

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/AC.35/SR.55
30 September 1952

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

Third Session

DOCUMENTS
INDEX UNIT

MASTER

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTY-FIFTH MEETING

6 OCT 1952

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 16 September 1952, at 2 p.m.



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Chairman:

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Members (continued):

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Mr. BUSTAMANTE	Ecuador
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Mr. PIGNON	France
Mr. SHIVA RAO	India
Mr. TAJIBNAPIS	Indonesia
Mr. van BAAL	Netherlands
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Mr. BOSCHIN	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Mr. MATHIESON)	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mr. CHINN	
Mr. CARO	United States of America

Representatives of specialized agencies:

Miss BAMES	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Mr. GAVIN	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Mr. DESTOMES	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Mr. STOCK	World Health Organization (WHO)

Secretariat:

Mr. HOO	Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories
Mr. BENSON	Secretary of the Committee

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES: SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SUMMARIES OF INFORMATION TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e: (a) SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SUMMARIES OF INFORMATION CONCERNING AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION (A/AC.35/L.102, A/AC.35/L.109); (b) QUESTIONS ARISING OUT OF THE SPECIAL REPORT ON ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND DEVELOPMENT ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1951 (A/1836)

Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom), referring to the comments of the Egyptian and Indian representatives on the desirability of securing information on the action taken on the Committee's reports by the Administering Powers, thought that those representatives seemed disappointed at the performance of the United Kingdom. Yet, if the facts were known, there would be little cause for disagreement.

/The United Kingdom

The United Kingdom Government fully agreed with the Indian representative that the interest of the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories should be paramount; that was the essential element of its colonial policy. It made no distinction between the indigenous inhabitants and all others; the inhabitants of the Territory were all the people who had made their homes there, felt a certain loyalty toward it and had identified themselves and their children with its future. In East Africa, for example, people of Indian origin were as much inhabitants of the Territory as the Europeans and Africans. The United Kingdom was concerned with the interests of all those groups. Moreover, it attempted to inculcate a spirit of solidarity and co-operation with the peoples of adjacent and neighbouring territories. Thus, in West Africa, where the French and British dependent territories were close geographically, programmes were planned with due regard for the interests of the adjacent areas; in Uganda, the Owens Falls electricity scheme was being executed in close co-operation with Egypt, for the regulation of the flow of the Nile was of interest to all countries from Uganda to the sea. In the United Kingdom's view, the stress should be placed on the international aspects of the question of economic improvement of the dependent territories. Emphasis on specific group interests should not be encouraged.

The charge made by the USSR representative, who appeared to view the relationship between the metropolitan country and the dependent territories as one of simple exploitation, was wholly unfounded. His view of mining development arose from a misconception. Mining was a costly operation, fraught with the difficulties arising from bad climate, disease and poor communications; it involved tremendous risks and experience had shown that mining enterprises failed more often than they succeeded and caused total losses of huge investments. In Northern Rhodesia, no development would have been possible without the mines. Nevertheless, the major copper-mining company there had earned profits of £7 million in 1948 and £9 million in 1949 after taxation, of which £5 or £6 million had either been distributed as dividends or plowed back. Thus the company had made a substantial contribution to Northern Rhodesia's revenues. As mining companies paid higher taxes than other enterprises, their net profits could not be considered unreasonable. The recent increase in profits had been due to the rise in the world price of copper and to the development programme initiated by the mining enterprises themselves.

/In Malaya,

In Malaya, a recent survey of the national income had shown that remittances of profits and dividends to overseas investors in the period 1947-1949 represented 1 per cent of the national income. Since the entire economy was based on foreign investments, that percentage did not seem excessive.

He agreed with the Egyptian representative that the Administering Powers should be guided by the principles of the Charter in promoting the economic improvement of the dependent territories they administered. They could not, however, be expected blindly to follow the instructions embodied in United Nations resolutions. They must be permitted to adapt such decisions to their needs. Moreover, the 60 Member States could not agree on all aspects of the problems of Non-Self-Governing Territories and an attempt to impose such a hydra-headed Administering Authority would result in a great disservice to the Territories themselves.

The Egyptian representative had observed overtones of complaint in the report of the Chairman of the Colonial Development Corporation about the terms on which advances were made to the Corporation. It must be remembered that the Corporation was obliged to operate on sound commercial principles, and although it was not expected to make a profit, it was expected over the long term to balance its profits and losses. It had been set up to carry out developments which private enterprise found too speculative and acted in conjunction with the colonial government, banks and private investors. Money was lent to it by the British Treasury at the interest rates current on the London market. A full report of its financial structure would be found in the official record of the debates in the House of Lords of 28 May 1952.

The suggestion had been made that the Administering Powers with dependent territories in Africa might consider setting up a body such as the Caribbean or South Pacific Commissions. In fact, such regional arrangements were already in force through the Commission for Technical Co-operation of Africa South of the Sahara and the African Scientific Council. Regular conferences were held between the colonial governments in Africa to examine development questions.

As to Crown lands, about which the USSR representative appeared to be misinformed, they were lands taken under the custody of the Crown in order to avoid encroachment by unauthorized persons. The land was then open to use by the indigenous inhabitants or could be leased, under certain conditions, to non-indigenous persons for agricultural development. The term did not imply a feudal land system. The USSR representative appeared to consider the reservation of forest lands as synonymous with alienation of land from the indigenous population. Forest reserves were widely recognized as an essential factor in conservation, especially in Africa, where land was exposed to severe and rapid erosion.

There also appeared to be a misunderstanding regarding the sterling area system. It did not mean an imposition of measures on the colonial territories for the sole purpose of strengthening the financial position of the United Kingdom Government. "Sterling area" was used to designate those countries using sterling and the financial mechanisms of London to settle their international accounts. It included the Commonwealth nations and half a dozen others, which held their external financial reserves in sterling and transacted the bulk of their external trade in sterling. Unfortunately, sterling was not freely convertible into all currencies and controls had had to be imposed on the amounts spent outside the sterling area. They had become necessary because the total spending of gold and foreign exchange by sterling area countries had largely exceeded their earnings and the sterling reserves held in London had declined sharply. Accordingly, at a conference in London, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, assisted by advisers nominated by the legislatures of the dependent territories, had agreed to consider measures to protect sterling, maintain confidence in it, and correct the prevailing imbalance. The sterling area countries, including the territories dependent on the United Kingdom were under no compulsion to impose those measures.

Normally, the United Kingdom dependent territories imported more from the metropolitan country and the sterling area nations than they exported to them. Moreover, as raw material producers, they tended to export more to the dollar area countries than they imported from them. In the past two years, as a result of a very high volume of exports, they had built up a temporary "surplus" with the rest of the world, and particularly with the dollar area. That surplus

/had now

had now, however, almost disappeared as a result of the recession referred to by the FAO representative. The Far Eastern territories and West Africa were in surplus with the dollar area and in deficit with the non-dollar area, the East and Central African territories were in balance with both, and the Caribbean territories were in overall deficit with the dollar area and in surplus with the sterling area, to which they exported the bulk of their principal commodities.

As raw material producers, the dependent territories had been able not only to continue their development, but to build up savings. Obviously, like all countries, they ran the risk of their savings depreciating. But they were fortunate in that they did not have to draw on savings to maintain the balance of their imports, and as raw material producers the terms of trade remained favourable for them longer than for raw material importing countries. It was not true that the controls placed on imports by the dependent territories from the dollar area operated to their detriment. The central reserves of the United Kingdom were fluid and could be channeled, through the Bank of England, to meet the territories' needs. Those needs were the basis of a common policy worked out with the metropolitan country through periodic consultations. In November, for example, a conference was to be held in London to review the position of the sterling area and decide what restrictions were to be tightened or relaxed; the Non-Self-Governing Territories would be represented at that meeting. Controls were administered by the territorial governments themselves and adapted to specific needs.

Finally, it had been argued that by remaining in the sterling area, the territories were deprived of substantial dollar investments. That was an oversimplification. The declared policy of the United Kingdom, on the contrary, was to encourage investments from outside the sterling area on suitable terms, bearing in mind the need to prevent the wholesale flight of capital from the territories. Each colonial government weighed the advisability of such investments from the point of view of their contribution to the territory's development.

A dependent territory did not contribute its earnings in non-sterling currency to the metropolitan country. Those earnings were subject only to the limitations imposed on the purchase of non-sterling goods and the availability of goods which could be bought with sterling. It must be borne in mind that the greater part of the sterling balances constituted backing for local currencies.

Of course, there were certain disadvantages in being a member of the sterling area. Withdrawal from it, however, would require the establishment of a local currency standing on its own credit and the building up of the territories' own foreign exchange and own gold reserves. Moreover, with sterling reserves held as backing for their local currencies, it would hardly be practicable for the territories to withdraw from the sterling area and doubtful that they could build the same kind of economic relationship with another currency area. The small range of goods they produced would become vulnerable to world market fluctuations and they would not be able to draw on the central sterling reserves. Should they withdraw, the United Kingdom would treat them as it did non-sterling area countries. There was little inducement for the dependent territories to quit the sterling bloc. Malaya, for example, which was the biggest dollar earner, would suffer a catastrophe as a result of a drop of sixpence per pound in the price of rubber. Withdrawal from the sterling area would deprive the dependent territories of the benefit of participation in one-third of the world's trade in sterling.

In a recent statement to the press, the Nigerian Minister of Commerce and Industries had reaffirmed the economic independence of the British dependent territories and their full participation in all decisions taken to control imports from non-sterling sources without detriment to the interests of the territories' populations.

Mr. PIGNON (France), replying to several points raised by the representatives of India, Egypt and Pakistan, assured them that the French ministries carefully studied and took into account the views contained in all documents issued by the Committee.

As the Indian representative had observed, with the exception of Morocco and Madagascar, there was no coal or oil in the French territories for the production of power and hydraulic resources had had to be exploited to the

full. Accordingly, huge sums had been invested in constructing and equipping hydro-electric projects, in particular in French West Africa, French Equatorial Africa, Morocco and Tunisia, with the result that kilowatt output had in some cases been more than trebled. Plans were under way further to increase power production in those territories.

Much progress had also been accomplished in seed selection and distribution, as well as in the use of improved fertilizers. Through the many laboratories and agricultural services in French North Africa, a great deal had been done in the way of hybridization and diversification of food crops. Skilled staff had been increased throughout the French dependent territories, making possible many new experiments and tests designed to raise the productivity of the different types of soil. Agricultural officials were successfully teaching the indigenous farmers to apply the new techniques and products.

While it would seem profitable to build up dairy industry in the French African territories owing to the large numbers of cattle, only Morocco and Tunisia had developed dairy production to any extent. The situation was largely due to the fact that the Africans did not drink milk and attached great importance to the possession of many heads of cattle, the symbol of wealth and position. Work had, however, progressed in the selection of cattle according to use: for dairy produce or slaughter. The key to satisfactory dairy production was abundant fodder of high quality. To ensure that, a programme of well-drilling was being systematically carried out in the plateaux regions and in French West Africa. From the experience in cattle selection for dairy production in India, Pakistan and Cambodia, it could be seen that the principal difficulty in North Africa would be to maintain fodder during the dry season. Special attention was therefore being given to improving the stock of the lagoon regions.

The French Government was likewise pursuing its campaign to exterminate locusts and other insect pests which destroyed plant life in the dependent African territories. Many million of francs had been spent on spraying equipment and insecticides and valuable crops were being effectively protected.

Unfortunately, owing to the fact that relatively few plantation owners were holders of deeds, the regular credit system applied in the metropolitan country had only limited application to French overseas territories.

The tribal and family basis of land holding had led the French authorities to adapt the agricultural credit system by establishing local funds out of nominal taxes, from which short-term loans were made in the form of money or seed. Full information on the operation of those funds was contained in the French Government's report for 1951 (A/2131 and Addenda).

Savings were beginning to assume great importance, particularly in French West Africa and French Equatorial Africa. In those territories, one-third of the expenditure for local public works was being financed by indigenous savings and other local capital and indigenous investments had increased considerably. In French West Africa and French Equatorial Africa, stabilization funds had been created for cocoa and cotton and were used exclusively to improve the crops and to provide bonuses for exceptionally productive workers. In Madagascar, a Federation of Chambers of Commerce, with equal numbers of indigenous and non-indigenous members, had been active in promoting agricultural improvements since 1950. Two new organs had recently been set up to facilitate the introduction of modern agricultural techniques, new cattle-breeding methods and forest conservation programmes.

Despite the difficulties encountered in the French dependent territories in mobilizing indigenous savings and encouraging the investment of local capital in domestic enterprises, the indigenous peoples were increasing their participation in business and investing some capital in local road building. They were still uninterested in long-term investments, but there were some encouraging signs. In Ubangi, for example, exclusively African mining companies were appearing and the Compagnie Minière de la Guinée Française had not only been constituted with indigenous capital, but had indigenous members on its board of directors. In Madagascar, 8 out of 39 rice plantations in the province of Tananarive were run by the indigenous inhabitants, 12 printing plants out of 25 were under Madagascan management and 6 tobacco companies were owned by Madagascans. Throughout French West Africa and French Equatorial Africa, many small building, transport and hotel-keeping businesses were in African hands. In short, indigenous participation in the economic and industrial development of the French dependent territories continued to increase.

Mr. CALERO RODRIGUES (Brazil) appreciated the New Zealand representative's view shared by the United States and United Kingdom delegations, that the Administering Powers were not obliged to supply more information than that submitted under Article 73e, but had been somewhat surprised at the United Kingdom representative's reference to a "demand" for further information. There was no question of the Committee demanding information, and he hoped that some acceptable arrangement could be secured in a friendly spirit. The Committee's reports were intended as advice and not as instructions to be implemented by the Administering Powers.

Mr. SHIVA RAO (India) remarked that he had been likewise surprised at the New Zealand representative's allusion to "legal obligations". The Committee had worked smoothly and harmoniously precisely because it preferred agreements and understandings to legal obligations. An illustration of that spirit was the way in which the United States and Danish delegations had voluntarily chosen to ignore the distinction between the optional and non-optional parts of the Standard Form in making their replies. Another example was the voluntary submission by the United Kingdom representative of a comprehensive report on the administration of United Kingdom colonial territories.

The Committee had been authorized by the General Assembly to adopt substantive resolutions on the subjects in its purview, but there was no obligation on the part of the Administering Powers to implement its decisions. His delegation considered that, when certain committees had studied the social, economic and educational aspects of development in detail and when the General Assembly had adopted recommendations and resolutions on them, the Administering Powers should follow up those recommendations and resolutions by supplying information additional to that submitted in reply to the Standard Form. There was nothing new in his suggestion, the main objective of which was to provide the Committee with more extensive information.

Mr. BUSTAMANTE (Ecuador) said that his delegation would not make any general statement on the economic aspect of development in the Non-Self-Governing Territories as the Committee was supposed to concern itself, during the current session, with the social conditions in those areas.

The available information on certain aspects of economic development was incomplete, but the studies prepared by the Secretariat provided extremely useful guidance and he wished to record his appreciation of the Secretariat's work. He had noted with satisfaction the progress achieved in developing dependent territories, as set forth in the documents before the Committee, but he also felt some anxiety, particularly because of the decrease in the rate of industrial development in certain branches. It was, however, gratifying to find that encouraging progress had been made in certain basic aspects of development such as electrification and the supply of building materials.

He supported the Egyptian representative's suggestion, which had been amplified by the Indian representative, and would study it more closely when it was presented in more concrete terms.

His delegation greatly appreciated the economic, social and educational progress registered in assisting the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to reach the full development and enjoyment of their resources.

Mr. TAJIBNAPIS (Indonesia) remarked that certain points raised at the previous meeting, for example, the question of the proceeds of companies and monopolies established in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, had not been fully answered. At the same time he had been glad to note the readiness of the United Kingdom representative and representatives of other Administering Authorities to answer his questions regarding indigenous capital. By indigenous capital Mr. Tajibnapis meant capital owned, for instance, in Malaya by Malaysians and in Africa by Africans. According to the United Kingdom and Belgian representatives, no such capital existed in the Territories under the administration of their respective governments; the French representative had given him reason to believe that indigenous capital was to be found in French North Africa. Since the Committee was supposed to concentrate mainly on social questions at its current session, he would reserve his right to raise the matter again some time in the future if the Committee again considered economic conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

He then asked the United Kingdom representative how the sterling balances of dependent territories were secured and held by the metropolitan country and what would happen to them if the pound was devalued. Since a certain proportion of them had been obtained from dollars, there was some disadvantage for the United Kingdom dependent territories in being included in the sterling area.

/He also

He also wondered what rate of interest, if any, the sterling balances of Non-Self-Governing Territories yielded.

Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) explained that by "local capital" he had meant capital at the disposal of the people, governments, marketing boards, individual traders or co-operative societies of a given territory. The term "indigenous" meant little to him in that context. The Indonesian representative had explained that his interpretation of "indigenous" was capital held, for instance, by Malaysians in Malaya and Africans in Africa. In that sense, an African would be a person born in Africa. Yet capital imported to Africa might originally be external, but would become local if its owner became a resident there.

There was little capital at the disposal of so-called "indigenous" Malaysians, although certain profits had recently been made from the sale of rubber, as Malaysians tended to hoard their assets. The Chinese in Malaya possibly had more fluid capital for investment.

The sterling balances, referred to by the Indonesian representative, were not held in London by the metropolitan Government but by the colonial Governments themselves. If the pound was revalued, holders of sterling balances would benefit or lose according to the nature of the revaluation. The balances bore interest, the rate depending on the type of investment. It was for the colonial governments concerned to ensure that they made the best use of their funds, a certain amount of which was usually kept accessible for current withdrawals.

BASIC SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES: SECRETARY-GENERAL'S ANALYSES OF INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY THE ILO AND WHO; (2) GENERAL POLICIES AND MAJOR PROBLEMS OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (A/AC.35/L.94)

Mr. BENSON (Secretary of the Committee) explained that document A/AC.35/L.94 was intended to provide an introduction to the other documents on general policies and major problems of social development. Documents A/AC.2132/Add.1 and A/AC.2134/Add.1 were also of an introductory nature. Document A/AC.35/L.93 included a brief statement by UNESCO on its activities in the social sciences.

Mr. FAHMY (Egypt) said that his statement should not be interpreted as criticism, but as a constructive and objective appraisal of the policies and activities of the Administering Powers.

The welfare of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories was the ultimate aim and desire of all the Committee members and the only sentiment which should prevail was the desire for the welfare of all peoples, particularly of those who were less advanced.

He congratulated the Secretariat on the very valuable documentation submitted to the Committee. He was gratified to find that, while the existing medical facilities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories were being extended and improved, there was a tendency to shift the emphasis from the curative to the preventive aspect. The Committee should commend the enterprise shown by the United Kingdom, and perhaps other Administering Powers too, in some of their dependent territories in developing health centres and mobile units designed to encourage the co-operation of the local populations and to arouse health consciousness by education and persuasion. He hoped that such a basic policy would be applied to the utmost by all the Administering Powers.

The Belgian authorities were also to be congratulated on their announcement that improvement of public health was the primary objective of the ten-year-plan for the economic and social development of the Belgian Congo. The appropriations voted in 1952 indicated that the plan was designed to stress the economic aspects of development in the Belgian Congo.

Public health in the Non-Self-Governing Territories should be the ultimate long-term objective of all development policies and the primary condition for efficient economic and social expansion. In addition to the existing medical and public health facilities, special stress should be laid on the health education of dependent peoples and on improving their diet and nutrition.

The expert conclusions of the African Conference on Food and Nutrition had refuted ignorant assertions that the indigenous inhabitants of Equatorial Africa were lazy, inefficient and altogether disinterested in bettering their lot, pointing out that the impossibility for the indigenous
/inhabitants

inhabitants to make any sustained effort and their apathy seemed to be due to the lack of a balanced diet rather than to racial characteristics. The reports of the Administering Powers unanimously confirmed that the problem of malnutrition was the most acute of the health problems in the dependent Territories and that no preventive or curative campaigns against endemic diseases were likely to succeed unless vigorous steps were taken to raise nutritional standards. The Committee would appreciate the joint action taken in that connexion by the Joint FAO-WHO Expert Committee on Nutrition and by some Administering Powers in establishing units, institutes and committees to deal with the food and nutrition problem and in organizing regional conferences to co-ordinate the efforts of individual experts and local governments. Further studies and co-ordination under the auspices of FAO and WHO should be encouraged, particular stress being laid on the importance of wages and living standards in improving the indigenous diet.

He welcomed the documents submitted by WHO, but he had expected to receive from FAO, WHO, or both acting jointly, a fuller account of their findings, conclusions and recommendations on the problem of nutrition in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Referring to the WHO memorandum (A/AC.35/L.84) on the joint FAO-WHO inquiry into the widespread tropical and sub-tropical African disease known as "Kwashiorkor", he pointed out that a complete report on the inquiry had been issued by FAO in March 1952 in its publication "Kwashiorkor in Africa"; he drew the Committee's attention to chapter 4 in particular.

He had been disturbed by some basic trends in the policies of the Administering Powers. The Secretariat had referred in its memorandum to the distressing fact that existing development programmes were primarily concerned with laying the economic foundations for future social advancement rather than with immediate social reforms and their indirect economic consequences. A much more disturbing statement, made with reference to the Uganda development plan, was that a country in the long run could only have the social services that it could pay for and that, if the revenue for the expansion of health and education did not exist, the only course was to press on with the production of national wealth. Accordingly, drastic limits had generally been set to the development of social services and, in a number of territories, the original versions of the development programmes had had to be curtailed. The implication evidently was that the dependent territories

were supposed to become self-sufficient and were not entitled to any financial help from the Administering Powers even in the form of long-term loans. He strongly doubted whether that policy would help the territories concerned in achieving their ultimate objective as set forth in the Charter.

He realized that some of the Administering Powers had their own financial difficulties and that the fact that certain territories were economically poor added to the burden of the metropolitan country. But it would always be difficult to believe that some of the dependent territories constituted a burden. It could be presumed that the colonial Powers never hesitated to invest the necessary funds in order to exploit fully the economic resources of such territories. If a relatively fair part of such investments were assigned to the requirements of social development, that would be closer to the ideal policy of good government.

Presumably the colonial Powers always took into consideration the immense invisible profits drawn from their overseas territories, the profits of their private enterprises, the high salaries and pensions of metropolitan government employees paid from the colonial budgets and - a point which he brought up only with great reluctance - the immense manpower they recruited for their armies and military bases. Many military victories had been added to the history of empires by colonial armies made up of people who were apparently to be denied extra-budgetary funds for their social welfare and development because their humble economic resources were insufficient. His remarks were not intended as a reproach, but as an appeal for generosity on behalf of needy territories.

It was most comforting to note the enlightened social policies governing the administration of some dependent territories. For example, the United Kingdom report on the plan for the economic development of Sierre Leone stated that, if it was true that expanding social services were not possible without expanding production, it was equally true that expanding production was not likely to last without knowledgeable, healthy and vigorous producers.

Another problem, illustrated in the documents submitted by the Secretariat and the Administering Powers, was that certain territories lacked the economic assets on which to base a large-scale expansion of centrally administered social services and that the limitations of material resources could be overcome by calling on the potentialities of the inhabitants. It thus appeared that some Administering Powers felt that their dependent territories had to rely solely on their own resources for their social progress and development; others tried to increase the economic assets of their territories by exploiting their economic resources to the full in defiance of sound principles; while others believed that the difficulty could be solved by calling on the potentialities of the peoples under their administration. Economic and social development must be undertaken concurrently, otherwise administration assumed the detestable character of exploitation.

All the information received from the Administering Powers confirmed that the housing problem in the Non-Self-Governing Territories was still one of increasing gravity because of the very poor housing conditions in the rural areas and the overcrowding of urban centres. One basic remedy was the inauguration of self-help programmes. Model towns, cottages and villages with adequate water supplies, ventilation, light and sanitary conditions, if provided by the government or co-operative societies and distributed over the rural areas, would encourage the local population to improve their housing, with the assistance of the administration in the form of funds, tools, materials and expert advice. Egypt had achieved considerable success in rural housing improvement by applying that scheme, and the designs and plans of its model farms and villages had been transmitted to the Secretariat. But the solution to the housing problem in territories with limited resources also depended on the financial assistance of the Administering Powers, which should make grants, advance loans free of interest and abolish or reduce taxes on newly built houses.

Many of the Administering Powers, according to their reports, recognized the increasing need for the indigenous populations to participate in the administration of social programmes. He had been disappointed to note (A/AC.35/L.9, paragraph 60) that the Secretariat had experienced difficulty

/in examining

in examining the part played by the indigenous inhabitants in framing social policies. He felt that the Secretariat had been unwilling to deal promptly with that very important aspect on the erroneous assumption that the relevant information was of a political nature and thus outside its scope and the Committee's terms of reference. No social or economic policy could be successfully implemented without the prior consent of the indigenous inhabitants, and the most democratic way of obtaining that consent was to let them participate in framing policy. Information on the participation of the indigenous inhabitants in the administration of social services should therefore be accompanied by information on their participation in the formulation of policy. He could not agree that such information was political information outside the Committee's terms of reference. In support of his contention that the indigenous inhabitants should participate in the formulation of any policy of vital concern to them, he referred the Committee to its reports on education and economic problems which it had approved in the first case unanimously and in the second by 15 votes to 1. The Committee should be encouraged by the heartening news that the representatives of the people in certain metropolitan countries considered that the overseas territories should be consulted before development programmes were planned. In the Assembly of the French Union, for instance, criticism had been voiced at the June session because the French four-year plan had been promulgated without the prior consultation of the overseas territories and because it departed from the purpose of the Act of 30 April 1936, which had laid down that priority should be given to satisfying the needs of the indigenous populations. The real problem in staffing the administrative services of some Non-Self-Governing Territories in Equatorial Africa was not essentially one of quantity but rather of quality. During his service as a consular officer in the Congo basin, he had met some colonial agents who were highly qualified and closely acquainted with local conditions and problems, who were fond of their surroundings and of the inhabitants, who spoke the vernacular and who respected indigenous customs and traditions. They deserved the high esteem of all. But others literally hated everything around them; they

ill-treated and despised the indigenous inhabitants and would leave hatred and contempt behind them. It was highly doubtful whether any social policy or development programmes could be accepted by the indigenous peoples when introduced or imposed by the latter type of officials.

He appealed to the Administering Powers through the Committee to ensure that justice was done to the administered peoples and that greater care was taken in selecting administrative officers in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The colonial training schools and institutes in the metropolitan countries might teach their students to appreciate the indigenous inhabitants before they gave instruction in administration.

Mr. PIGNON (France) stressed the close connexion between social and economic problems in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. It was generally agreed that standards of living in the Territories must be raised by means of increased production; yet there could be no increase in production without an abundance of healthy and competent workers, which in turn meant that the inhabitants of the Territories must be protected against disease and social evils, must be well fed and must have received a certain amount of training, all of which depended upon the necessary social action. On the other hand, any improvement in material conditions, particularly in the case of nutrition, was partly dependent upon increased production. Again, emphasis had been laid upon the need to extend industrial crops, as a means of increasing revenue: in view, however, of the poverty and consequent limited output of the soil in most Non-Self-Governing Territories, that could be done only at the cost of food crops. The worker might earn more money, but he would probably have less food. Furthermore, the concentration of industries in the large towns drew the workers from the land to the towns, producing yet more social problems.

It had been with those facts in mind that France had attacked the social problems in its overseas territories: in planning its social policy, it had concentrated upon the basic problems, at the same time studying the new problems brought about by economic and social development.

The first basic problem had been that of health. The physical conditions of the inhabitants had been deplorable: epidemics and endemic diseases, combined with the high rate of infant mortality, had made any increase in population impossible. The first efforts had therefore been directed towards improving health conditions, for without a healthy population any efforts towards increased production and an improved economy would have been useless. That, however, had not been enough; it had next been necessary to raise the moral and intellectual level of the people, to make the inhabitants conscious of their dignity and their responsibilities and to single out the leading personalities so much needed in the territory. Moreover, work had had to be found for those whose land was too poor to support them; the development of the land and the increased number of agricultural, commercial and industrial workers had then made it necessary to set up some kind of machinery for the welfare of the workers.

All the foregoing improvements had in turn called for a certain social education of the people, for all would have been in vain had the masses, and particularly the women who, as mothers, formed the keystone of any social development, remained impervious to progress.

New problems had arisen with the economic and social progress achieved. In the first place, the opening of new channels of communication, the development of trade and the introduction of a currency to cover the new needs had all tended to disrupt the old idea of collective ownership in favour of individual ownership; the emerging idea of the individual had in turn led to a progressive weakening of the tribal solidarity which had in the past formed the strength of the community. That phenomenon had been particularly noticeable in the large towns, where the rapid influx of population had brought in its train new problems of housing, sanitary conditions, price inflation and scarcity of food. Moreover, the formation of new social strata which, released from the traditional forms of community living, had as yet found no substitute for that way of life, brought with it a disintegration of family life, with all the attendant social consequences.

France could indeed be proud of its achievements in the field of health. Having first listed the many diseases rampant in the territories, it had set itself to combat them, establishing research centres of the Pasteur Institute in each of its principal territories. Health centres had then been set up in the larger communities, a network of 2,700 centres of various types, with a total of 68,000 beds - 53,000 in Tropical Africa and 15,000 in North Africa - having by now been established. Mobile groups had also been sent out for preventive work and had gradually developed into the present system of mobile health and prophylactic services in French Equatorial Africa and French West Africa, anti-plague and anti-malarial services in Madagascar, and health and disease detection groups in North Africa. Mother and child welfare had been provided for by the establishment of seven maternity homes in Tunisia, 52 in Morocco, 186 in French Equatorial Africa, 69 in French West Africa and 125 in Madagascar, while pre-natal care had been greatly increased.

The results so far achieved included, in Madagascar, the eradication of smallpox and such progress in the anti-malaria campaign as to remove the deathrate from malaria from first to fifth place in the territory and to increase the surplus births from a yearly average of 10,000 to more than 75,000, while the anti-plague campaign had resulted in the annual number of cases decreasing from several thousands in 1926 to a few hundreds only. In French Equatorial Africa and French West Africa the incidence of sleeping sickness had been reduced to a minimum, the anti-yellow-fever prophylaxis had reduced cases of the disease to an average of less than one per year, while plague had disappeared from Senegal since 1946. In North Africa malaria had practically been eradicated and the great plague and typhus epidemics that had formerly ravaged the territory had been eliminated.

No action, however, could be complete without the co-operation of the local inhabitants. To that end medical schools had been established at Dakar and Tananarive; a generous scholarship system had made it possible for numbers of students to complete their training abroad; schools for nurses and other specialized assistants had been set up in most of the large towns. The result was a large body of local medical personnel, including 715 doctors, 750 midwives and more than 8,000 nurses and health workers in Tropical Africa alone.

/More recently

El Sr. PIGNON (Francia) destaca la conexión estrecha que existe entre los problemas sociales y económicos en los territorios no autónomos. El consenso general admite que deben elevarse las condiciones de vida en los territorios mediante el incremento de la producción; sin embargo, no puede aumentar la producción sin que haya gran número de trabajadores sanos y capaces, lo cual a su vez significa que los habitantes de los territorios deben estar protegidos contra las enfermedades y los males sociales; que se les debe alimentar y proporcionar cierto grado de formación profesional, todo lo cual depende de la necesaria acción social. Por otra parte, todo mejoramiento en las condiciones materiales, especialmente en el caso de la nutrición, depende en parte del aumento de la producción. Nuevamente, se ha dado preferencia a la necesidad de incrementar las cosechas de materias primas elaborables, como medio de aumentar los ingresos; sin embargo, considerando que el suelo en la mayoría de los territorios es pobre y, por consiguiente, de producción limitada, eso podrá lograrse únicamente a expensas de las cosechas destinadas a la alimentación. El trabajador podría ganar más dinero, pero probablemente dispondría de menos alimentos. Además, la concentración de las industrias en las grandes poblaciones hace que los trabajadores abandonen la tierra para dirigirse a las ciudades, lo cual origina nuevos problemas sociales.

Francia ha encarado los problemas sociales en sus territorios de ultramar teniendo en cuenta esos hechos; al proyectar su política social, se ha concentrado en los problemas básicos, estudiando al mismo tiempo los nuevos problemas planteados por el desarrollo económico y social.

El primer problema fundamental fué la sanidad. El estado de salud de los habitantes era deplorable: las enfermedades epidémicas y endémicas combinadas con la alta tasa de mortalidad infantil hacían imposible un aumento de población. Los primeros esfuerzos se concentraron, por consiguiente, en el mejoramiento de las condiciones sanitarias porque, sin una población saludable, cualquier esfuerzo por aumentar la producción y mejorar la economía habría sido inútil. Sin embargo, esto no fué suficiente; el próximo paso fué elevar el nivel moral e intelectual de la población, para crear en los habitantes la conciencia de su dignidad y de sus responsabilidades y para dar la oportunidad de destacarse a los individuos de personalidad sobresaliente que tanto se necesitan en el territorio. Además, había que encontrar trabajo para aquellos

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cuyas tierras eran demasiado pobres para proporcionarles el sustento. El desarrollo agrario y el mayor número de trabajadores agrícolas, comerciales e industriales hizo entonces necesario el establecimiento de una cierta organización para el bienestar de los trabajadores.

Las mejoras precedentes demandaban, a su vez, una cierta educación social de la población, pues todo hubiera sido en vano si las masas, y especialmente las mujeres que, como madres, constituyen la piedra angular de cualquier progreso social, se hubieran mantenido reacias al progreso.

Con el progreso social y económico surgieron nuevos problemas. En primer lugar, la inauguración de nuevas vías de comunicación, el desarrollo del comercio y la introducción de una moneda para hacer frente a las nuevas necesidades, tienden a debilitar la antigua idea de propiedad colectiva en favor de la propiedad individual; la idea naciente de lo individual ocasiona, a su vez, el debilitamiento progresivo de la solidaridad tribal, que en el pasado constituía la fuerza de la comunidad. Este fenómeno ha sido particularmente visible en los núcleos urbanos grandes, donde la afluencia rápida de población ha creado nuevos problemas de vivienda, condiciones sanitarias, inflación de precios y escasez de alimentos. Además, la formación de nuevas clases sociales que, liberadas de las formas tradicionales de vida de la comunidad, no han encontrado todavía el sustituto a su anterior manera de vivir, produce la desintegración de la vida familiar con todas sus consecuencias sociales.

Francia puede estar muy orgullosa de su obra en materia de sanidad. Después de catalogar las muchas enfermedades que hacían estragos en los territorios, se dispuso a combatirlas, estableciendo centros de investigación del Instituto Pasteur en cada uno de sus territorios principales. Se establecieron centros médicos en las comunidades más pobladas, y actualmente existe una red de 2.700 centros de varios tipos, con un total de 68.000 camas, 53.000 en el Africa Tropical y 15.000 en el Africa Septentrional. Se han destacado grupos ambulantes de sanidad preventiva que, gradualmente, se han transformado en el sistema actual de servicios ambulantes de sanidad y profilácticos del Africa Ecuatorial Francesa y del Africa Occidental Francesa; en los servicios contra las epidemias y antipalúdicos en Madagascar; y en los grupos de sanidad y de denuncia de casos de enfermedades en el Africa Septentrional. Se ha atendido al bienestar de la madre y el niño estableciendo 7 maternidades en

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social service which was to study social problems and their solution, develop social services in the territories and train social workers. A Bill to set up social affairs services in each territory had been placed before the French Parliament in February 1952. Finally, a Higher Council of Social Affairs, upon which representatives of the overseas territories served, advised the Department on social policy.

Thirty-one per cent of the budgets of France's overseas territories had been devoted to social efforts, while in Morocco 24.9 per cent of the regular budget and 38.5 per cent of the extraordinary budget had been used for that purpose.

Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) was grateful to the Egyptian representative for having opened the discussion with such a stimulating statement, which, however, he considered rather too gloomy on two points.

In the first place, the Egyptian representative had said that it appeared from the information supplied that the Non-Self-Governing Territories were not receiving any financial assistance from the Metropolitan Governments for the development of their social services. That was not so: in the case of the United Kingdom, development plans provided for the expenditure of £450 million over the next few years and one-fifth of that amount was being supplied from the United Kingdom exchequer. The concept that the Non-Self-Governing Territories could have only those social services which they could afford to pay for was quite incorrect, although it was axiomatic that a territory should have only what it could afford to maintain in the long run. Otherwise, its dependence upon external aid would of necessity be perpetuated - a fact which would not be in accordance with the obligations assumed under the United Nations Charter by Members responsible for the administration of the territories.

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At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Chinn, Social Welfare Adviser to the British Secretary of State for the Colonies, took a place at the Committee table.

Mr. CHINN (United Kingdom) said that he had been impressed by the Egyptian representative's statement with regard to the difficulties experienced by any Government trying to improve the standard of living of the people of under-developed areas and he hoped to be able to answer one or two of his points.

It had been only in recent years that social welfare had come to be considered the responsibility of the Governments of dependent territories. That fact was not always appreciated by the metropolitan governments, which had had highly organized social services for a generation or more. As far as the United Kingdom Government was concerned, attention had been focussed on the need for official action as a result of social problems accentuated by World War II. On the West Coast of Africa, for example, a large number of young people had drifted to the towns during the war, had become a social nuisance and had had to be dealt with as juvenile delinquents. Social welfare in that territory had therefore started with a stress on juvenile delinquency and the rehabilitation of the young people who had become delinquents and dependents. In East Africa, government attention had been focussed upon adult rather than juvenile problems. Numbers of the inhabitants had joined the United Kingdom forces during the war and as ex-servicemen they naturally required the communal services they had experienced while serving. In South-East Asia, the problem had been one of relief of distress and destitution resulting from the occupation and reoccupation of the territory.

An interesting factor of early development was that concentration on the specific problem of any given territory was wont to lead to the establishment of complete social services. In Nigeria, for instance, from a beginning with juvenile delinquency, social services had been extended to include the foundation of boys' clubs, family case work and village improvement schemes in Lagos. In the Gold Coast, a large department of social welfare, administered

by an African Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Prisons, had been organized and the Gold Coast Government had produced a ten-year plan for social development. In Kenya an interesting experiment in adult education in the form of the Jeanne School, to which he would refer in greater detail later, had resulted from the establishment of a training centre for ex-servicemen. Tanganyika, on the other hand, had provided an example of the imposition of social services before the people of the territory were prepared for them: social centres had been built for the returning ex-servicemen, but they had gone back to their villages and had made no use of them. In Hong Kong, from a beginning in the form of relief work, family case work and community work had developed. In Malaya a Department of Social Welfare had been set up from the relief organizations that had operated immediately after the war. In Singapore the Government had provided feeding centres for children and adults. As a result of a recommendation of the Royal Commission in 1939, an attempt had been made to set up a social welfare service in the British West Indies, financed by the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund from the British Treasury. Emphasis had been mainly upon nutrition and housing and some of the islands had become the first dependent territories to have a self-help housing scheme.

In order to assist territorial governments to develop their social welfare programmes, the Secretary of State for the Colonies had set up an Advisory Council on Social Welfare, consisting of recognized experts on various aspects of social welfare and had appointed an Adviser whose duties included personal visits to the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The main problem in social development was to integrate the two aspects of social welfare - the constructive or preventive aspect, and the remedial - into a single programme. Many territories for which the United Kingdom was responsible had gone far in providing machinery for the treatment of delinquency and other social problems; some territories already had provision for public assistance and non-contributory old-age pensions. It had been the United Kingdom policy in recent years to encourage the introduction of constructive measures of social welfare and thus to try to anticipate and prevent the more serious social ills. Rapid economic development, with the consequent disruption of traditional customs and established forms of social organization, had produced problems, as it were

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overnight, for which no easy solution was available. While the obvious social evils, such as delinquency, must be dealt with as they arose, it was essential to try to anticipate the effects of economic development on those in whose interests it operated. An attempt in that direction was being made by the use of the community development technique, which was designed to secure the support and participation of the people in the programmes for their social and economic betterment. The majority of the United Kingdom colonial territories had some form of community development, though the pattern was by no means uniform.

It was, of course, obvious that social advance was impossible without trained leaders; the training of local officers in all aspects of social development was engaging the attention of all the territorial governments. In Malaya and Hong Kong schools of social study had been organized; on the Gold Coast rural training centres to train officers to work at village level had been set up. Training was also being given in the United Kingdom, both at the university level and in the form of ad hoc courses for both European and indigenous officers. The crux of any such training scheme was that all should have a common basis of training.

In view of the United Kingdom policy of not imposing welfare schemes on the local governments, there was bound to be a wide diversification of methods and an unevenness of development, the problems of one area not necessarily being those of another. The underlying principle was that emphasis must be placed on the social side of development, a point of view that was becoming more and more appreciated by the dependent territories.

In conclusion, Mr. Chinn associated himself with those who had expressed appreciation of document A/AC.35/L.94, with the sole reservation that certain quotations from United Kingdom sources were now out of date.

The meeting rose at 5.45 p.m.