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BASIC SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES: SECRETARY-GENERAL'S ANALYSES OF INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY ILO AND WHO: (b) RACE RELATIONS AND OTHER ASPECTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (A/2132/Add.1, A/2134/Add.1; A/AC.35/L.87, A/AC.35/L.93, A/AC.35/L.97) (continued)

Mr. SHIVA RAO (India) emphasized that the Committee must not try to transform itself into a replica of the specialized agencies; its function was to consider certain economic, social and educational aspects of development, but not to study them in the abstract. So much literature had been presented recently that he had found even superficial perusal difficult. The Committee must constantly bear in mind that the primary objective was the self-government of the dependent territories. That guiding principle must remain behind every policy, programme and legislative act of the Administering Powers. Fortunately for the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories that general principle had not been left undefined: they were promised not only progress in their economic, social and educational development, but also fair treatment and protection against abuses.

At the previous meeting the United Kingdom representative had referred to an official document published by the Indian Government as the 1951 report of the Commission for schedule castes and tribes. It must be pointed out that not all of those castes and tribes belonged to the "untouchable" category; many of them, though economically and socially backward when compared with other Indian groups, did not suffer from the stigma of untouchability. It was doubtful whether there was any other area of the world where so many millions of people were classified as backward, but for whom there was such ample provision in the national Constitution.

The United Kingdom representative had quoted from the concluding paragraphs of the report, in which the Commissioner responsible for the castes and tribes had stated that legislation was not very effective unless supported by strong public opinion. The preamble of the Indian Constitution laid down that all Indian citizens were ensured social, economic and political justice, freedom of

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thought, expression, religion and worship and equality of status and opportunity. In implementation of those rights, a system had been established under which any citizen who felt that they had been violated was entitled to appeal even to the Supreme Court. In a number of cases reference had in fact been made to the Supreme Court and, in certain cases, the Court had ruled that violations had taken place and had obliged the executive to retrace its steps. The basic rights of every Indian citizen were therefore very real. One article of the Constitution prohibited the dismissal of any citizen on grounds of race, caste or religion and no citizen was restricted in his access to shops, entertainments, hotels, public baths, resorts, public education and similar facilities and institutions.

In 1951 a sum equivalent to \$40 million had been assigned as grants-in-aid to expedite the economic and social progress of the castes and tribes. At the general elections at the beginning of 1952 a number of seats in the central Parliament and state legislative bodies had been reserved for them; they had thus voted first as representatives of their castes and again as ordinary citizens. India's ambition was to bring the schedule castes and tribes to the same level of development as other Indian groups within the next ten years.

He appreciated the progress achieved in the United Kingdom dependent territories, which demonstrated the administration's desire to promote the development of dependent peoples, but, in referring to the schedule castes and tribes in India, the United Kingdom representative had overlooked the all-important fact that, while the Indian Constitution ensured the right of every citizen to appeal even to the Supreme Court, that guarantee was lacking in many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. He could not make any more precise observations on the matter until he had more detailed information on the legislature and the powers of the executive in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly on the extent to which the various racial groups were represented.

Mr. SPITS (Netherlands) explained, in reply to a question by the Brazilian representative at the previous meeting, that the summary of information

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transmitted by his Government (A/2132) did not refer to any major racial controversies. There had been some inevitable, but minor discontent about immigrants, as occurred in every country with an immigrant population. The report indicated that such discontent referred mainly to the pre-war period. Since then there had been considerable improvement, because the indigenous inhabitants no longer acquiesced in displays of racial superiority and because current policy was to enlist indigenous inhabitants for all posts in which only immigrants had been employed before the war. Ample evidence of the employment of local inhabitants in the teaching profession could be found on page 10.

Mr. DAVIN (New Zealand) drew attention to a UNESCO publication on the subject of race relations - "The Roots of Prejudice", by Arnold M. Rose - in which the author pointed out the social evils which discrimination caused, not only to those discriminated against but perhaps more strikingly to the discriminators.

It could be assumed that no Administering Power desired other than harmonious race relations in its territories and that every Administering Power accepted a policy of non-discrimination as a criterion and an ideal towards which to strive. Unfortunately, much levelling up of social conditions was needed before equality could be achieved. He himself was in agreement with the conclusion reached in the paper to which he had referred, to the effect that legislation against discrimination was one of the most important means of breaking down traditions of prejudice; to be effective, however, legislation needed the support of community opinion, as had been pointed out by the United Kingdom representative. Administrative policy, too, could do much to break down discrimination in the sector where it could be made effective. There were other instances of racial discrimination in social relations - voluntary ostracism, for example - which neither legislation nor administrative policy could touch. For such cases, enlightened public opinion was indispensable.

Measures designed for the protection of indigenous peoples in Non-Self-Governing Territories - restrictions on the consumption of alcohol, access to firearms and the disposal of land, for example, as also legislation conferring recognition on ancient rights and customs - were sometimes incorrectly described as discriminatory. Designed as they generally were to redress the disadvantages of lack of knowledge, rudimentary education and a want of proper social traditions, such measures should be regarded as interim measures to be reviewed as the disadvantages in question were overcome.

Much had been said about the payment of high salaries and allowances, considerably in excess of the scales for local recruits, to induce those with the necessary qualifications to leave their own countries in order to work in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. In the circumstances, that was a necessity which must be accepted. It was important, however, that as much local talent as possible should be employed and that the salaries and wages of all local employees should be such as to provide for the essentials of family life and a reasonable degree of comfort.

It was to be hoped that, as the balance was righted, racial groups which had formerly suffered discrimination would not in turn discriminate against others. The United Kingdom representative had referred to that problem and had expressed concern at the xenophobia in some territories which had recently achieved emancipation. If that did indeed exist, it was understandable; nevertheless, it was a departure from the highest standards of moral conduct and was incompatible with the establishment of the harmonious international relations envisaged in the Charter.

Mr. Davin expressed his delegation's appreciation of the informative paper prepared by the Secretariat on the subject (A/AC.35/L.87).

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) stated that Belgium had accepted as a sacred trust the obligation to promote the progress of the peoples under its administration in every way, and had exerted every effort to fulfil its trust faithfully. The same responsibility fell upon all States administering populations which had not attained the same degree of civilization as themselves, whether in overseas territories or within their continental frontiers. Belgium transmitted information on the Belgian Congo, in accordance with Article 73 e, for information purposes, but it had not submitted the administration of the Belgian Congo to United Nations control. The Charter did not provide for such control or for discussion of the information submitted. The presence of the Belgian delegation on the Committee did not constitute recognition of an obligation, but proof of Belgium's desire to co-operate.

The need for the international protection of non-self-governing peoples should be stressed, but that solicitude must be extended to all peoples of such status and not just to the inhabitants of colonial territories. It was inadmissible that those who refused to transmit to the United Nations any information on the peoples under their administration should demand from a few States they designated as colonial Powers more than the latter had undertaken in signing the Charter.

The members of the Committee had studied the information transmitted by the Belgian Government and he awaited, for reference to his Government, the substantive recommendations relating "to functional fields generally but not with respect to individual Territories," as provided for in General Assembly resolution 332 (IV). The Belgian Government would then consider to what extent those general recommendations were applicable to the Belgian Congo and the information which it would later transmit would show what conclusions it had reached. So far he had not heard many useful recommendations; indeed several speakers had departed from the discussion of general functional problems to deal solely with matters relating to individual territories.

Unfortunately too little attention was often paid to local conditions. On the basis of statistics presented for Gibraltar and British Somaliland, for example, it could not be concluded that the Power which administered the former was an enlightened administrator and that the Power administering the latter was an obscurant; conditions in the two territories were entirely different. Because it was still impossible in some areas to recruit higher officials locally, the colonial Powers were criticized en masse for excluding the native population from public office. Again, as more advanced populations participated in certain cases in the development of social programmes, States responsible for administering more primitive peoples were reproached for not doing likewise. Such criticism was understandable from countries of uniform civilization, which quite rightly refused to accept any social programme imposed from outside, but countries which still had primitive inhabitants might be asked what steps they would take to ensure the participation in their social programmes of such peoples as the Jivaroes of Ecuador, the Bororos of Brazil, the Nagas of India or the Dyaks of Borneo.

When Belgium had obliged the Congo authorities in 1951 to pay family allowances to indigenous workers, some bachelor workers had protested on the ground that those who had a wife capable of working for them were being favoured. Again, a married worker, considering that his family allowance was enough to live on, had told his employer that he wished to renounce his wages and stop working. Could Belgium, for those reasons, be reproached for introducing the system of family allowances for indigenous workers?

The allegation that indigenous inhabitants were lazy was one of those half-truths that led to serious error; they were not any lazier than other people. Few white workers worked merely for their own pleasure. Nor could trade union leaders be reproached for advocating shorter working hours. Some Samoans had told him that white men worked in order to have recreation, whereas they had few needs and had recreation without having to work. The work involved in felling a huge tree, in hollowing its trunk and in dragging it to the river in order to make a native canoe was certainly not indicative of laziness.

The output of temporary workers was very low and therefore costly, in spite of the low wages, partly because people were employed on work to which they were unaccustomed and in which they were not interested, and lastly because the diet they were accustomed to have in their village was not conducive to heavy work. But the indigenous worker, when well-fed, trained, protected from disease and parasites and properly supervised, increased his output rapidly, although the process of acclimatizing him to his work was expensive to his employer and therefore economically feasible only if the employer could engage his workers for a long period of service. A survey made in 1951 of the workers in the mining union of Upper Kabanga had proved that such working conditions were possible. More than two-thirds of the 16,100 workers there had been employed over seven years and 15.1 per cent over fifteen years.

The Indonesian representative had been astonished because there were only twenty-five welfare centres in the Belgian Congo for 2,300,000 urban inhabitants, but only a quarter of the latter could really be considered as town dwellers, the remainder being agricultural workers and miners disassociated from the tribal system. Again, the welfare centres in question were run by specialists who were graduates of social welfare schools giving

training of a type known in Europe only in the last few decades. That training was still completely unknown in most Member States. The welfare centres specialized in training indigenous welfare workers. In addition to those professional workers, many other Europeans were engaged in all types of social welfare work.

Whereas the Brazilian representative had paid a general tribute to the balanced nature of the development programmes of the Administering Powers, the Egyptian, USSR and Indonesian representatives had criticized them on the ground that they sacrificed social development to the economic interests of the metropolitan country. According to instructions from the United Kingdom Secretary of State for the Colonies, social development programmes in United Kingdom dependent territories were not to be limited to what was within the territory's own means, and that the social programmes made possible through the assistance of the metropolis should be reinforced by economic programmes intended to increase the territory's resources. In the Belgian Congo, economic development was left mainly to private initiative, the State providing basic equipment and facilities such as communications. Approximately half of the 500 million dollar ten-year investment programme for the Belgian Congo was assigned to communications, without which, as Mr. Nehru told the Indian Parliament on 31 August 1951, administration was impossible.

It might be asserted that social expenditure could be increased without any reduction in economic outlay, but there was a limit to useful expenditure in an under-developed country. The execution of the ten-year plan for the Belgian Congo had never been retarded for budgetary reasons; on the contrary, the Administration found it difficult to spend the available funds. The heavy expenditure on equipment for economic development was largely due to the fact that this was imported. But rural development, including well-digging and the construction of schools, dispensaries and houses, presupposed the existence of sums to pay wages and of workers to earn those wages. It was wasteful to exceed the useful limit of expenditure, particularly as it was frequently difficult locally to recruit qualified indigenous personnel.

The Brazilian representative had stressed the importance of food-growing and had wondered whether most of the profit from the export of foodstuffs went into business rather than to the producers and whether migration to the towns was due to the absence of incentive in the rural areas. The French

/representative

representative had also remarked that food crops should come before industrial crops. Study of the problem in the Belgian Congo showed that, when crops for sale and crops for the producer's consumption were wisely divided, they were more complementary than otherwise. The native producer, even in the depths of the jungle, was no longer self-sufficient and had to work to earn money for essential articles. The introduction of industrial crops was therefore an important way of stemming migration from the rural areas. Agricultural policy was based on stabilizing the rural population by encouraging the rational and profitable utilization of the ground, rotating crops, pooling the means of production and harvesting, distributing selected seeds, organizing sales co-operatives and establishing centres for supervising the quality of exports. The establishment of permanent palm, rubber, coffee, cocoa and other plantations enabled the indigenous inhabitants to accumulate capital which they could not otherwise accumulate even by the most intensive saving.

The Cuban and USSR representatives had asked questions about the employment of indigenous inhabitants in the higher public administrative posts. The "European service" was so-called because at the beginning only Europeans had had the necessary educational qualifications. Such posts were open only to persons of Belgian or Luxembourg nationality, but all the indigenous inhabitants of the Belgian Congo were of Belgian nationality.

Some speakers had pointed to the differences in wages, implying that they were based on race discrimination and contrary to the principles of the Charter. If such differences constituted a violation of the Charter, the United Nations was itself guilty of such violation. A letter sent to his delegation by the Acting Director-General of the Technical Assistance Administration had referred to the draft contract which the United Nations proposed to submit to the Bolivian Government as a model agreement between its advisers and the Bolivian Government. The advisers were to receive, in Bolivian currency, a salary equivalent to that of Bolivian officials in similar appointments and, in addition, a supplement which could amount to as much as ten times that figure in the currency of their country of origin, or, if they so desired, in Bolivian currency.

In a speech inaugurating the 1951 session of the Conseil de Gouvernement,

/Governor-General

Governor-General Jungers had declared that there was no colour bar in the Congo because the Administration did not set a limit to the progress of the indigenous inhabitants which would finally leave them at a level lower than that of white people. There was also no race privilege. Yet there were distinctions under the law, because it would be absurd to ignore the obvious differences between individuals who had reached varying stages and forms of civilization as a result of geographic, climatic and other factors. The problem of discrimination was being closely studied by the Congo authorities and certain changes had already been made, particularly with regard to public transport. But the main consideration must be the true interests of the Congolese and there was no case for imposing upon them forcibly, out of a misguided sense of egalitarianism a system which did not correspond to their degree of development.

Leaving aside the USSR representative's a priori condemnation of everything which had been done in all the dependent territories by all the Administering Powers, he nevertheless regretted certain statements made during the discussion. The Egyptian representative had remarked that there was a good colonial college in Belgium, but that it should teach love before teaching government. Mr. Ryckmans had taught in that establishment, the Institut Universitaire des Territoires d'Outremer at Antwerp, before the San Francisco Charter had been signed and had summed up twelve years experience in equatorial Africa in the words "In order to be able to serve, we must know; in order to have the will to serve, we must love. And it is by learning to know the Negroes that we learn to love them." That doctrine of love for the indigenous inhabitants was still being promulgated in the colonial colleges of the Administering Powers.

Mr. CARGO (United States of America) stated that the problem of human rights and race relations was by no means confined to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, but was a problem of universal application. It was to be hoped, therefore, that the Committee's discussions would be carried out in a way that would contribute to the advancement of the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, while promoting "friendly relations among nations".

Fundamental rights in the United States territories were guaranteed and protected by bills of rights applicable to the territories through various constitutional and legal instruments. While varying slightly in content, the bills in all cases established a legal basis for the human rights and freedoms regarded as fundamental, including freedom from discrimination on the grounds of race, language or religion. The situation differed somewhat in the various territories. Hawaii had the most diverse racial background, its population consisting not only of the indigenous Hawaiians but of large segments of inhabitants of Asian origin, as also of persons of United States origin. Those groups had all produced leaders in the civic, commercial and governmental life of Hawaii. There was a thorough integration of the groups and a resultant lack of racial tension.

The citizens of Alaska were mainly of Eskimo, Indian or United States origin. Eskimos served in the legislature and participated in the business life of the territory. While there were Eskimo and Indian schools in certain areas, they were continued primarily for geographical reasons and were generally to be found in areas inhabited almost exclusively by Eskimos and Indians. Nowhere in the territory were children of any race denied the right to attend any school available.

In Puerto Rico, where the population was predominantly Spanish, with some 25% of Negro origin, all the governmental key positions were held by indigenous inhabitants, citizens of the metropolitan country numbering a mere handful in the government. The Governor, elected by the people, was an indigenous inhabitant, as were all the members of the legislature. Colour distinction played no part in the life of the community; the Speaker of the House of Representatives was a Negro, as was the Leader of the Opposition. Furthermore, there were a number of women in high governmental positions and one woman member of the House of Representatives.

In the Virgin Islands, where the population was predominantly Negro, the Governor and all the legislators were indigenous inhabitants and practically all the positions in the government were held by indigenous inhabitants.

All the legislators in Guam were indigenous inhabitants and many of the key positions in the government were occupied by Guamanians. In Samoa indigenous inhabitants held many of the governmental positions and they had also their own traditional representative body, known as the Fono. It was the

policy of the Federal Government to give preference to local inhabitants for positions in the local governments of Guam and Samoa.

With the exception of Samoa, the legislatures in all the United States territories were elected by secret ballot. There were no economic limitations such as the ownership of money or property, imposed upon the right to vote.

The previous year the United States Government had transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, under the terms of General Assembly resolution 446 (V), a report on the application of human rights in Non-Self-Governing Territories it administered. It had prepared a supplementary report for the present session of the Committee, based almost entirely upon the provisions for human rights contained in the new Constitution of Puerto Rico, which had been proclaimed by the Governor of the Commonwealth on 25 July 1952. This supplementary material was being made available to the Secretary of the Committee for circulation in the usual manner.

Mr. TAJIBNAPIS (Indonesia) declared that the Secretariat papers on the subject of race relations established the fact that racial discrimination was practised in nearly all the Non-Self-Governing Territories. In the majority of cases, it was practised openly, being based upon laws and regulations in force in the territory: some of the more notorious examples were residential segregation and restrictions of the movements of Africans in the Belgian Congo, Kenya and Northern Rhodesia, penal sanctions for breaches of labour contracts in the Belgian Congo, Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland, and the industrial conciliation machinery in Northern Rhodesia which was such that, with separate trade unions for Europeans and Africans, a number of occupations remained restricted to Europeans.

More difficult to detect were the cases where constitutional provisions existed to guarantee equal rights, while in practice the indigenous inhabitants were deprived of those rights. Paragraphs 103 and 104 of document A/AC.35/L.87 for example, referred to the Dahir of 27 April 1914, by virtue of which special Press provisions of a racial character existed in

/Morocco,

Morocco, and to the emergency regulations in the same territory which restricted the right of meeting in the case of Moroccan subjects. The Secretariat document had succeeded in bringing to light many such examples of concealed racial discrimination and it might safely be inferred that racial discrimination of one kind or another was being practised in practically all the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The United Kingdom representative had stated that a form of racial discrimination in reverse was appearing in the territories which had only recently acquired independence and where the coloured inhabitants were suspicious of the white races. There was some misunderstanding on the subject. In Indonesia, for example, there were strong feelings of suspicion against the Japanese -- a natural result of the bitter experience of Japanese occupation. Where Europeans were concerned, suspicions were inevitably directed against those who a few years earlier had been the colonisers, but there were no feelings against the citizens of other European Powers. What the United Kingdom representative had called racial discrimination in reverse was not so much racial discrimination as anti-colonial sentiment fostered by the bitter experience of the past. It was not for the Committee to discuss such a phenomenon, nor should it qualify as racial discrimination any measures taken by the Governments of territories that had recently acquired independence to withdraw the privileges enjoyed by the citizens of their former rulers.

After a brief exchange of views between Mr. ABDEL-GHANY (Egypt), Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom), Mr. ROSCHIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), and Mr. CALERO RODRIGUES (Brazil) as to whether and when a draft resolution on item 5 (b) should be submitted, the CHAIRMAN noted that it was the sense of the Committee that any member might table a draft resolution whenever he thought fit. Since the Egyptian representative was prepared to postpone the submission of his draft resolution until the close of the discussion on item 5, the Committee could decide at that juncture whether to consider it then or whether to do so only when the draft report of the Sub-Committee was before it.

BASIC SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES. SECRETARY-GENERAL'S ANALYSES OF INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY ILO AND WHO: (c) PUBLIC HEALTH (A/AC.35/L.82, A/AC.35/L.84, A/AC.35/L.88, A/AC.35/L.89, A/AC.35/L.90)

Dr. COIGNY (World Health Organization) expressed the hope that WHO could make a useful contribution to the Committee's discussion on health problems in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and asked Dr. Stock, a WHO Consultant with long experience, particularly in tropical medicine, to present the documentation prepared by the agency.

Dr. STOCK (World Health Organization), recalling the excellent working relationship between WHO and the United Nations, emphasized that the information submitted under Article 73 e on the administrative aspects of public health work had proved to be an indispensable basis for WHO operations in the dependent areas. The Secretariat papers on vital statistics (A/AC.35/L.82) and on public health administration (A/AC.35/L.89) were also very valuable, for progress in preventive medicine largely depended on improvements in those fields.

Reviewing the papers submitted by WHO (A/AC.35/L.84, A/AC.35/L.88 and A/AC.35/L.90), he drew attention to the fundamental importance of co-ordinating health and development in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, of teaching the inhabitants, and especially the women, simple methods of sanitation and of employing auxiliary health workers to fill the gap created temporarily by the shortage of trained medical personnel. The documents also showed the extent to which medical research was being applied to the health needs of the territories and warned of the continuing risk of importing certain epidemic diseases which had not yet been fully controlled in other parts of the world. The Committee might also wish to refer to the summary of WHO activities in the dependent territories (A/AC.35/L.87).

In reply to a query concerning WHO's work in nutrition, he pointed out that the agency had never been asked to prepare a technical paper on the question; in any case, it could not do so merely on the basis of the information submitted under Article 73 e. Its concern with the problem had been expressed, however, by the establishment of a joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee dealing with the

/medical aspects

medical aspects and the publication of a number of papers in conjunction with FAO. Moreover, a meeting on malnutrition in African mothers and children arranged by the Commission on Cooperation in Technical Matters in Africa was to be held in December and to be followed by a meeting of the joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee to consider the problem on a world basis.

Dr. COIGNY (World Health Organization), replying to a question from the New Zealand representative, said that after detailed consultations with the various departments at WHO Headquarters sent by WHO to under-developed areas, including the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the experts reported to the WHO Regional Office for the area where they were to work. Such a Regional Office for Africa was soon to be established in Brazzaville; it had been operating in Geneva. At the Regional Office, the experts were given full information on the social and economic conditions prevailing in the Territory and details of its customs, administration and specific health problems.

Mr. BORBERG (Denmark) agreed entirely with WHO's view that health and economic and social development must be co-ordinated, and that the education of primitive peoples, which were often reluctant to adopt the precepts of Western medicine, should also be approached on the basis of sound knowledge of sociology, social psychiatry and related social sciences. Improvement in public health and health standards was a long-term undertaking. Preventive measures, for example, could only become current after a painstaking process of education. On the other hand, excessive population growth could only be counteracted by increased production, and was bound to constitute an adverse factor in many countries for a number of years.

The fact, pointed out by WHO, that modern urban conditions and industrialization had increased the risks of infection from tuberculosis showed that a full understanding of the impact of technology on the habits of non-self-governing peoples was essential. Western values should not be foisted upon them wholesale; they should be revised scientifically and adapted in the light of prevailing psychological factors. It was encouraging to note that UNESCO was studying the problem, and that WHO had gone far towards evolving methods of

dealing with the related problem of shortage of trained personnel. The conclusions reached at the fourth WHO Assembly respecting the utilization of auxiliary personnel in the medical and health services could usefully be applied in all countries.

In 1949, the Danish Government had initiated a broad programme of development in Greenland based on a sociological approach. Social measures were being instituted simultaneously with educational measures with a view to building up a spirit of self-reliance among the people and enabling them to earn their living. Vast was expenditure entailed by the programme and Denmark was spending on each Greenlander, for health purposes alone, two and a half times as much as on each inhabitant of the metropolitan country for the same purpose. To combat tuberculosis, a large hospital was to be constructed at the same time that housing conditions in the Territory were being improved. Syphilis had already been eradicated from Greenland.

In other fields, the Danish Government was not yet meeting its objectives. It was finding that WHO's conclusion regarding the need for a parallel development of education and techniques of modern hygiene applied to Greenland, for progress in public health had been so rapid that the inhabitants had not been able to acquire the new attitudes which would permit them to derive full advantage of it. On the other hand, the Danish Government was gratified by WHO's statement that the medical research facilities for the territories under its administration were well organized. It shared the view that medical research had to be integrated with research along other lines, for nutrition, for example, could only be improved as a corollary of improvements in agriculture and other interrelated social and economic fields.

In all fairness, it must be recognized that Denmark's task in Greenland, with a population of 23,000, was infinitely easier than that of the other Administering Powers, and that, in the circumstances, the latter were making good progress in improving public health in their dependent territories. It was a further matter of gratification to the Danish delegation that the non-Administering Powers were demonstrating an increasingly deep understanding of the conditions in the various territories.

/Mr. SHIVA RAO

Mr. SHIVA RAO (India) commended the Secretariat and WHO upon the excellence of the documents they had prepared. Many countries, including India, experienced great difficulties in obtaining vital statistics owing to a general indifference to maintaining correct figures and the absence of trained personnel. Moreover, as the Secretariat paper stated (A/AC.35/L.82), even where extensive registration was fully established, it was difficult to assess the accuracy of results and the permissible margin of error. Thus, in many parts of the world besides the dependent areas, conclusions were largely based on conjecture and had little real value. Reverting to the remark of the FAO representative regarding the valuable assistance furnished by an Indian specialist on statistics, Mr. Rao suggested that WHO might usefully engage statistical experts with a thorough knowledge and experience of backward areas and that the two agencies might collaborate in building teams of such experts.

In the selection of personnel to conduct anti-malaria and anti-tuberculosis campaigns, great care should be exercised to find persons with actual experience in areas having the same general level of economic and social development as the Non-Self-Governing Territories to which they were assigned. The directors of such campaigns should have an intimate knowledge of the economic and social conditions of the Territories. Elasticity in the recruitment of auxiliary staff for mass health campaigns would enable WHO to reduce expenditure on personnel to a minimum and to devote larger funds to the execution of the campaigns themselves. More energetic attempts to obtain local staff in such countries as India and Pakistan might result in further economies.

The WHO memorandum on epidemic diseases (A/AC.35/L.88) revealed wide variations in the incidence of smallpox in specific areas at specific times. It would be very relevant, in studying vital statistics on health, to determine whether those variations were due to preventive measures, to the neglect of such measures or merely to unreliable statistics. They might perhaps be used to establish a theory of periodicity of the disease in some areas. In preparing its documentation, WHO should try to give its overall picture perspective by differentiating between major epidemics of diseases affecting vast masses of people, such as malaria, tuberculosis, hookworm or leprosy, and other diseases which, while serious, were less widespread. It should give some indication of progress achieved in controlling those diseases, measures adopted and their
/efficacy,

efficacy, and the essential relationship between conditions of sanitation, such as protected water supply, and the incidence of specific diseases. With regard to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the documents should emphasize the reasons for the adoption of specific policies and programmes and their efficacy or impracticability. He had noted, for example, that WHO's outlook in dealing with epidemic diseases appeared to arise from its concern to prevent the spread of those diseases beyond the areas where they were prevalent. At least equal attention should be given to control of the diseases in the area where they originated and evaluation of the efficacy of measures used to combat them.

Mr. CALERO RODRIGUES (Brazil) noted that, with few exceptions, medical services in most Non-Self-Governing Territories were of a curative nature. The work of the French Mobile Service in French West Africa, however, was a brilliant example of preventive measures being brought directly to the people. The emphasis on curative methods was understandable, but it did not affect morbidity and mortality rates in large communities, where infection by preventable diseases could spread very rapidly and where persons who had been cured were likely to be reinfected upon their return to the home environment. Moreover, rural and agricultural areas which contributed most of the funds used in medical services derived the smallest benefit from a curative system of medicine. The Committee might usefully study methods for providing more than emergency medical services to rural areas. One such method appeared to be the development of the health and community centres for both preventive and curative services. Active participation of the local rural population in responsibility for planning such local services would be necessary, and, in that connexion, valuable use might be made of auxiliary personnel, with shorter periods of training than a full medical course.

Raising of the standard of living of the Non-Self-Governing Territories was not exclusively a medical problem and on the whole, public health was being better organized and more effectively advanced than other very important tasks.

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.