking their contract, as they thereby lose the benefits that would otherwise accrue to them.

(c) The wages paid, good housing conditions, etc, unquestionably play a part in labour stability, but it is not always easy to determine the conditions most suited to the African labourer. His needs and preferences vary from one tribe, and from one district to another, and arrangements which give every satisfaction to unskilled labourers in Bétaré might cause those of Batousi to decamp. The management of African labour is still a difficult and delicate operation, and it is not possible to lay down any general rules.

Question 47: . What was the precise nature of the system of forced labour which was abolished by decree of 7 January 1944 and of which the indigenous proletariat still has a vivid recollection (page 101)? (China).

Answer: The expression "forced labour" is hardly applicable to the system in force prior to the decree of 7 January 1944. Strictly speaking, forced labour was abolished at the same time as levies in kind, that is to say, the tax paid in the form of labour for the upkeep of the roads, which was replaced by a local road tax in 1932.

The system then in force was that of "directed" recruitment. The employer made known his labour requirements to the Government, who informed him that the only labour available was in such and such a district and authorized him to recruit a given number of workers then. The employer then made his own arrangement to recruit the necessary labour, usually by invoking the good offices of the indigenous chiefs. There was no physical constraint in the proper sense of the word, but only authority to recruit.

On the other hand, as regards public works (repair of roads, bridges, etc.), the Administration had the means of bringing pressure to bear (disciplinary

sanctions for resistance to authority) for recruiting the necessary labour force, where sufficient volunteers were not forthcoming (such labour was, of course, paid for).

Since the decree of 1944, the labour market is entirely free and, even in the case of public works, all labour is on a voluntary basis.

Question 48: It is stated on page 102 that owing to the rapid and considerable growth in the number of industrial undertakings, the latter have been unable to find the necessary skilled and specialized workers. It is also stated later that the recent establishment of powerful companies has resulted in a tremendous influx of metropolitan workers. Does this imply serious shortcomings in technical and vocational education? What is the reason for the apparent reduction in the number of pupils receiving technical education (1947 Report, page 191: 180 in Government schools and 160 in private schools, total 280: 1948 Report, page 222: 138 and 108 respectively, total 246). (China).

Answer: The present facilities of the Territory for technical instruction are not, as a matter of fact, sufficient to cope with the demand created by its more rapid development and industrialization. For this reason, the Territorial Administration is doing everything possible, by means of the 10-year plan in particular, to provide for the rapid expansion of this type of education. Vocational training schools are in process of construction at Maroua and Nkongsamba and will, it is hoped, be opened this year. The construction of the technical colleges at Yaoundé and Ngaoundéré will be put in hand in the immediate future. Furthermore, eight centres for short-course vocational training, attached to urban schools, will be opened in 1950.

The slight decrease in the number of students at the vocational school at Douala is due to its re-organization. It has now been placed on a par with the national vocational schools and will in future be in a position to prepare students for the technical baccalauréat and will specialize in the more advanced forms of instruction.

D. Public Health

Question 49: In view of the admitted inadequacy of the medical services in the Territory, the Trusteeship Council after the examination of the 1947 Report, made the following conclusion and recommendation: "The Council notes the Administering Authority's recognition of the fact that the number of doctors and nurses

in the Territory are inadequate, and welcomes the Administering Authority's statement that it is determined to find a way of increasing their number....". Please state whether there has been any increase in the number of doctors and nurses in the Territory, giving the comparative figures for the years 1947 and 1948. (Philippines).

Answer: The figures for medical personnel are given on pages 104 and 115 of the 1947 and 1948 Reports respectively. We reproduce them in the following table :

Categories	1947	1948
<u>I. European Government Personnel</u>		
Doctors	38	34
Pharmacists	4	4
Dental Surgeons	2	2
Public Health Assistants	15	21
Midwives	7	9
Nurses	7	11
Male Nurses	11	10
Administrative officials	1	3
Dental mechanics	1	3
Voluntary helpers	0	6
<u>II. African staff:</u>		
African doctors	52	53
Pharmacists	1	1
Public health assistants	7	6
Midwives	1	3
Nurses and male nurses	810	803
Sanitary inspectors	62	56
Midwives (uncertificated)	-	117
Miscellaneous personnel	-	64
<u>III. Staff of private institutions (missions in particular):</u>		
Doctors	15	18
Pharmacists	4	8
Dental surgeons	-	1
Midwives	3	15
Nurses	-	12

A comparison of the total medical personnel in these three categories with that of the population as a whole, shows that, whilst the medical facilities in the Territory are not yet sufficient to meet all needs, it cannot be said that there is any serious deficiency.

V. EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT.

A. General

Question 50: Due to difficulties in language, it is not possible perhaps to do justice to all the detailed facts and figures contained in the Report. For this reason, for the sake of clarity, will the Special Representative be kind enough to give the facts and figures called for in the following questions:

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(1) What was the total budget (governmental expenditures) for the Territory for the year 1948 and how much of it was spent for educational purposes, public and private?

(2) Of the amount allotted for education, how much was spent for government schools and how much for private schools? How do these figures compare with those of the year 1947?

(3) What was the total number of schools of all categories, public or private, in the Territory for the year 1948, and how many of them were public and how many were private? Compare the figures with those of 1947.

(4) Please give the total enrollment in all public and private schools for 1948 as compared to that of 1947, giving the respective enrollment in public and private schools.

(5) Special scholarships were granted for the first time in 1948, to enable 75 Civil Servants and technicians to undergo a further period of training in France. Under what conditions were these scholarships granted, and how many were given to indigenous inhabitants of the Territory?

(6) Please state the total number of students from the Trust Territory studying abroad on government scholarships in 1948. Give the corresponding figure for 1947. (Philippines).

answer: (1) Total budget: 1,052 million francs.

Expenditure on education: 129,786,000 francs, or over 12% of the budget.

(2) The amounts of the subsidies to private educational establishments in 1947 and 1948 appear in the 1948 report, page 223, where they are given as:

1948: 18,503,205 francs

1947: 7,445,000 francs.

(3) This information appears in the 1948 report, page 131 (answer to Question 229) and page 132 - and in the 1947 report, page 190, Tables II and III.

(4) These figures, too, are given in the respective reports - 1948 report pages 132, 133 and 1947 report, page 191, Table IV.

(5) The so-called advanced training scholarships are granted only to Africans. Candidates are put forward by their heads of service, who send the records of the persons concerned to the scholarship board. The nominations of the scholarship board are discussed in the Representative Assembly, after which the High Commissioner signs the order of award.

(6) 1947: 96 scholars

1948: 119 training scholars

75 advanced training scholars

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194
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(see 1948 report, page 232).

B. Primary Education

Question 51: 19,067 children attend public primary schools, and a further 98,229 children are enrolled in private, including one-class bush, schools. Altogether, therefore, 117,296 children receive some primary education (page 132 of 1948 Report).

The school-age population between 7 and 13 years is estimated at 250,000 (see page 191 of the Report for 1947).

School attendance varies considerably as between the north and the south (page 132 of 1948 Report).

It would be interesting to know:

(a) what is approximately the total school-age population, and the number of children attending school, in the north and the south respectively?

(b) of the total of 117,296 children attending primary schools, how many go to one-class bush schools for one year only?

(c) what is the permanent value of one year's instruction?

(d) how long is it likely to be before the Territory can provide at least three to four years' primary education, in either public or private schools, for all children of school age? (China & Philippines).

Answer: (a) The Special Representative is not in possession of the respective figures for school attendance in the north and the south of the Territory. To establish such a distinction, statistics of the number of schools and pupils according to region would be required. Such documentation, which would take some time to prepare, could be supplied by way of additional information.

(b) Same remark as above. In the case of public education, the table on page 189 of the 1947 report gives a useful indication. Out of 18,600 pupils, 9,699 are in the preparatory stage (two years), 5,747 in the elementary stage (two years), 3,136 in the intermediate stage (two years). It must nevertheless be borne in mind that school attendance is on the increase, the effect of which is to swell the numbers in the lower classes. It may be

taken that about 50% of pupils complete the whole course of primary studies.

(c) The permanent value of one year's instruction clearly amounts to very little.

(d) It is difficult to say how soon education can be provided for all children of school age. In 1948 the local administration calculated that that objective could be reached in fifteen years.

3. Secondary Education

Question 52: According to page 133 of the Annual Report, out of an estimated population of 175,000 between the ages of 13 and 17, 1,568 pupils of which 177 are Europeans and 1,391 Africans, are attending secondary schools.

Allowing for the numerous and obvious difficulties, how long is it likely to be before facilities are available for 10% of the children between 13 and 17 years of age to receive at least two or three years secondary education in either public or private schools? (China)

Answer: Here again, it is difficult to state precisely whether 17,000 children will receive secondary education or even whether such a proportion is desirable in the light of the Territory's general development.

When in full operation, the secondary education programme provided for in the Ten-year Plan should provide secondary education for 5-6,000 pupils. Should such facilities be found in practice to be inadequate, it will be possible to increase the number of secondary schools.

Question 53: The increase in the number of primary schools in the Territory is gratifying and it is noted that at the present time, at the examinations for admission to government secondary schools, there are two to three times as many candidates as openings. Could the Administering Authority give the Council an indication as to when there will be enough secondary institutions in the Territory to absorb all qualified candidates? (United States of America).

Answer: The number of candidates mainly reflects the enthusiasm of the Cameroonians for high school and their desire to have a higher education. In the interests of sound selection, however, it is necessary and not unusual for the number of candidates to be higher than the number of vacancies.

See also answer to the previous question.

Question 54: In answering Question 231, the Administering Authority noted that with the exception of one assistant teacher and three shop assistants in the Douala vocational school, all the teaching personnel of the government secondary schools are European. Would the Administering Authority indicate what efforts are being made to train Cameroonian personnel to fill secondary school positions? (United States of America).

Answer. The 119 training scholars at present in France include a certain number training to be teachers. It is desirable that there should be an increase in this number in future years, and it will be for the local administration to advertise the value and attractiveness of the profession, since educated Cameroonians show little spontaneous enthusiasm for teaching.

D. Technical Education

Question 55: Having regard for the economic development of the Territory, are not the existing facilities for technical training clearly inadequate? (China)

Answer: See answer to question No. 48.

E. 10-Year Programme

Question 56: Assuming that the 10-year plan referred to on page 142 is carried through, what roughly does the Administration consider the position will be as regards education in 10 years' time, expressed in terms of school attendance etc? (China).

Answer: See answers to question 51 (d) and 52.