



Tenth Session

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THREE HUNDRED AND NINETY-THIRD MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 7 March 1952, at 2.30 p.m.

President:

Sir Alan BURNS

(United Kingdom)

Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.393 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

EXAMINATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF ADMINISTERING AUTHORITIES ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF TRUST TERRITORIES - WESTERN SAMOA, PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1950 (T/941, T/942, T/942/Add.1, T/962; T/L.231) [3(c)]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. J. B. Wright, special representative for Western Samoa under New Zealand administration, took a place at the Trusteeship Council table.

SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT (continued)

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The next question relates to information on page 75 of the Report, information concerning the increase of mortality in the Trust Territory. What accounts for the increase in the mortality rate of the Territory, which is evident from the figures on page 75?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): Could the representative of the Soviet Union refer to the specific cases where there is an increase in the mortality rate?

(interpretation from Russian)
Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): I am referring to table (d) on page 75 of the Report. If you will look at the rubric totals, you will notice that there is an increase in mortality in the Trust Territory. What accounts for this increase in the mortality rate in the Trust Territory?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I see now that the representative of the Soviet Union is referring to the actual number of deaths, which were 736 for the period under review. This is indeed a slight increase, but I have with me the figures for the year 1951. The total number of deaths for that year was 491, so that it will be seen that for the following year there was a record low figure. I therefore think that if the deaths are worked out on an average over a number of years there is nothing significant in the higher figure for 1950. It just happens to be one of those things that go to make up an average over a number of years.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The fact of the matter is that in 1947 there were 613 deaths; in 1948 there 645; in 1949 there were 694; and in 1950 there were 736. The four years in sequence indicate that the number of deaths in the Territory is rising at a rather regular pace. Is there some reason for that?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I could also say that there are more births in the Territory and a greater population; more births naturally mean that there are a greater number of deaths, but I would point out that the figure for 1951 is 491, which is a substantial drop.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Of course, I cannot consider that the answer given to this question is in any way satisfactory or that it fully meets the point.

Before proceeding to the next question, I wonder whether the information promised by the special representative on some questions that I asked at a previous meeting is now available.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I can reply to the question asked by the representative of the Soviet Union yesterday on the subject of the profits of the New Zealand Reparation Estates. First of all, the period covered by the report under examination is from 1 April to 31 December 1950. I should explain that the New Zealand Reparation Estates, being a New Zealand Government organization, has not followed the Samoan Government in adopting the calendar year as its financial year, and the figures which I shall give you will therefore be in respect of financial years ending on 31 March. The last published audited accounts of the New Zealand Reparation Estates are in respect of the financial year ended 31 March 1950. The profit and loss account for that year showed a net profit of 84,870 pounds, which was transferred to the Profit and Loss Appropriation Account. In the balance sheet for the same year the Appropriation Account was shown at a gross figure of 467,903 pounds, less grants to the Samoan Government of 353,453 pounds, leaving a net total in the Appropriations Account, as of 31 March 1950, of 114,450 pounds. In the text of the report of the Island Territories for the year ended 31 March 1951, in which are included the above audited figures, there is also a statement that

for the financial year ended 31 March 1951, preliminary unaudited figures showed a profit of 64,200 pounds.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Yesterday, I did not receive an answer to a question about the price of one ton of copra. I wanted to know how much a producer actually gets paid for a ton of copra, how much the United Kingdom Government pays for a ton of copra and what were the copra prices prevailing in the world market. Those figures were not communicated in absolute figures, and I wonder whether the special representative is in a position to supply the absolute figures today.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I am not yet in a position to supply the information asked by the representative of the Soviet Union.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): On page 75 of the Report there are some mortality figures including figures on child mortality among Samoans. Could the special representative tell me what are the relevant figures for Europeans in the Trust Territory?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I have no information on that subject. I have no doubt that it could be obtained in the Trust Territory, but I do not have the information with me.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): It would be most desirable to have such information placed at the Council's disposal. As regards the information contained in page 43 of the Report of the Administering Authority which indicates that the number of graduates of nursing courses is decreasing -- this was in connexion with the answer given to the question put by the representative of Thailand earlier -- I should like to have some additional information on that topic. What accounts for the reduction in the number of students who graduate or complete courses for medical nurses? What accounts for it, in addition to the general reasons which were cited by the special representative when he answered a question on the same subject put by the representative of Thailand?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I do not think it is entirely correct to say that there is any great decrease in the number of nurses who are graduating each year. The figures show for 1946, thirteen; then for three years, ten; and then for 1950, nine. This is only one below the figures for the three previous years. I did explain yesterday that, now that the nurses' quarters have been completed which are better than the old quarters -- they now have a large two-story modern building with all facilities such as a sitting room, a dining room, bedrooms -- I am quite sure that there will be no tendency for the number of nurses graduating each year to diminish. Up to now it will be noticed that the biggest wastage has been in the case of those who have not completed their training. A big number is taken in each year, but most of them do not go the distance. This is due to a number of

reasons. The better quarters now provided for the nurses will have the effect of stopping that wastage. But nevertheless there are many other reasons why the young nurses do not always go the distance, some of which will be known to representatives in this Council. I did mention, too, yesterday that the total number of nurses with over two years' experience after graduation has risen, and in the latest figures there are thirty-four graduates with over two years' experience after graduation as compared with twenty-six, twenty-seven, twenty-five, twenty-three and fourteen in the previous years.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): On page 44 of the Report it is indicated that the sections in the Trust Territory which have no easy access to the central hospital in Apia will ultimately get a regional hospital and a dispensary. But what exactly are the plans of the Administering Authority on that matter and what are the time limits which are envisaged for the implementation of these plans?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): District hospitals have now been completed at Fagaloa in the north of Savai'i and at Tuasivi in the east of Savai'i. In addition, a similar district hospital has just been completed and opened at Poutasi on the south coast of Upolu. This hospital was opened by the Minister during his recent visit, and that brings the number of ^{main} district hospitals to three. By a main district hospital we mean a hospital with two wards ^{of} twelve beds each -- as indicated in the Report -- one large consultation, out-patients', and laboratory block, one sanitary block and staff quarters. We now have three hospitals of that type. They are all new and only recently opened.

Future plans are to concentrate on dispensary hospitals rather than main district hospitals for the reason that, with our improved roads, we find that it is simpler to bring serious cases to the main central hospital in Apia where they can get specialist treatment. There are dispensary hospitals at Mulifanua, Iaulumoea, Aleipata, Fagaloa, Lufilufi, Safotu, Salailua and Satupaitea. These are hospitals consisting of one ward of twelve beds, a small consultation and out-patients' building, a sanitary block and staff quarters. As I said, our aim is to replace those small

dispensary hospitals with more up-to-date buildings and not to concentrate too much on the larger type of district hospitals in the future.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I take it that in those new district hospitals there will be a grand total of seventy-two beds in the three of them. Is that correct?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): Three multiplied by twenty-four.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Report on page 45 indicates that not all villages of Western Samoa are visited by those ambulatory clinics because of the lack of roads. How many such villages are not visited by mobile clinics?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I am unable to answer that question accurately. The mobile clinics operate where there are long stretches of road. For example, there are two in Upolu which operate along the north coast and along the south coast in those parts where there are roads. This in the case of Upolu would mean that at least two-thirds of the island is covered by the mobile clinics. In the island of Savai'i there is a mobile clinic stationed at Tuasivi which covers the country for about a distance of twenty miles. There are no further mobile clinics in Fagamalo as yet for the reason that there are not as yet sufficient roads to warrant having them stationed there. But the system of small district dispensary hospitals covers all those parts of Savai'i and of Upolu which are not visited by mobile clinics.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): My next question relates to educational matters in the Trust Territory. On page 58 of the Report it is indicated that young Samoans learn to read and write their native language in religious schools and that there is just about no illiteracy. What is the length of instruction given in these religious schools? What sort of instruction is given there? Who gives the instruction? What is the curriculum in those schools?

I would appreciate indeed having as detailed an answer to this question as possible.

The PRESIDENT: The representative of the Soviet Union is now proceeding to : educational questions. He has finished his social questions. Does any other representative wish to ask any other questions on social advancement?

Mr. S.S. LIU (China): When the second Visiting Mission made its visit to Western Samoa in 1950, a petition was submitted by the Chinese Association in Samoa to the Visiting Mission seeking assistance for the Chinese residents in gaining the approval of the local government in the following matters:

- (a) that freedom to establish private business in Samoa be granted;
- (b) that marriages of Chinese to Samoans be legally recognized;
- (c) that the Chinese who left Samoa in September 1948, be permitted to return to Samoa if they wished to do so;
- (d) that certificates be granted for the establishment of educational institutions where children of Chinese parents can learn the Chinese language and culture;
- (e) that permission be given to the Chinese Association to register officially with the Government.

I am referring to the Report of the Trusteeship Council covering its Eighth and Ninth Sessions, to refresh the memory of the Council. The Report goes on to say:

"The Administering Authority informed the Mission that the Chinese who had remained in Samoa had acquired full European status, and that consequently most of the restrictions mentioned in their petition no longer applied. The Mission noted that Chinese residents were eligible for business licences; that they might marry Samoans; that the Samoans, although opposed to further immigration from any quarter, might be persuaded to agree to the return of a few Chinese; that no legal impediments to the establishment of Chinese schools existed; and that, although no provision existed for the registration of associations such as the Chinese Association, they were nevertheless free to function.

"The Administering Authority subsequently confirmed these statements and stated that there was no racial discrimination against the Chinese in the Territory. In connexion with the request for schools, it stated that there were approximately 150 to 200 children of school age who were at least half-Chinese.

"In a resolution on the petition, the Council drew the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Visiting Mission and of the Administering Authority, noting that these observations appeared to answer the points raised in the petition. It invited the Administering Authority to ensure that all applications for the return to Samoa of Chinese former residents should be brought expeditiously before the Council of State; and it requested that additional information should be given in future annual reports on the number, status and conditions of children of Chinese parentage, as well as on Chinese immigration and the position of Chinese inhabitants."

I should like to know from the special representative what steps the Administering Authority has taken to implement this resolution of the Trusteeship Council in regard to the applications for the return to Samoa of Chinese residents and in regard to "information on the number, status and conditions of children of Chinese parentage in Western Samoa, as well as on Chinese immigration and the position of Chinese inhabitants of the Territory".

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): The Administering Authority has taken no further steps to permit the return to Western Samoa of those Chinese who went back to China after the period of indenture in Western Samoa. I feel that it is very doubtful whether that permission will be given.

As to the other subjects mentioned by the representative of China: It is very difficult to include statistics regarding Chinese children for the reason that the Chinese children are in no way segregated, as it were. They are regarded as members of the community, and they go to the European schools. Therefore, no separate statistics in respect of them are available.

On the subject of the right of the Chinese to form themselves into societies and to obtain registration: There is, of course, as has previously been pointed out in this Council, no ban on their forming societies. The reason that they have not been able to register the societies is that there has been no law in the Territory covering registration of any type of society. However, as I have already explained to the Council, an ordinance on that subject is in the course of preparation, and it will probably be put through this year.

Does that cover all the points asked by the representative of China?

Mr. S. S. LIU (China): Yes, it does. However, with regard to the return of the Chinese residents to Samoa, I would call the attention of the special representative to the observation made by the Administering Authority to the Visiting Mission, later confirmed in the Council, that "the Samoans, although opposed to further immigration from any quarter, might be persuaded to agree to the return of a few Chinese." From what the special representative told us just a moment ago, it would appear that the prospects for the return of these Chinese are not so very bright, and that is contrary at least to the observation made by the Administering Authority on two occasions.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): My reason for saying that the prospects for the return of these few Chinese are not bright was that I wished to give the representative of China the true facts, and not to build up false hopes. This matter has been discussed with the representatives of the Samoan people. They are definitely opposed to the return of these few Chinese, and I doubt very much whether anything that the High Commissioner could do would make them change their mind on this subject. I do not think it is a matter in which the Administering Authority will see fit to go against the wishes of the representatives of the Samoan people.

In any case, there appears to be a very practical point involved: I do not quite see at the moment how, under the present regime in China, these Chinese would be able to get back to Samoa.

Mr. S. S. LIU (China): On page 41 of the Report, in the first paragraph under the heading "Labour Conditions and Regulations", the following is stated:

"It is considered that the proportion of the population depending on wages is so small that the maintenance of a special administration and the enactment of precise labour legislation is unnecessary."

At the bottom of that same page, we read:

"In Apia, the major commercial centre of the Territory, there is some indication that this traditional way of life is being departed from to some extent, and some Samoan families whose lands are at a distance from the town are becoming increasingly dependent upon wage-earning."

While I realize that that statement is particularly applicable to Apia, is it not somewhat inconsistent with the statement appearing at the opening of the section, which I read just a moment ago?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I would say that the statement at the bottom of page 41 refers to a tendency rather than to an actual established position. It says: "There is some indication that this traditional way of life is being departed from to some extent." That does not appear to me to be a contradiction of the statement in the first paragraph of that section. In future years, the position may well change, but I think it is still fairly correct to say that "the proportion of the population depending on wages is so

small that the maintenance of a special administration and the enactment of precise labour legislation is unnecessary."

I would point out that, so far as the Chinese residents of the Territory are concerned, they still have the services of the Commissioner of Labour at their disposal. Despite the fact that they are now free citizens and that there are no restrictions on their movements, the Commissioner of Labour still takes a friendly interest in their well-being, especially as many of them are now getting old, and they still come to him with their troubles. That applies, of course, to any labour situation in Samoa. There is a Commissioner of Labour, and he is available for any work which may be required in this connexion.

Mr. S. S. LIU (China): On page 49 of the Report, a table is given showing the "importation of liquor for medicinal purposes" during the period under review. The quantity of whisky imported was 2,058 gallons, and the quantity issued under permits was 2,024 gallons; the quantity of brandy imported was 880 gallons, and the quantity issued under permits was 544 gallons; the quantity of gin imported was 1,150 gallons; the quantity of beer and stout imported was 29,244 gallons. These figures seem to indicate a very considerable amount of liquor imported "for medicinal purposes". I should like to have an explanation.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I suppose it all depends on what one terms "medicine". This subject has been discussed in the Council before, and I think that on an ^{earlier} occasion the representative of New Zealand was perfectly frank about the matter. It is a fact that, if the narrowest sense of the word "medicine" were used, the importations might not be so great. Under the old mandate system, there was complete prohibition. I think it is correct to say that under the Trusteeship Agreement there is no complete prohibition, but only control in the interests of the indigenous inhabitants -- or words to that effect. These figures denote control in the interests of the indigenous inhabitants. When looked at in relation to the total population, they are not very large figures.

The question of our liquor laws is at present under discussion, and it was one of the subjects brought up during the recent visit of the Minister of

Island Territories of New Zealand. We do hope that in the future we will be able to straighten out our laws so that they are a little more in accordance with facts.

Mr. S. S. LIU (China): On page 50 of the Report, in the section headed "Social Security and Welfare", the term "Samoa aiga system" is used. What does that mean?

The PRESIDENT: The explanation is given in the glossary on page 77.

Mr. S. S. LIU (China): I am sorry; I had not realized that.

That is all I have to ask. I thank the special representative for his replies.

The PRESIDENT: Are there any other questions on social advancement? If not, we shall turn to the field of educational advancement. A question on educational advancement was asked by the representative of the Soviet Union. Can the special representative answer it now or would he like to have it repeated?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I can answer it if the representative of the Soviet Union will give me the page reference again.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): It is on page 58.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I think the question asked for information on what are known as the pastors' schools or the catechist schools. These are small schools in the villages which are controlled and run by the various religious denominations.

They are in charge of the Samoan pastor schools. They have no European staff whatsoever. They give elementary education in such things as arithmetic, reading, writing and other such simple subjects.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): For how many years do the pupils have to go to these pastor schools?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I do not think there is any set number of years which they are required to attend the pastor schools. They would go there until they had sufficient knowledge to be able to read, write and to do elementary arithmetic. That would be all. At the most, I should say that they do not go beyond standard II.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): Could the special representative tell me when the school year begins and ends in these pastor schools? How does the school day shape up? What time does it begin? How many hours of instruction are there per day? How many students are there per class?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): The normal school year in Samoa is from February until the beginning of December, with two periods of term holidays of about two weeks. The normal school hours in Samoa are from eight in the morning until one in the afternoon, a total of five hours. The average class in Samoa is about forty pupils.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): I am speaking here always of the pastor schools. Is it correct to say that, in a pastor school, where education covers two normal years, there would be eighty pupils per school as a minimum? Since there would be forty in one class and forty in the second, would that be a correct computation?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): As far as I know, the pastor schools follow much the same system as the Government schools in the case of numbers in classes and school hours, but I have no accurate information on that point. It is possible that, in a number of villages where there are Government schools, the hours are staggered so that some pupils attend both types of schools

But the information I am giving, I admit, is based on the Government schools; as far as I know that is the basis of all schools in Samoa.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): In this connexion, I should like to find out the age of the pupils who attend the pastor schools.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): The pupils in the pastor schools would be mostly young children. I think one would find that in the pastor schools the average age is younger than in the Government schools for the reason that the Government schools have a little higher standard and older pupils are only too glad to go^{to} the Government schools. When they get to a certain age they probably think they have got beyond the scope of the pastor schools.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): What percentage of the graduates of pastor schools go on to further education? What is the next school to which they can gain admittance after completing the pastor school course?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): Some of the pupils from pastor schools go to Government schools. Then, the missions themselves have higher institutes of learning in Apia; some go to those schools. But, of course, there are large numbers who unfortunately do not go to any other schools.

As I pointed out in my opening remarks, this problem of education is one which worries us; there are a lot of children in Samoa who get no education other than what they receive in the pastor schools. But every child in Samoa can get an education which enables him to read and write and which gives him a knowledge of elementary numbers.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): My next question relates to the pay-scales of teachers at the Government schools. At the eighth session of the Trusteeship Council the special representative of the Administering Authority did not have at his disposal accurate data about the salaries of teachers in Government schools. He promised to bring in these data at a later time. An exchange of views on this question may be found in document T/PV.323 on pages 82, 83, 84, 86 and others. Could the special representative tell me whether this information is available at the present

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Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I can give the representative of the Soviet Union information about the teachers salary scales. In common with other salaries in the Territory, they have been adjusted and improved. The salaries now range from £50 for a first year trainee in the training college to a maximum of £525 a year for a school inspector. In the adjustment of salary scales, the Public Service Commissioner made substantial increases with the object of making the village schoolteacher more independent and not so dependent on the village for his upkeep and maintenance.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): Could the special representative tell me what would be the salary of a teacher in a village Government primary school, of which there are 105? These schools have 340 teachers. That is the aggregate number of teachers in those schools. What sort of salaries do these 340 teachers receive who teach in these village primary schools?

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Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): It is not possible to say exactly what a teacher in a village school gets in the way of salary because it largely depends on his years of service. As the Council knows there have been great strides in education in Samoa in the last few years, and the establishment of teachers has grown enormously so that the majority of teachers are young people who have just been graduated from training college. Because of the fact that there is a shortage of teachers it has been necessary for them to take charge of schools which, in the normal course of events, would be staffed by teachers with greater experience and more years of service. In a village school we might have an old teacher who might be getting anything up to £330 a year, or we may have a young single teacher still in his twenties who may be only on £200 a year; but he will be getting annual increments and will be steadily rising up to his maximum under the scale. In addition there is also an arrangement whereby the head teacher of the village school, despite his years of service, does get a small allowance which is, I think, about £24 a year or some figure like that.

Temit

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): The information given by the Administering Authority indicates that there are two European primary schools in the Trust Territory. There are thirty teachers in these European primary schools. I should like to know why there are special primary schools for Europeans in the Trust Territory. What is the reason for that? Why could the children of Europeans not receive instruction in the regular schools where the children of Samoans receive their education?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): The European primary schools reach a standard equivalent to standard IV in New Zealand. The pupils of those schools then move on to a school which is the same for both Europeans and Samoans. In standards V and VI the schools are for both Europeans and Samoans with no discrimination whatsoever. The reasons for European schools in the early stages are really twofold. There has always been a European school and it has not yet been found possible to do without it. The other reason is the very good reason that a European child, if he speaks English in his first years of school, must have his tuition in the English language.

For that reason, there are two main schools in the compound at the Central Government School at Apia: the European school in which English is used up to Standard IV and the Samoan school in which Samoan is used up to the same Standard. Then, for Standards V and VI, the pupils of both schools move on to a school called the intermediate school in which English is used for both Samoans and Europeans. It is the aim to diminish, in time, the European school to the smallest possible number of pupils and to make it a school purely for those children who speak English in the home in the normal course of events. However, because of tradition, it has not been found possible to carry out this aim in its entirety. We have made a start in the last few years with the establishment of this intermediate school for Standards V and VI.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The special representative has said that both Samoans and Europeans receive instruction in this intermediate school. Could he tell us how many Europeans and how many Samoans there are among the 120 who are listed as attending that school?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): When the school first started, the number of European pupils exceeded the number of Samoan pupils. Since that time, the balance has swung the other way and the number of Samoan pupils now exceeds the number of European pupils for the reason that, as the standard of education for the Samoan people improves, there are more pupils to draw on; therefore, they get the greater representation in the school.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Where do the European students go? After all, 620/^{were} graduated from primary schools. Where do they go? As a rule, Europeans are sent back to New Zealand after they have completed their primary education and they continued their education in a territory outside Samoa. Is my impression correct?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): No, Sir, that is not entirely correct. The Europeans include all persons of European status in the Territory, among whom are a large number of part Samoan people. A majority of these people do not leave the Territory. They are born there and remain there all their lives.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): This is my last question on this matter of education. Why is it that, as a general rule, in European primary schools, there are twenty pupils per teacher whereas in the village school where Samoans are taught there are approximately forty pupils per teacher? What accounts for these rather more favourable conditions which prevail in the European schools?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I am rather surprised to find that that is the case. If I were given a little time, I think I might be able to find that there must be some reason for that. I am quite sure that there is no class in Samoa with only twenty pupils. We just do not have the number of teachers to do that, although it certainly appears that that is the case from these figures. The only thing I can think of is that the amount of thirty teachers includes a lot of young trainees. I should like to get some further information on that point.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I would be grateful indeed for a more detailed answer to that question, the more so as young teachers may also be found in village schools. I suppose if they may be found in European schools, the same should apply to the village schools. Therefore I do not think that that would account for it.

On page 53, the report says that there is no public library in the Territory. That is in the next to the last paragraph. The report of a commission which studied the matter stated that, at the present time, the number of books and newspapers in the Trust Territory is rather limited as the number of persons who can read English is quite small. That can be found on page 53 of the report. Does the Administering Authority intend to set up public libraries in the Territory?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): It is hoped to set up a public library in the Territory. The subject has been under discussion. It might be done in one of two ways: either the library could be financed by the Samoan Government itself, or it could be the project for a grant from the New Zealand Government out of the profits of the New Zealand Reparation Estates. The matter is receiving consideration at the moment.

In the meantime, there is a going library containing books of interest to Samoa and books on technical subjects relating to public administration, finance and government, which is being built up in the central Secretariat. This library, which is for the use of public servants and is also open to the public, is being increasingly used and is a small beginning in the procurement of better facilities.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I take it that so far there are no concrete plans for the setting^{up}/of libraries in the Trust Territory?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): No, there are no concrete plans in that we have not yet arrived at the stage where we have designed a building or decided what books we are going to buy. However, we are discussing the general principle of the establishment of a library.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Could the special representative tell me how many copies of newspapers and books in the Samoan language were actually brought out during the period of time covered by the report?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): There have been a number of school text-books printed and published in the last few years. I have a note of some of them here. At the beginning of 1951, a new text-book on health and new Standard III and Standard IV arithmetic text-books were published in the Samoan language. Those books were prepared by the local staff of the Education Department and have been issued to village schools.

Then, two text-books on social studies were prepared and printed during 1951. One of these will be issued this year to the village schools. Further, the New Zealand Government, out of the specialized Island Territories Educational Appropriation about which I spoke yesterday, supplies the Territory with a school journal. I have here some samples of that journal, which is a free gift to the Territory from the New Zealand Government. I shall hand these around for the representatives to peruse. It will be seen that they are printed in the Samoan language and lavishly illustrated. In addition to the school journal, there are a number of periodical publications. There is the "Western Samoan Official Gazette" which is published in the vernacular, and the Samoan Government "Savali" which is a Government newspaper and is sent to all villages every month. In addition to Government notices, the "Gazette" contains articles of general interest to the population.

There are also a number of quarterly or periodical publications issued by the religious missions. Then there is the "Samoa Bulletin", the weekly newspaper which is published by private enterprise in Apia in both English and Samoan. It has a wide circulation throughout the Territory. Up to now, the Government has been purchasing a number of copies sufficient to send one to each village. Whether the Government will continue to purchase these copies is not known. It was done in the first place to encourage the people in the outer villages to read papers and keep up-to-date with news. It was thought that after this trial period, the people will have got the habit and will be prepared to buy the newspapers themselves.

There are no actual books in the Samoan language since there are no classics or anything like that at this stage of the culture of the Territory unless you could term the Bible a classic. Of course, the Samoan translation of the Bible is in a sense a classic. There is a little Samoan poetry. The Samoans are a poetical people and they are also musical. There is a little of what might be termed Samoan music which is written by song-writers but, as yet, there is nothing in the way of novels in the Samoan language.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Could the special representative tell us what basic textbook is used in the pastors' schools? If I remember correctly the basic textbook was a primer which was put out about the middle of the last century. Is that still used in the Trust Territory?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I have no detailed knowledge on the textbooks used in the pastors' schools at present as distinct from the Government schools, but I would be very surprised to learn that a textbook printed during the last century is still in use. The London Missionary Society, which is the largest missionary society in the Territory, has been giving a great deal of thought to education in the last few years. It has opened a large new boys' school in Apia, where there are several hundred pupils, and it has imported trained teachers. As I said the other day, it has recently imported a trained teacher to open a teachers' training college, and it was finally decided that that training college should join forces with the Government training college. But the fact remains that the London Missionary Society is taking a great interest in education, and I am certain that they have been looking into the question of textbooks. I just cannot believe that they are still using a last century textbook.

Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand): If the representative of the Soviet Union is suggesting that there is a textbook of the last century being used, I presume he is referring to a sentence at the bottom of page 5 of the report, which reads:

"The standard reference work on the language is Pratts 'Grammar and Dictionary of the Samoan Language'".

I do not know whether I am misinterpreting what the representative of the Soviet Union said, but the mere fact that there is a grammar of the Samoan language prepared in 1862 does not in any way suggest that it is not a standard work. Such a book, of course, would not be a textbook; it would be a grammar, a dictionary of the Samoan language which, no doubt, is still used by scholars, as many dictionaries of similar date are used by New Zealand on the Maori language. They are standard books of reference, very highly valued by scholars.

I may have misunderstood Mr. Soldatov; I am not sure.

Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I was somewhat puzzled on reading in the report that the standard reference work on the language is Pratt's "Grammar and Dictionary of the Samoan Language", published by the London Missionary Society in 1862, which is almost a century ago. The fact of the matter is that even such a backward people as the Samoans -- at least in the opinion of the Administering Authority -- must be expected to have evolved somewhat in a century, and perhaps the study of the Samoan language has also made some progress in a century.

I must say that it is rather puzzling to see that a book, which though it may have been a standard book is still based on philological knowledge of a hundred years ago, should still have to be used in instruction in the Samoan language. Mr. Munro's reference to the fact that a number of scholarly works, published not only in the last century but even before that, are still of interest and are still in use, cannot be held to justify a situation where the study of the Samoan language is still at the 1862 stage and that a work published in 1862 is still regarded as the greatest achievement in the study of a language. I cannot accept that point.

Having had some training in philology and in general philological matters, I must say that I cannot accept such a view.

Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand): I have only one comment to make. Some of these standard works on languages, such as the Samoan and the Maori, have been prepared by scholars of very great eminence, and while it is true that there are philological advances since that time, it is well known that they are of great importance and value.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): It was with great satisfaction that I read on page 55 of the report that the Government of Western Samoa is considering the subsidizing of a number of missionary schools, and that a small number of missionary schools are under the direct control of the Education Department and ^{that} their staffs draw Government salaries. I should like to have some more information with regard to this matter. Is it a special contract which has been signed between the Government and a special missionary society, or is there some agreement? I believe that in the opening statement of the special representative, he said there was an agreement with the London Missionary Society with reference to missionaries and the setting up of village schools. Therefore, I should like to have more detailed information as to whether this is a special ~

specific contract, with a special or specific mission, or whether there is any plan to expand this idea of direct control in order to avoid a duplication of the Government setting up schools which are similar to those of the missionaries. I would appreciate any additional information.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): There is little more information on the subject, which appears as a footnote on the bottom of page 76 of the report. This footnote reads as follows:

"In addition, there are twelve Methodist village schools staffed with thirty-five Methodist teachers all under the control of the Education Department and therefore included in the Government primary-school figures."

This is a long-standing arrangement with the Methodist Mission. I do not see how the first came about, but there are these twelve Methodist village schools which are staffed by Methodist teachers, and whose salaries are paid by the Education Department.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): Are there any other arrangements to be made, of a similar character, with other missionaries, and has it been satisfactory heretofore? I would also like to know whether the Methodist instructors are under government control, whether the curriculum is submitted to government agreement, and whether any note is taken of the efficacy and efficient fulfilment of the curriculum. I should like to know whether there are any other arrangements planned with other missions, and whether there have been missions which have refused to make such arrangements with the Government. In other words, why is there only this arrangement with the Methodist Missions and not with other missions? It seems to be such a logical way out of a difficulty that I would have thought that these same arrangements could have been brought about with other missions.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special Representative): I did make a reference to this subject in my opening remarks where, after pointing^{out} the financial difficulties in carrying out our education programme, I went on to say the following:

"As one means of solving the problem, the co-operation which exists between the Mission and the Government schools has been further developed. Towards the end of 1951 a Committee of Mission and Education Department representatives began the preparation of a syllabus of instruction which will enable pupils of all schools, Mission and Government, to reach a uniform standard by the time they pass out of Form II, or Standard VI..." (T/PV.390, p.16)

Therefore, there has been the utmost co-operation between the Education Department and the Missions. There is the old established arrangement with the Methodist schools which have teachers who are paid by the Samoan Government and which have the same syllabus of instruction as the Government schools and are under close control of the Government for the reason that the Government pays the salaries of teachers. Then we have this new arrangement with the London Missionary Society whereby we are training their student-teachers in our training college, in return for the services of a trained missionary teacher.

It is therefore a fact that there is a great deal of closer co-operation between the Education Department and the missions than previously existed, and I am sure that this co-operation will be further developed.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium): Would the Government be prepared to make the same arrangement with other missions, as they have done with the Methodist Mission?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I now see the point made by the representative of Belgium. The Government would be only too glad to make the same arrangements with other missions, but there is the practical difficulty, as I pointed out earlier, that we have reached the stage where we do not have the facilities to train more teachers in our training college. Even if the missions themselves provided a teacher in the same way as the London Missionary Society has done, we would still have the difficulty of the shortage of buildings. But the agreement reached with the London Missionary Society is a useful start and I think it is one which can be further developed. If other missions can provide teachers, I think possibly the question of buildings will be of secondary consideration.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I have only one more question on this section of the report, which I think I may ask now. I was rather confused by the difference in the statistics given by the special representative in his statement the other day with regard to the population and those included in the annexes to the report. In the latter it is stated that the European and part-Samoan population is 6,193, but, according to the census of September 1951, there were only 4,756 with European status. Does it mean a difference in status? Are there 1400 Europeans and part-Samoans without European status, not to mention the Chinese who have European status? Or has there been an error in the evaluation of the population? Perhaps the special representative could give the Council some further information regarding these statistics.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I have also noticed the apparent discrepancy between the estimated figures given in the report and those found in the census. At the moment I do not know the reason. It may be remembered that I told the Council that these were the first figures of the census and were in no way to be taken as official at this stage. I am inclined to think that the census figures are the correct ones, while those shown in the report as the estimated European and part-European population are probably incorrect. It may mean that in past censuses people who are really of Samoan status have been showing their status as European and that, when the more recent census was taken they were shown, correctly, as Samoan. If that is so, it is possibly all to the good.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium): I should like to have an explanation given in the next report.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I shall take note of the remarks of the representative of Belgium.

Mr. KRIDAKON (Thailand): I should like to ask the special representative whether I am correct in my understanding that secondary education is not as yet provided in the Territory. By "secondary" I refer to secondary education proper, and not the courses given at training centres, some of which have secondary status.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): There is a small so-called high school, or secondary school, attached to the Central Government School in Apia. It is described in the table on page 76 as a post-primary school, which, as will be noted, has a total roll of 40 pupils. The post-primary school will probably be transferred to the new Samoan college when the building is completed and the college opened within the next few months.

Mr. KRIDAKON (Thailand): Could the special representative indicate the average number of pupils finishing each year, first of all, in the village primary, then in the post-primary and, finally, the middle-primary schools?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I do not think I have those statistics.

Mr. KRIDAKON (Thailand): My next question concerns scholarships. I understand that the Government of New Zealand grants ten scholarships per year at the moment. Could the special representative indicate whether it is the intention of the Government to keep this number constant, or will it be increased?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special Representative): The present intention is to keep the number constant until such time as the new Samoan college has been fully established, and then to reduce the number of scholarships to New Zealand, as it is believed that it will be preferable to educate the bright boys and girls of the Territory at the local college rather than in New Zealand.

Mr. KRIDAKON (Thailand): Could the special representative indicate how the candidates are selected for scholarship awards, and what the required qualifications are?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): The candidates are selected on the basis of merit. An examination is held which is open to candidates from all over the Territory, and the selection is made from the results of this examination. Such things as character, for example, are considered as well as academic qualifications.

Mr. KRIDAKON (Thailand): Is there any qualification with regard to age?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I am pleased to be able to say that the average age of the scholarship pupils is diminishing year by year. In the first few years it was necessary to send to New Zealand pupils who were well out of their age-groups in the classes in which they were placed in New Zealand, but the position now is, as a result of increased education in the Territory, that the scholarship pupils going to New Zealand are almost within their correct age-groups there.

The PRESIDENT: The representative of UNESCO has asked to be allowed to speak.

Mr. ARNALDO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization): I thank you for this opportunity briefly to address the Council.

The Observations of UNESCO on the 1950-51 reports on the Trust Territory of Western Samoa are to be found in document T/962, which also contains its observations on the 1950-51 reports covering New Guinea, Nauru and the Pacific Islands. These observations, I think, are adequate in themselves, and I am pleased to note that copies, both in English and in French, have already been distributed.

I should only emphasize at this point, as indicated in the letter of transmittal of my Director-General, first, that these observations in T/962 have been reviewed and approved in their present form by a Special Committee of the Executive Board of UNESCO on 14-15 February 1952, just in time for this session of the Council. However, I should point out that UNESCO has experienced difficulties in making such observations available to the Council on time because of the delay in receiving the necessary documents.

Secondly, I should say that these observations are in accordance with Council resolution 47 (IV) of 1 March 1949, which "Recommends that the Specialized Agencies study the annual reports of Trust Territories with a view to making such observations and suggestions as they may consider proper in order to facilitate the work of the Trusteeship Council."

In the past, the observations of UNESCO on the annual reports of the Administering Authorities, which were submitted at the sixth, seventh and eighth sessions of the Council, were subsequently communicated to the Member States of UNESCO and brought to the attention of our General Conference as part of UNESCO's collaboration with the Trusteeship Council; that is, in connexion with the fifth and sixth sessions of the General Conference of UNESCO in 1950 and 1951. As regards the observations of UNESCO at the ninth session of the Trusteeship Council, these were submitted for prior approval of the Executive Board at its 25th session in January 1951. I mention all this only to indicate to the Council the importance which UNESCO attaches to this question and the kind of approach it has adopted in fulfilling its responsibilities.

Lastly, I should emphasize that the observations of UNESCO include a few items relating to UNESCO's programme which are called to the attention of the Council on the assumption that they might be helpful in its general consideration of the problem of advancing the educational progress of the Trust Territories. Thus, for example, there is on page 2 of document T/962 a brief reference to the series of regional conferences which UNESCO is planning for the study of the practical problems which arise in each region in connexion with the extension of free and compulsory education. I should call attention to the fact that the first of these regional conferences will be held for Southeast Asia in December 1952, and will also include countries situated in the Pacific area.

Then there is the UNESCO study of the use of vernacular languages as vehicles of instruction both in and out of school. On page 4 of document T/962 will be found a summary of the conclusions reached by the experts invited by UNESCO to meet in Paris in November and December 1951. I should emphasize that the conclusions of that meeting are not final and that UNESCO will continue the study and publish towards the end of 1952 a more comprehensive work in three volumes on the general subject of "The Language Problem". This work will give as part of the general background the world linguistic picture by areas, including the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Further, there is the reference on page 3 of document T/962 to the special project of UNESCO for a world network of regional centres on Fundamental Education, patterned after the first centre opened in May 1951 at Patzcuaro, Mexico, for Latin America. Arrangements for the second centre, in Egypt, are now

under way for the Middle East. Four other centres are proposed for Africa, East Asia and South Asia in UNESCO's twelve-year plan on Fundamental Education. I should say in this connexion that South Asia and the Pacific area involved is likely to be the site of the third centre. It was an alternative choice during the selection of the site for the second centre. In essence, such centres will be concerned with training teachers and special workers in Fundamental Education and with the production of teaching materials adapted to the local needs of the region concerned. Needless to say, UNESCO welcomes the co-operation and participation of the countries in each region.

As regards fellowships and scholarships, a new edition of the UNESCO publication, "Study Abroad, Volume 4", has just been issued, and I shall have a brief statement to make on it when the Council takes up again item 15 on Educational Advancement in Trust Territories, with special reference to General Assembly resolution 557 (VI). By that time I hope to have copies of the publication distributed to the members of the Council.

These are some of the more significant items in UNESCO's programme referred to in document T/962, which might be of interest to the Council in its consideration of the educational advancement of the Trust Territories of the Pacific, and of other areas as well. As in the past, UNESCO would be glad to consider any proposal on the part of the Council in making our collaboration more effective and fruitful.

The meeting was suspended at 4.15 p.m. and was resumed at 4.40 p.m.

The PRESIDENT: We will continue with the questions on educational advancement in Western Samoa.

Mr. S.S. LIU (China): In the middle of page 56 of the Report it is stated that "A small fee is charged to boarders at residential schools in the Territory." As it has been the constant desire of the Trusteeship Council that primary education should be free in Trust Territories, I wonder if the special representative can tell us whether it is feasible to let Samoan children have free education even in the residential schools.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): The small fee charged to boarders at residential schools in the Territory is a very nominal amount. It is, to the best of my recollection, ten shillings and sixpence a quarter, and is mainly to provide a fund for things like sports equipment, and is indeed just a very nominal sum.

I shall be glad to bring to the notice of the Administering Authority the suggestion made by the representative of China in this respect.

Mr. S.S. LIU (China): I am extremely grateful for the statement just made by the special representative.

I have another question in regard to the linguistic expert provision which has been made on some estimates. I wonder whether the linguistic expert has actually been appointed, and, if so, whether the special representative can tell us something about the work which has been done by this linguistic expert in relation to the standardization of the Samoan language.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): Arrangements have been made through the Executive Officer of the Social Development Section of the South Pacific Commission for a linguistic expert from the London School of Oriental and African Studies to visit Western Samoa and American Samoa in the near future to report on the Samoan language. The cost of the visit will be borne equally by the two Governments in Samoa, and this expert is expected sometime this year.

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Mr. S.S. LIU (China): Thank you, that exhausts the questions I have.

Mr. STRONG (United States of America): My delegation has noted with interest and some concern the reference made in the special representative's opening statement to the difficulties which have arisen with respect to the expansion of appropriations for educational purposes by the Samoan Legislative Assembly. In particular, I note that the New Zealand Government's policy with respect to granting funds for social services other than capital development has been adopted, and I quote the special representative's words: "Having regard to the attitude of the Samoan Legislature towards further expenditure on education." It is on this last point in particular that my delegation would like further information. I wonder if Mr. Wright would elucidate on this statement so that the Council might understand more clearly what the attitude of the Legislature is and the considerations which lie behind it.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): In answer to the question asked by the representative of the United States, I think that to some extent the attitude of the Legislative Assembly of Samoa on the question of educational expenditure is explained in other remarks I made in my opening statement when I said that:

"The Administering Authority feels that it is unwise and not in the best interests of the Territory to build up a huge social services machine, the cost of which will be beyond the economy of the Territory when it achieves self-government." (T/PV.390, pages 14-15).

Then I went on to say that:

"Indeed, the Samoans themselves are alive to the dangers of this course and have consistently been against subsidies from New Zealand for other than capital development." (T/PV.390, page 15).

I think that to some extent explains the attitude of the Legislative Assembly of Western Samoa. They are afraid that, if this big social services machine is built up, then they will be unable to maintain it, and that may be one means of retarding their progression towards self-government. They prefer, if they can, to live within their means, and the Administering Authority agrees with them in that respect.

Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand): Perhaps I could add that, if the representative of the United States will turn to the report of UNESCO, document T/962, on page 11, he will see the following referring to the progress in education:

"This progress has been more than matched by increased budgetary provision for education. While in 1946/47 £23,823 was spent on education, representing 10.3 per cent of the total budget of the Territory, in 1949/50, £70,138 was spent, representing 15.3 per cent of the total budget, and for the last nine months of 1950, the sum of £74,197 was spent, representing 16.7 per cent of the total budget."

The Legislative Assembly of Western Samoa does really control the finances of the Territory. The Administering Authority virtually gives them autonomy. They are guided and encouraged to spend money on education, and there the percentage increase is something which is to be noted. But as a measure of their self-government in which the Administering Authority is endeavouring to help them, it is of the greatest importance that they should, as far as possible, decide for themselves how much they will spend. They have increased the amount, but, as a matter of principle, the New Zealand Government feels that, except -- I think I am right -- for capital expenditure, the responsibility should be theirs, and they are aware of it. As I understand it, they debate it quite acutely.

Mr. STRONG (United States of America): I appreciate the answer of the special representative and the answer of the representative of New Zealand. I appreciate his calling attention to these budgetary increases which are indeed gratifying.

I would like next to turn to the difficult question of teacher-training which is part, I believe, of the problem which the special representative said

officials
kept Administering Authority/awake nights. I have no desire to add to their insomnia, but this is a basic problem, and I am concerned with the statement that the supply of new teachers is only sufficient to offset the inevitable losses of teaching personnel thereby leaving no excess for expansion of the teaching staff. I wonder if the special representative could give some ^{further} indication of the measures taken to meet this problem. In other words, is it a matter of finances alone, or is it anticipated that the new programme to which he has referred, the programme of combined missionary and Government effort in the teacher-training college, will increase the output of teachers sufficiently, so that this static position will be overcome?

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): In answer to the question asked by the representative of the United States, I would say that the main difficulty in the training of additional teachers is that of finance. It would be difficult at this stage to train additional teachers, even with the co-operation of the missions. But, as I explained in reply to the question asked by the representative of Belgium, I have no doubt that, if the missions contributed towards the cost, the difficulty of extra accommodation and extra trained staff could be overcome. As yet, we see no way of overcoming the financial problem in its entirety. As the representative of New Zealand pointed out, there have been increased appropriations for education. But we feel that we may be coming to the stage where we cannot continue to increase these appropriations year by year to cope with the increase in population. It is therefore the financial difficulty which is the main consideration in this problem.

Mr. STRONG (United States of America): If I may now turn to another question, the question of broadcasting, the Report under review states on page 57 that there has been a reduction in broadcasting hours. I wonder if this is still the case or, in any event, what may be the position taken in this question, in view of the very useful nature of the radio for editorial purposes.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): The position, as I recollect it, is that we had some time ago a morning or breakfast session which lasted from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. After a trial period, it was decided that it was not a great success and was not performing a very useful function. It was therefore cancelled.

So I think that that is possibly the reference in the Report to a reduction in broadcasting hours. Since that date, as a result of discussions in the Broadcasting Committee, there has been an increase in broadcasting hours at the other end of the day. In other words, the evening broadcasts have been slightly increased. There has been no reduction at all in the hours of school broadcasting.

Mr. STRONG (United States of America): The last question that my delegation would like to submit is the written question that was submitted earlier and included in a conference room paper. It has to do with the statement on page 57 of the Report referring to a centralized preparation of school textbooks for Samoa and other New Zealand island territories. I would like to ask whether this plan has been implemented and, if so, whether the special representative could supply somewhat more detailed information on the way in which the plan operates and any results that may have been obtained.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): I have the following answer to the written question asked by the United States delegation on this subject. The plan to centralize preparation of school textbooks has not proceeded to the point of appointment of a central staff in Wellington owing principally to being unable to secure suitable personnel willing to undertake the work. Some progress has, however, been made in the preparation of textbooks during the year in each of the groups administered by New Zealand, and it is proposed that these be adapted for use in other territories.

The preparation of textbooks is regarded as a long-term project, and the books now being prepared are regarded largely as experimental drafts. The Island's Education Officer is leaving in three weeks for an observation tour of six months in Hawaii, the United States and British African territories, and will pay particular attention to methods of preparation of textbooks. In addition to that, I mentioned this afternoon that the preparation of textbooks in the Territory itself is proceeding, and that two extra textbooks on social studies were prepared and printed during 1951. Therefore, although the major scheme of preparing textbooks in Wellington has not been fully implemented, the Territorial Government is still continuing to prepare textbooks within its own ability.

Mr. STRONG (United States of America): I have no further questions.

Mr. MUNRO (New Zealand): It will be recalled that on Wednesday a question was asked of Mr. Wright in regard to technical assistance from the United Nations. He is now in a position to answer that question and he will do so at this time if it suits the Council's convenience.

Mr. WRIGHT (Special representative): The day before yesterday, the representative of the United States asked whether the statement on page 24 of the report, that "a request has been submitted for United Nations assistance in the direction of making technical assistance available at local expense, particularly by providing the services of expert personnel", was correct in view of the statement I made here, which appears on page 35 of document T/PV.390, that no request had so far been submitted to the United Nations for technical assistance.

I undertook to obtain further details about the statement in the annual report. I am now able to inform the representative of the United States that, although consideration has been given to the possibility of requesting assistance from the United Nations in undertaking a general economic survey, the plans for this survey are still in the process of being formulated, and no formal request to the United Nations has in fact been made for such assistance. The answer which I gave to an earlier question, and to which I have just referred, therefore correctly sets out the present position.

The PRESIDENT: Are there any other questions on educational advancement? If not, we have now concluded the questioning of the special representative, and I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Wright for the answers he has given. If any member of the Council is now prepared to begin the general debate on the report on Western Samoa, I should be very glad to have him do so.

Mr. KRIDAKON (Thailand): The report under consideration covers the period from 1 April to 31 December 1950, but the special representative was good enough to give the Council an outline of the principal events and developments which have taken place in the Territory up to the end of 1951. This has greatly facilitated consideration of the present report. I should like, therefore, to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the special representative for this additional information and to compliment him on the competent manner in which it was presented to the Council.

It is clear from the report and from the information furnished by the special representative that the pace of political development of the Samoan people has quickened during the last two years. It is gratifying to note that the Legislative Assembly has functioned well and that the use of the secret ballot in elections is now well understood by the people. The formation of the Samoa Democratic Party is also an encouraging sign of the development of the people toward political maturity.

My delegation hopes that the Administering Authority will do all it can to direct and foster the formation of sound political parties. While it is right that no obstruction should be placed in the way of the freedom of the people to form associations, yet my own personal experience in Italian Somaliland leads me to urge the Administering Authority to consider the advisability of passing some form of legislation placing some control on the formation of political parties in order to ensure the responsibility of the parties toward their members, particularly in the matter of the management of party funds.

In the field of political education of the people, the Thai delegation would like to compliment the Administering Authority on the practice of making bilingual broadcasting of the Legislative Assembly's debates. It wonders whether this service might not with advantage be complemented by the bilingual publication and free distribution of such debates. Since what is heard may soon be forgotten, the publication of the debates would help to keep the issues alive and before the public eye for a longer time, and might provide a solution of the difficulty mentioned by the special representative of a member from a district talking merely to convince the people of his district of what a fine member he is. I am sure that he would be more careful in what he said if he knew that what he said would be put down in print and subsequently circulated among the people.

On the executive side, the Thai delegation is glad to note that legislative provision will be made this year for the establishment of an Executive Council. This will ensure increasing participation of the Samoans in the high levels of government. The Thai delegation would like to compliment the Administering Authority also on the practice of permitting a small number of local appointees in the Western Samoa Public Service to go to New Zealand for training during the period of leave with the relevant departments of the New Zealand Administration. It hopes that the Administering Authority will consider the expansion of this privilege, which apparently is now available to a selected few only.

Turning to educational advancement, the Thai delegation regrets to note that development in this particular field is not as satisfactory as it could be. Facilities in secondary education are still very limited. The Thai delegation recognizes that there are very limiting factors to the expansion of education, such as the shortage of teachers and the lack of funds.

In his statement, the special representative said that the New Zealand Government, having regard to the attitude of the Samoan legislature toward further expenditure on education, has no present intention of subsidizing local expenditure on social services other than by the utilization of the profits of the New Zealand Reparation Estates for grants to the Territory for capital works. The Thai delegation recognizes the force of this argument -- that it would be unwise and not in the best interests of the Territory to build up a huge social services machine, the cost of which will be beyond the economy of the Territory when it achieves self-government. But it seems to the Thai delegation that there are ways in which subsidies can be provided without resultant disturbance to the economy of the Territory. For instance, the Administering Authority now grants ten scholarships a year for students to study in New Zealand. The number could well be increased. Since facilities for secondary education are still limited in the Territory, the increase in scholarships would help to augment the number of educated Samoans until secondary and higher education facilities become available in the Territory. Educational advancement is of primary importance in the development of the Territory toward self-government. The Thai delegation therefore hopes that the Administering Authority will give favourable consideration to this aspect of the question and will continue to give particular attention to the provision of increased educational facilities in the Territory itself.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I shall confine myself to a few observations only, since I consider that our reports on the examination of annual reports of Administering Authorities have been too lengthy. I shall not ~~praise~~ the Administering Authority for all the realms in which its activities have been excellent. In the opinion of my delegation its consideration of the situation in Western Samoa has led to the impression that the Administering Authority is discharging its obligations, which it assumed when it took on the burden of trusteeship, satisfactorily; it should be congratulated for the progress achieved. I do wish to make some observations on some particular precise points, but this should not be construed as meaning that my delegation does not appreciate the achievements of the Administering Authority during the period covered by the report.

Generally speaking, it is regrettable that difficulties of recruitment and of purchases of materials have prevented the completion of certain projects for which appropriations had been provided. The statements of the special representative indicate that at the end of the current financial year some of the personnel difficulties will have been solved. Physicians have been or are to be recruited who had previously not been eligible because they did not have licenses to practise in New Zealand. These new physicians will now be admitted.

We note also that some pipes will be obtained for certain water facilities which could not previously be completed. It is a pity that all these efforts have to be made to complete projects, which under more propitious circumstances would not have encountered all these difficulties.

May I note that on page 13 of the report it is stated that Europeans who acquired Samoan status have, by a declaration of the high court, retained the national status which they possessed as Europeans. This is a strange legal point to which the representative of the Dominican Republic drew the Council's attention the other day. This is a situation which I think ought to be adjusted as early as possible.

Economically, the situation is a favourable one. During the current year foreign trade was \$80 per capita. Such foreign trade compares very favourably with that of numerous other countries, some of them highly civilized. The Administering Authority should be congratulated for the efforts it made toward the development of the road network, the improvement of electrical equipment and for having placed at the disposal of the people 43,000 acres of the New Zealand Reparation Estates, in accordance with the suggestion of the Trusteeship Council.

May I draw the attention of the Administering Authority to the matter of the preferential tariff. This is, I believe, part of the imperial tariff preferential system. We are told that obligations contracted with certain countries with which the Territory engages in commerce have to be respected, but, after all, the Territory does have certain fundamental obligations vis-a-vis the United Nations, particularly as regards insuring commercial equality to all States Members of the United Nations.

I wish to note the matter of the copra monopoly and of the need of closely supervising the price structure and, perhaps, ultimately revising contracts or agreements which, perhaps, were perfectly legitimate at the time when they were concluded, but which, if they deviate too much from the world market price, should be revised by common agreement, so as to ensure more favourable conditions for the producers.

As regards public education, may I point out that there has been some confusion as regards school programmes. From perusing the report, it is difficult to understand the hierarchy of the school structure and the various types of schools which seems to overlap to a certain extent. There are mission schools, village schools, a district school, a middle primary school, a Samoan accelerate school, a government primary school in the Apia area which is apparently more advanced; there is the intermediate school, and there are advanced schools which are operated by the missions. Then there is the teacher training school, the nursing school, the post-primary and higher school, etc.

This rather impressive hierarchy of schools of various names and titles does not go beyond the primary level, since the highest one is the post-primary school. All these programmes, it appears to me, should be co-ordinated so as to bring them into the pattern of a systematic and logical structure.

My delegation has been happy to note the co-operation which prevailed between the Government and the primary education system. In a Territory such as Samoa, where it is very difficult to find sufficient resources for the proper development of education for a school population which is growing at a pace almost unknown anywhere else in the world, all possible help should be welcomed. I think that the development of the as yet insufficient co-operation which exists with the Methodist Mission and similar bodies, which the Government says will be extended to other mission societies, will be welcomed. More intimate co-operation with organizations of good will which are ready to devote their resources to public education would be likely to foster the development of education, without calling for the assignment of large financial resources which the Territory could scarcely afford.

Finally, I should like to thank the special representative for the courtesy with which he lent himself to our lengthy and rather taxing interrogation.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): The consideration of the report on the Territory of Western Samoa, and the explanations furnished to the Council by the special representative have given my delegation some impression of the general achievements of progress in this Territory in various fields. I was particularly struck by the persevering and, it appears, successful efforts of the Administering Authority for the development of the population's interest in public affairs at the village as well as at the Territory level. Such action, it seems to me, deserves the approval and the encouragement of the Council. Such evolution, to be truthful, must touch all levels of the population simultaneously rather than apply to a small elite alone. Doubtless, various circumstances, such as the relatively small size of the Territory, ^{and} the existence of an old but rather viable social structure have helped the Administering Authority in its efforts.

But the authority has the merit of having used modern facilities at its disposal in an efficient and far-sighted fashion. In turn, I should like to congratulate and thank the special representative for the information which he has been kind enough to furnish to us with such courtesy.

Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom): As has been pointed out this afternoon by the representative of Thailand, we are in some slight difficulty in considering the current report on Western Samoa presented to the Council. The report we are now examining covers the period up to 31 December 1950. Fourteen months have now elapsed since the end of the period to which it relates. In fact, the material in the report, if I recall correctly, was rather fully presented to the Council last year by the High Commissioner, Mr. Powles, when he appeared before the Council last February. In these circumstances, the Council has really no fresh material on which it could advance conclusions which would add to or differ from those which were formulated in the report presented to the General Assembly at its sixth session.

This difficulty in which the Council finds itself was quite obviously recognized by the Administering Authority and by the special representative since, in his introductory remarks to the Council, Mr. Wright referred almost exclusively to developments in the period which had elapsed since the report was closed. In his answers to questions, which have been given with admirable fluency and deep knowledge, he has amplified even further the information relating to the last twelve months and, in some of his answers and observations, he referred to matters which were happening just before he left the Territory. In these circumstances we have virtually had a preview of the next annual report on the Territory, and that preview has necessarily been presented to us only in the course of the last few days.

It appears that the year which has elapsed since the end of the period reported on has been, from many points of view, a momentous year. It has witnessed a most important event, the personal visit of the Minister for Island Territories in the new Government of New Zealand. It is quite clear that many matters on which Mr. Wright might otherwise have been able to report some definite steps must necessarily have been held in abeyance until the responsible Minister could acquaint himself directly with the matters under consideration and reach the decisions which are required.

In addition to this visit, we have heard from Mr. Wright of the advances made in the consideration of the establishment of an executive council, and the further examination which has been given to the question of local government. These matters, however, were naturally not available to delegations to this Council for prior detailed study before the Council opened. For that reason, amongst others, I do not propose in my remarks to go into details regarding the various aspects of progress in Western Samoa except perhaps to echo the opening observations of the representative of Belgium this afternoon, which reflect precisely the attitude of my delegation to the progress made in the Territory.

I would propose the adoption of a slightly different approach to the question. In examining the annual reports on Trust Territories, it has been noticeable that some members of the Council adopt the approach whereby they envisage the ideal situation which they would like to see existing in the Territory. The way in which this ideal situation is defined depends of course on what has been described as the differing political philosophies of the delegations in question. Having established in their own minds the results which they would like to see, they then critically examine the present state of affairs and the progress made in the year under review to see how far the Administering Authority has gone in promoting advancement toward this ideal situation. And they urge the Administering Authority to get on towards that ideal situation more vigorously and more quickly. That, undoubtedly, is an extremely valuable approach to the work of the Council and one which must be followed, but I do not think it is an exclusive approach. It is one which should be conditioned by some of the considerations which I propose to advance.

The alternative, which I suggest might usefully be followed on occasions, is to consider what are the basic characteristics of the Territory in question and, in this case of Western Samoa, which must inevitably condition progress towards the goals envisaged. Most of us will have slightly different ideas of the goals which are to be approached but we all have, in the Charter, the basic targets which the Administering Authority set before it. We can take that as a useful starting point; namely, Article 76 of the Charter, which lays down the basic objectives of the Trusteeship System. I propose to take those objectives as the background to my examination of the essential characteristics of the Territory which will condition advancement towards these objectives. I feel that no member of the Council could usefully criticize the actions of the Administering Authority unless those criticisms are based on a recognition of these essential

characteristics. A few of them were briefly touched upon in his most recent remarks by the representative of France.

In the first case, we could look at the physical characteristics of the Territory; namely, those characteristics which really cannot be altered by any action of the Administering Authority. As regards Western Samoa, we know what these are. The Territory is a small group of islands, one thousand one hundred and thirty square miles. That is a small area. The climate is tropical with a heavy rainfall. The Territory is comparatively isolated. It is over two thousand miles from Australia and New Zealand. It is roughly five thousand miles from Singapore. It is again five thousand miles from the Pacific coast of North America. It is therefore very distant from large areas of commercial and other activity. And even in that, it is not astride any of the regular world trade routes which would bring it into contact with great commercial movements, nor lend it any particular importance through its position. Its position is, in fact, if anything, a disadvantage rather than an advantage. In this small Territory situated in this way, we have a comparatively large population. I think the figure given by Mr. Wright for the latest census was something in the region of 83,000 inhabitants. The vital characteristic about this population is that it is growing very rapidly. In some discussion the other day, reference was made to the term "political arithmetic". I suggest that the essential "political arithmetic" of Western Samoa is that one plus one makes two, three, four, five and six very rapidly.

This is a consideration which must be at the back of the mind of the Administering Authority in all its policy and planning: it has to contend with a rapidly increasing population. To consider some further physical aspects of the Territory, let us look at the potential of the Territory for agricultural production. We are told in the report that the soil is poor and thin and that much of the surface area of the Territory is overlaid by lava outflows which render it useless, or virtually useless, under present techniques for agriculture. It is true that little is really known about the soil qualities of the Territory. We have heard from the special representative that the economic survey of the Territory is to be based on a preliminary topographical survey.

I find it quite significant that a few days ago, when some maps of the land distribution in Western Samoa were displayed in this room -- although, for some reason or other, they rapidly disappeared -- they were dated in fact as "1921". I assume that they were the most recent maps available of the detailed distribution of land in Western Samoa. It is obvious that a topographical survey is an essential prerequisite for any detailed planning of land use, and it is encouraging to hear that the Administering Authority is making further efforts to have that survey carried out. My delegation hopes that it will be rapidly put into effect. It appears that the only difficulty is in finding the necessary aircraft and surveyors, and not necessarily a lack of funds to carry this out. I hope that the Administering Authority will vigorously pursue the possibilities in this direction. Therefore, we know comparatively little about the agricultural potential of the country and we hope that the topographical survey, plus the soil survey, which will determine the quality of the soil, will very shortly be carried out.

As it is, we have little sound basis for criticizing the work of the agricultural departments in the Territory until they have this essential ground-work on which all their calculations and plans must be based. We also know accurately, I think, that there are no particular mineral resources in the Territory and, as far as is known, no industrial raw materials which would give colour to any suggestion that industrialization should be actively pursued. The methods of agriculture are well adapted to the existing social structure and system of land tenure of the Samoan people, and it is encouraging to see that the Agriculture Department has been reactivated and will give its attention to the study and improvement of these methods.

As far as can be gathered, the land-holding practices in Western Samoa are not really a barrier to agricultural development and might well lend themselves to further development of co-operatives, both the co-operative farming in which the machinery is held centrally and fertilizers purchased centrally, and the co-operative marketing of the products. It was encouraging to hear from the special representative, in answer to a question, that the Administration was bending its mind to this question of encouraging co-operatives in agriculture.

As was pointed out by the representative of Belgium, the general trade position of the Territory is relatively prosperous. That is another fundamental consideration in looking at what is possible in the development of the Territory. There is no immediate lack of financial resources and therefore some development should be possible. There ^{are} good exports of copra and cocoa, and these exports are expanding and appear to be well handled by the Administration from the point of view of securing the maximum revenue from this economic activity.

In this connexion, I should like to comment on the questions which have been put regarding the comparability of the price paid for copra by the British Ministry of Food, under its contract with Western Samoa, and the so-called world price of copra. I submit that it is extremely misleading, in fact erroneous, to talk about a world price of copra. The price of this commodity, the end price to the consumer, has in it such a very large element of transport, insurance, processing and handling, compared with the actual cost of production, that its price depends very largely on the distance that it is produced from the place where it is going to be used. Although I am sure it is realized by members of the Council, I should point out that the British Ministry of Food operates in this field purely on commercial principles; that is, as a commercial organization it enters into the market for these products, which it buys and competes with any other commercial buyer who may be in the field. A contract between the British Ministry of Food and Western Samoa is in no way a government-to-government arrangement. It is one commercial buyer buying from another commercial producer. Therefore, if under contract a large proportion of the supplies of copra of any particular area is bought up, that necessarily has an effect upon the price of the marginal surplus, as was pointed out, I think, by the special representative or by the representative of New Zealand. If there is a general shortage of copra in that area, then whatever is left over after the contract is met, fetches per ton a higher price than if there is a surplus production in comparison with the

reigning demand. Therefore, it is very difficult to judge the justice or otherwise of a price paid under a contract of that kind in comparison with a so-called world price of this particular commodity.

The commodities which are mainly produced in Western Samoa, such as copra, cocoa, a little rubber and some bananas, are of course vulnerable -- all of them -- to fluctuations in the price of primary products, and it would be naturally desirable that some assurance should be afforded to the producers against the fluctuations of these prices. We have some assurance, in the board system, for the marketing of these crops, and we also have some assurance in the action of the Administration in diversifying, as far as possible, the economy of the Territory. But, of course, diversification should not be pursued simply for its own sake. Even if it were possible for Western Samoa to grow wheat or potatoes, there would be no point in its growing these commodities if it could grow more profitably the traditional commodities which are produced in the South Pacific region. Therefore, we hope that the Administration will continue to encourage and expand the production of these traditional commodities which Western Samoa is well qualified to produce, and from which its wealth derives, and will, I ^{shall} hope, continue to derive

I/sum up at this stage the factors which we must recognize before we formulate our criticisms of the action and achievements of the Administering Authority in Western Samoa. The first is that there is an expanding population. There are limited resources in the way of natural materials. Agriculture is really the only principal activity that the population can engage in and, finally, not enough is yet known of the productive potential of the Territory. It was very encouraging, with relation to that last point, for my Government to be able to make available to the Government of Samoa the services of Mr. Colin Marshall, who carried out a forestry survey of the Territory.

Mr. Marshall has now returned to his substantive post as Assistant-Conservateur of Forests in Malaya. I saw him after he had been to Western Samoa and he was full of admiration for the people of Samoa, for the Territory, and for the officers of the Administration with whom he had come into contact.

Let me turn now to what I would call the fundamental factors which are more susceptible of change through the action of the Administering Authority. Under this heading I would consider the social and political organization of the Territory. It must be remembered that in Western Samoa and, in fact, in Samoa in general, including Eastern Samoa, there was no political unity before the contact of Europeans with these Territories. That situation contrasts quite markedly with the situation, for instance, in Tonga or, on a lesser scale, in Fiji, where there was already a unified administration, a well-established hierarchy and a government, in fact, with which Europeans could enter into negotiation and contract. In Western Samoa this was not so and, in fact, those elements of division in the population were exploited and exacerbated by the first European contacts in the Territory.

We have surviving from the period between 1900 and the date on which the present Administering Authority took over responsibility for the Territory political institutions which do not really have their roots any further in the past. The Fono of Faipule, although it responded to Samoan custom and Samoan ideas of political organization, was in fact, on its creation, as I understand it, a comparatively artificial creation; that is, it was no more natural than the Legislative Council created by the Administering Authority. Similarly, the appointment of the Fautua more or less responded to the needs of the Europeans, at that time in contact with the Territory, for some authority with whom they could deal, and they did not go so far back in the traditional organization of Samoan society. Therefore, we can say that these features of Samoan organization are not so very old, but yet they are already ingrained in the habits of the people and have been with them for some fifty years.

At the basis of this we have the traditional family organization, which is lasting and which is deserving of conservation in so far as it is compatible with the advance towards modern democratic methods. It has great value in that it is a stable basis of society and, in the view of my delegation, the Administering Authority is well advised to build upon this basis and not to do anything which would weaken its authority or destroy its efficacy; although it should always be on the outlook -- as it is -- for any features which in fact do militate against a proper appreciation of and advance towards the fully democratic methods of life.

We have, on top of these fundamental traditional organizations, the more modern conceptions which have been grafted on to this by the Administering Authority. The development of the Executive Council and the functions allotted to it must necessarily be considered against the background of the Councils of State, where you have the High Commissioner and the two more or less traditional leaders of the people forming a body which has had in the past functions not dissimilar to the essential functions of an Executive Council, but still not expressed in modern terms. It will be interesting to see how the Administering Authority manages to introduce the idea and operation of an Executive Council without destroying the valuable features -- most notably, those of political education -- of the Fautua and their immediate advisers who have been present in the Council of State.

Similarly, we have, alongside the Fono of Faipule, another organization of representatives on a slightly different basis and with different functions, the Legislative Council. It may not be too much to hope that in the future the Executive Council and the Legislative Council will replace these other organizations, which will then disappear, or perhaps only maintain certain traditional or ceremonial functions.

One feature of the existing situation in Western Samoa which it is vital to realize is that the Administering Authority has, in fact, progressed so fast and so far in granting political freedom to the people -- to the people in their Legislative Council, notably -- that it can no longer of itself dictate direct the action which is to be taken and, therefore, it must persuade -- it cannot direct. That was illustrated particularly in the remarks this afternoon by the representative of New Zealand on the problem created through the unwillingness of the Legislative Assembly to vote all the funds for education which the Administration itself thinks should be spent on this subject, and which the Administration thinks the country could well afford to spend in that field.

In this connexion I should like to observe that the funds which come from the operations of the New Zealand Reparation Estates are an extremely valuable instrument in the hands of the Administering Authority in that these funds are so constituted that their application does not depend upon the vote or opinion of the Legislative Assembly, and it is the hope of my delegation that the Administering Authority will freely use these funds in order to effect the

desirable improvements and development which it finds some reluctance on the part of the Legislative Assembly to meet from purely Samoan funds.

Again, we should not like to see too precipitate action taken on this question of universal suffrage. Here, again, one must recognize that the social organization of the Samoans is based on this family group and that the Matai, who represent the family group, are, in fact, appointed after full consultation within the family, and they can, therefore, be said in a true sense to be representative of the group which they head. As the suffrage is based upon their voting power, we might say that we have a very well organized system of two-stage representation. It may be that advance towards a system of universal suffrage is desirable, but I do not think this step should be taken in defiance of the views of the Samoans. They must be brought to recognize it as an improvement upon their existing system which, I am well satisfied, does in fact reflect the wishes of all the Samoans. This system provides a stability in democratic processes and progress towards a fully democratic society, which is most valuable. At this stage the Samoans may not feel that they simply want to count heads; they may prefer to count the wise heads -- and there may be a good deal to be said for that sort of system.

In spite of what I have said regarding the wide measure of control which now lies in the hands of the Samoans themselves, there is still a very great deal which the Administering Authority can do by influence and example to introduce progress. I am fully satisfied that the Administering Authority is not simply falling back on this situation as a pretext; that is, the Administering Authority, I am sure, would never accept stagnation simply because the Samoans themselves appeared to be content with stagnation in any field. The power of example is very great, and the power of advice is very great, and I am well satisfied that the example of men like Mr. Powles, whom we met last year, and Mr. Wright, who is with us this year, is a power for good in Samoan affairs.

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Perhaps there is a possibility of establishing another kind of example which would encourage more rapid progress in the development of self-government. I put this forward simply as a suggestion to the Administering Authority -- that in the town of Apia it has, perhaps, the possibility of establishing some form of municipal government on less traditional lines. In such a form of municipal government on more modern lines/^{such as that existing in New Zealand itself}the inhabitants of Apia might find new processes and have experiences of new processes of election and representation which might in time spread more widely in the more conservative rural areas of Western Samoa.

Here again, of course, I am the first to recognize that there is a historical side to this question. I recognize that the history of municipal government in Apia is not the most happy, and that this undoubtedly would still have an influence on the views of the present generation in the town. But I do suggest that some experiment on a smallish scale in municipal government in Apia might be a kind of yeast which would ultimately leaven the whole.

As I said at the outset of my remarks I have not attempted in any way a complete review of all the aspects of progress in the Territory but, rather, have tried to stress the salient features of the Territory which must condition both the plans and the achievements of the Administering Authority and the attitude of members of the Trusteeship Council. My delegation is confident that the Administering Authority is working sincerely and energetically to achieve the objectives of the trusteeship system, and I should like to congratulate the Samoan Government and, in particular, Mr. Wright on the pains they have taken so fully to inform the Council of conditions in the Territory for the administration of which Her Majesty's Government in New Zealand is responsible.

Mr. de MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) (interpretation from Spanish):

As in previous years the delegation of the Dominican Republic is really interested in the reports on Trust Territories and, I must say, is very happy to have read the present Report of the Government of New Zealand on Western Samoa. This Report comes to the Council on this occasion as the result of the experience gained in previous years. We note that it contains much more detail, and we have no objections at all as to its form. The comprehensive and lucid way in which it has been presented convinces us that the Government of New Zealand merits our praise for the manner in which it has replied to the questionnaires sent out by the Trusteeship Council.

I have very few remarks to make concerning the Report, but I should like to stress some aspects which have been brought out as the result of the questions which have been posed here to Mr. Wright, whom I should like to praise for the patience with which he has replied. I feel that substantial progress has been achieved in the Territory, especially in the political field. Nevertheless I should like to stress once more the fact that the Government of New Zealand, as the Administering Authority, should try to find the best way of consolidating all laws and other legal provisions relating to Western Samoa in an endeavour thus to do away as soon as possible with the anomalies which stem from the 1921 Samoa Act. After all, that Samoa Act was passed when Samoa was still a Mandated Territory. I know that there are certain political difficulties inherent in such a process because any consolidating Act would have to be approved by Parliament after a full debate. Nevertheless, it would be a good thing because if these laws were consolidated in the light of the Trusteeship Agreement and of the Charter that would represent one more step towards the establishment of a real legal edifice in Samoa bound by the Charter and by the Trusteeship Agreement.

My delegation is ^{also} very interested in the matter of the status of the inhabitants, and in this connexion I should like to point out certain facts. I would ask once more that the status of the inhabitants and all the legal implications of a differentiation between them be made the subject of a very careful study and discussion by the Government of New Zealand.

One of the most important and subtle of all questions in the Trusteeship System is to decide once and for all from the point of view of international law the status of the population of a Trust Territory. For the benefit of the Administering Authority we might point out here that the problem is not only the problem of Western Samoa. Western Samoa has no monopoly on this problem which is found and which crops up in all Trust Territories. Up to now certain promises were made in the Trusteeship Council, and the argument that delays have been incurred have been answered by the Administering Authority. We have been promised that certain legislation would be passed to define ^{once} and for all that very important facet of the status of the inhabitants of the Trust Territories. This is so important a matter that I would compare it with a question like sovereignty, the definition of the sovereignty of a territory. It is a problem that has been solved. It was admirably solved in the Trusteeship of Somaliland, for example, and it was defined according to constitutional principles. I say that this is a very important problem because it is one of the angles of the legal situation of the inhabitants. Besides, the status of persons protected by the Government has to be defined, although, internationally speaking, that status is not defined according to the Trusteeship System itself. Unless this definition is made in a clear-cut and concise manner, it will be very difficult for the Administering Authority to take part in the full life of the inhabitants, thus permitting the inhabitants in their turn to take part in the Government of their own territory. We feel that in Western Samoa a great forward step was taken regarding political progress in the Territory, the report of which progress is contained in the Report.

Another forward step was taken as we now know who are Samoans and who are non-Samoans.

The representative of Belgium pointed out that an individual can call upon the Supreme Court to have his status changed, but his status still remains unchanged. There is a duality there that is somewhat confusing, and confusion should never be permitted to exist in the status of a person, especially not in international law and especially also when applied to the constitutionality of an individual under an international system. That problem stresses the importance that we and the Trusteeship Council have always attributed to the fact that the Territory must always maintain its juridical unit. I should also like to say that while my delegation regards with satisfaction the fact that a census was held in

the Territory in 1951; nevertheless we must say that we are sorry that this census was incomplete because, although it was a census of population, it did not contain the necessary information and details for the setting up of a future civil register. The Trusteeship Council has spoken more than once and stated that a civil register must be set up, even if it means overthrowing tradition. Nevertheless, a civil register should be set up. Any arguments raised that customs, traditions and sociological conditions of a territory make it difficult to set up this civil register -- we must say that those arguments have no legal leg to stand on. As statistics are the basis for studies and surveys on which the future of a territory can be based, so the same applies to a civil register. We must say that we are sorry that the special representative, with an open candor which we admired, was unable to give us any hope when he referred to the census of 1951 in the Territory that on a basis of that census a civil register could be set up, because he said that the names of the persons were not included in the census sheets. We feel that if this anomaly were overcome, then the civil register would be in existence in embryo; therefore, I wish to repeat that as far as we are concerned, the civil register is an imperative need for the Territory and will make the future of the Territory much easier to prepare. It is not only of benefit to the Territory but also to the Administering Authority in its governing of the Territory.

In the political field I must say that we are impatiently awaiting the result of the investigations about to be carried out and also the conclusions arrived at by the Committee of Inquiry.

With regard to local government, my delegation has been very interested -- and I know that here in the Council a number of delegations have been interested -- in the establishment of local government, and anything that will lead to the gradual evolution of the municipal system in the Trust Territory. We feel that that is the cornerstone -- and I think this is a truism -- for the setting up of a political organization in this Territory which will permit the final goal of the Trusteeship System to be arrived at.

In the social field I am very happy to note the different aspects contained in the report and also the way in which the Administering Authority has concerned itself with those aspects of public health and co-operation with the inhabitants in order to improve the social standing of the Samoan population.

We were very interested here in what was said by the representative of the United Kingdom, because undoubtedly those reports have to be considered and in considering the reports the essential characteristics of the population must be taken into account.

In the educational field, I should like to suggest that a better orientation should be given to the education of the peoples, because the organized groups of women in the Territory should be guided more efficiently. We understand that the Samoan women are very co-operative in the social balance which has to be established between the different communities in the population. And now, by means of education and by their integration in the village committees of the Territory, the women of Samoa can be led to co-operate very beneficially, not only for the Territory itself but also ^{for} all those who are interested in the future of the Territory.

My delegation therefore would like to suggest perhaps that the Government of New Zealand prepare an integrated plan to give greater scope to Samoan women in the life of Samoa, similar to the groups in Belgian-administered Ruanda-Urundi which are called foyer social. That is also applied in Tanganyika as women's clubs. This work is of great importance and it cannot be assessed immediately. Its results are long and on the basis of the report presented to us in the chapter on the Status of Women, we would suggest the preparation of a plan so that women will be given greater participation in the social and educational life of Samoa.

Finally, as far as educational advancement is concerned, my delegation entirely shares any constructive criticism that was presented here by the representative for Belgium with regard to the diversity of scholastic denominations in the Territory. I feel that we should not act in a routine way in our work. Year after year we have considered territories in the Council, and it appears that all we do is to change the names and play the same records, for the reasons given by the representative of Belgium with regard to the delays in our consideration of some of the reports.

I feel that the time has now come for the Council to take constructive action in its criticisms. As long as the Administering Authority is willing to help the Powers represented in the Council, we ought to take advantage of that and prepare definite plans for activity in the different aspects of Territorial administration.

This will strengthen our ideas. I feel that my suggestion has been supported by the representative of the United Kingdom. In addition, in our summer session we will have presented to us certain definite plans for the African Trust Territories. I feel that then our discussion will be constructive and fruitful. Therefore, my delegation will insist that, because of the progress that has been made by the Administering Authority, it is time for the Administering Authority to present to the Council certain plans in different fields of activity; for example, a plan on education, a programme of public health and a programme of social advancement, as has been or will be done or as has been promised for the political field. I feel that all these should be plans set out on paper. This will avoid criticism in the Fourth Committee in the General Assembly.

I know that we cannot avoid all criticisms by the Fourth Committee, but at least ^{we} will be able to avoid the need for some of them.

At the end of the report there is a summary and conclusions. We find the summary and conclusions very interesting, and I must say that I am the first of the representatives who have spoken here on the report itself who has mentioned it. I wish to thank the Administering Authority for the summary and conclusions on page 62.

I should like to refer to the work of the Administration in education and in the development of the Territory through radio broadcasts. I want to remind you that two years ago, when we were discussing the Samoan report, we stressed and asked a number of questions of the special representative with regard to the organization and utilization of the radio as an educational medium and as a medium of cohesion between the communities in Samoa. I must say that we are pleased to note that these programmes have been improved immensely. However, the report says that some of the hours of the broadcast have been reduced. Perhaps this is a temporary measure or a readjustment of the educational plan of broadcasting as taken up by the Administration. We attribute to radio a great importance in the education of such Territories. Therefore, we feel that any efforts on the part of the Administration to sponsor and foment this type of education is good, just as is any encouragement that the Council is able to give the Administering Authority.

My delegation will propose certain recommendations in this very important field of radio broadcasting in Samoa in the Drafting Committee. We feel that this can be taken as an example by many administering authorities because the manner in which the Government of New Zealand has encouraged broadcasting will be of great interest to all. As my delegation will be present in the Drafting Committee, it will suggest and make suggestions with respect to that matter.

I wish to congratulate Mr. Wright for his patience and the detail with which he has answered our questions, as well as those posed by other representatives on the Council.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will continue on Monday with a general discussion of the report of the Administering Authority on Western Samoa. I should hope that we will be able to conclude the discussion on this report at that time. We will then proceed with the examination of the report on New Guinea.

On Monday at 11 a.m., the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions will meet in Room 12.

The Council will now adjourn until 2.30 Monday afternoon.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.