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DATE

27th Dec, 1924

CIRCULATION:—

Mr.

Advisory Comm. on
Native Education

Mr.

Mr.

Asst. U.S. of S.

Minutes of 8th
meeting

Asst. U.S. of S.

Asst. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

Previous Paper

MINUTES

Expects notes A & B.

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2030/EA - Extract from minutes of 8th meeting of
2031/EA/WA - Commission Native Education in
Trop Africa, Dec 11, 1924

Trop Africa, Dec 11, 1924

(A should be copy of E. Africa & W. Africa)

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Subsequent Paper

Prepared of on
2031/EA and 2031/WA

Part of 2031/EA
advice

Mr. Strachey.

Herewith the Recommendations
of the Advisory Commission on
Native Education in Tropical Africa
with ref. to the Teachers Superannuation
Act (para 4, page 2)

Hambleton -

27 12 24

Advisory Committee on Native Education in Tropical Africa.

Minutes of the eighth Meeting held on the 11th December 1924.

- Present:
- Mr. Strachey (in the Chair).
 - The Bishop of Liverpool.
 - Sir James Currie.
 - Mr. Oldham.
 - Major Vischer (Secretary).
- Sir Donald Cameron (Governor Designate of Tanganyika Territory)
 - Mr. Rivers-Smith (Director of Education Tanganyika)
 - Mr. Hussey (Director of Education Uganda)
 - Dr. T. Jesse Jones (Chairman of the Phelps-Stokes Education Commission to East Africa)
 - Mr. Bottomley.
 - Mr. Seel.

1. Mr. Strachey explained that he had been appointed a member of the Committee to succeed Sir Herbert Read, who was about to take up his appointment as Governor of Mauritius and that he was taking the Chair in the absence of Mr. Ormsby-Gore, who was at present with the East Africa Parliamentary Commission.
2. The Chairman read a letter from Lord Arnold in which his Lordship expressed his pleasure at having been able to take part in the Committee's deliberations and his regret at severing his connection with the Committee. A telegram was received from Sir Michael Sadler saying that owing to the interrupted train service he was unable to attend the meeting. At the close of the meeting a telephone message was received from Sir F.D. Lugard expressing his regret at not having been able to attend the Meeting as his train due to arrive at ten o'clock had only just reached London.

3. The Minutes of the seventh Meeting were approved.
4. The Committee then considered a Memorandum prepared by Sir Michael Sadler on the subject of the Teachers Superannuation Acts of England and Scotland and the possibility of making provision for the admission of service in Tropical Africa as qualifying service under the Acts.

It was explained that the proposals of Lord Emmott's Committee on the subject of Teachers Superannuation Benefits were at present being considered by the Cabinet with a view to legislation being enacted on the lines of the Committee's recommendations.

Sir James Currie urged that this question was most important from the point of view of recruitment for educational service in Africa.

The Chairman read the following Resolutions which had been submitted with Agenda for the meeting:

1.

Handwritten notes:
 This is attached to Reg. Copy
 Mr. Vischer's copy

1) In order to remove an obstacle which may deter some highly qualified British Teachers from accepting appointment to the teaching staff of schools or Colleges in Tropical Africa, it is desirable that teaching service in such institutions in Tropical Africa as may from time to time be approved for this purpose by the Secretary of State for the Colonies and by the Government of the Dependency concerned should be counted by the Treasury and the Board of Education as "qualifying service" for the purposes of the Teachers Superannuation Acts.

2) It is desirable that a corresponding arrangement be made on behalf of Scottish teachers under the Teachers Superannuation (Scotland) Act.

3) The acceptance of "recognised service" for the purposes of the Teachers Superannuation Acts (with corresponding benefits for Scottish teachers) of short terms of teaching service (extending over periods of say, not more than ten years) in approved institutions in Tropical Africa is also to be desired, but the complexity of the financial arrangements entailed may make such acceptance at present impracticable.

4) As the Amendment of the Teachers Superannuation Acts is understood to be now receiving consideration by the Government, the Advisory Committee on Education in Tropical Africa beg leave to submit these resolutions to the Secretary of State in case he should think it advisable to move in the matter before the new Bill is framed.

The Chairman moved that these resolutions might be approved by the Committee and placed before the Secretary of State, after which he presumed that the next step would be for the Colonial Office to inform the Board of Education that the Secretary of State would be glad to have an opportunity of seeing the proposed Bill before it was enacted, in order to consider the possibility of including provision that approved service in the Dependencies should be counted as qualifying service for the purposes of the Superannuation Acts. It was pointed out that Colonies and Protectorates other than those in Tropical Africa would also be affected.

In reply to an enquiry from the Bishop of Liverpool as to the authority which would approve schools in the Colonies for the purposes of the Acts Mr. Bottomley suggested that the Board of Education would probably require to be consulted in such a matter. He observed with regard to Resolution No. 3 that the financial aspect of the proposal to accept service in Africa as "recognised service" would require very careful consideration, but on the whole he saw no objection to the Resolutions being adopted by the Committee.

The Committee returned to the subject at a later stage when Mr. Oldham suggested that the Resolutions were not entirely in accord with the Memorandum prepared by Sir Michael Sadler. He understood that under the proposed new Bill the idea of qualifying service was dropped and provision was only made for recognised service. He understood that the Governments of the Dominions were anxious to take

advantage of the recommendations of Lord Emmott's Committee, but he regarded it as essential that the legislation under consideration should be so framed as to permit of Colonial Government also availing themselves of the advantages offered, as well as the Governments of the Dominions.

The Committee adopted the Resolutions as drafted and it was decided that they should be laid before the Secretary of State and also that the Secretary of the Committee should take an opportunity of visiting the Board of Education with a view to further discussing the proposals.

The Chairman informed Sir James Currie that he saw no objection to his discussing the proposals with the Foreign Office, so far as they concerned Governments under the control of the Foreign Office such as the Sudan.

It was decided that after the Resolutions had been submitted to the Secretary of State, a copy of Sir Michael Sadler's Memorandum should be sent to the Governors of the Tropical African Dependencies for their information.

5. Appointment of Head of the Teachers' Training College, Kenia. The Committee considered the Resolution which had been put forward: That the name of Mr. J.W.C. Dougall should be submitted, with the strong recommendation of the Committee to the Secretary of State for appointment as Head of the Teachers' Training College, Kenya.

Mr. Bottomley explained that a despatch had been received from Kenya on the subject of educational appointments from which it appeared that the Governor proposed to fill this post for the present by the secondment of an officer from the administrative staff. This appeared to be a temporary expedient for the period until Mr. Dougall, as to whom the Local authorities had already been in correspondence with Dr. Jesse Jones, would be available.

The Committee approved the resolution.

6. The Committee then proceeded to discuss certain questions in connection with education in the Tanganyika Territory.

(a) In connection with the creation of an advisory Committee in the Territory, the Chairman referred to a suggestion made by Mr. Rivers Smith and Dr. Jesse Jones that Missionary Societies in Tanganyika should be urged to appoint central educational representatives who would be able to serve on the Advisory Committee, and would also act as channels of communication between the Missions and the Education Department.

Mr. Oldham observed that the Missions would find it difficult for financial reasons, to adopt the suggestion that they should appoint additional officers who would be in effect Educational Secretaries; and Sir Donald Cameron mentioned that a similar difficulty had been experienced in Nigeria, where it had been found that it would not be possible to start Advisory Boards on the scale which had been contemplated unless extra grants could be made to the Missionary Societies concerned.

Mr. Rivers Smith observed that the recommendations of Sir Hugh Clifford in Nigeria appeared to him to go a step further than had been intended in Tanganyika, as they seemed to contemplate an official somewhat like a Director of Education in each Mission. He observed further that there were many missionaries in Tanganyika of non-British nationality, and it would be extremely helpful to have someone to whom the views of the General Authority could be explained.

Sir Donald Cameron considered that if co-operation with the Missionary Societies was to be obtained a strong Advisory Board was necessary, and that this would not be possible if the Missionary Societies were represented merely by Secretaries, as was proposed.

Mr. Oldham suggested that while on the one hand there would be no difficulty as to the Director of Education corresponding with definite individuals on behalf of the Missionary Societies, the question of the composition of the Advisory Board would probably be better dealt with for the first year or two by the summoning of conferences which would gradually arrive at the best method of constituting the Board. The Committee agreed, and subject to this view they endorsed the opinion of the Acting Governor and of the Director of Education that immediate steps should be taken for the creation of an Advisory Board.

(b) Female Education. It was decided that before expressing any opinion on this subject the Committee should await the Report of the Phelps Stokes Commission to East Africa, in which it was understood the matter would be dealt with.

(c) Educational Nomenclature. It was explained that the desirability of obtaining a uniform educational nomenclature in the various Dependencies was discussed in a Memorandum which was now in circulation. The Committee agreed that consideration of this question should be deferred until this Memorandum expressing the opinion of the Committee was available.

(d) Religious Instruction. The Committee then considered a draft Resolution on the subject of Religious Instruction which was worded as follows:

"The Committee holds the view that religious instruction should not be excluded from Government Schools. The Committee considers that private agencies should receive every encouragement, and that Government should co-operate with them, and hopes that the Government will be able to introduce a system of Grants (as in other Colonies) to "qualified Schools".

Mr. Oldham, while expressing appreciation of the policy of the Education Department in Tanganyika, observed that its policy in one respect struck him as being that of a General Officer who devoted himself to the efficiency of his regular force whilst neglecting the territorial force. He suggested that it was to the interests of the Government to encourage missionary educational efforts, provided that the missionary schools were efficient, and he considered that the Missionary Societies would be quite willing that the Government should satisfy itself as to their efficiency.

He observed further that it had been generally recognised⁷⁹² both in the Committee and elsewhere that religious instruction should be a vital element in the education of natives, and it was of considerable advantage to have available schools where such instruction could be promoted. He was quite willing that the question should be left for the Governor to consider on his arrival in the Territory, but he thought it desirable that these considerations should be carefully borne in mind.

Sir Donald Cameron said that the question of religious instruction had been discussed at some length in Nigeria during the last three years where the view was that education must have a "sheet anchor" of religion, and that in the primary schools this could best be provided by Missionary Societies. He would have no hesitation in accepting this view as regards Nigeria, but he had, of course, no local knowledge as yet as regards Tanganyika, and would prefer to reserve his view for the present.

Dr. Jesse Jones observed that it appeared to him in many Colonies that there was an idea prevalent that the grants made to missionary schools were competitive with the sums voted for the Government Education Department. This idea seemed to be harmful and the correct view, in his opinion, was that such grants should be supplementary to the Government Education Vote and not competitive with it.

Sir Donald Cameron mentioned the danger of irresponsible types of schools growing up in the absence of control. Dr. Jesse Jones said that a similar danger had been experienced in Southern Rhodesia, where a Controlling Ordinance had been prepared, but had been opposed by the Missionary Societies. He considered that if steps had been taken in time to form an Advisory Committee in Southern Rhodesia the object proposed would have been achieved in conference with the Missionary Societies without the necessity of legislation. He mentioned that this had actually been achieved in Kenya.

Mr. Bottomley enquired whether the Missionary Representatives on the Advisory Committee in Kenya covered all the smaller Societies in the Colony. Dr. Jesse Jones replied that the representatives on the Council commanded the confidence of all the Missionary Societies in the Colony.

It was eventually decided not to proceed with the Resolution at present but that Sir Donald Cameron should be asked to report on the question of religious instruction and the subjects mentioned in the Draft Resolution as quoted above, after he had had an opportunity of studying the question in the Colony.

(e) The Committee then discussed a further Resolution which had been submitted expressing the hope that a larger portion of the revenue of the territory should be applied to Education than had been hitherto.

The Chairman explained that for the year 1925/6 it was proposed to spend £32,074 on education, as against £18,851 in 1923-4, and that this provision was additional to the cost of building schools for which a considerable sum was also intended.

In reply to a question from the Chairman Mr. Rivers-Smith stated that his present European staff had increased to fourteen and the 1925 Estimates provided for twenty men. After further explanations had been given, it was agreed that in the circumstances the Committee should not proceed with this Resolution.

7. The Committee then considered a despatch from the Governor of Northern Rhodesia, dated the 1st of November, 1924, submitting proposals for expenditure on education in the financial year 1925-6.

The Chairman pointed out that these proposals entailed an expenditure of 27,350, as against £500 in the previous year. The Committee were agreed in regarding the proposals outlined in the Governor's despatch as constituting a satisfactory beginning in dealing with the question of native education in the Protectorate. They also agreed with the recommendations of the Governor, in his confidential despatch dated the 25th September, that for the time being Mr. Latham, at present acting as Inspector of Schools, should be appointed to act as Director of Education, being seconded from the District Service whilst so employed.

8. Arising out of the discussion as to the date of the next Meeting of the Committee, it was agreed that in view of Mr. Hussey's early departure for Uganda he should take an opportunity to discuss the question of education in the Protectorate privately with Sir Michael Sadler, and that it would not be necessary for him to attend a further Meeting of the Committee to express his views. At the instance of Mr. Oldham the Chairman also explained to Mr. Hussey that the Memorandum which had been submitted by the Committee to the Secretary of State regarding education in Uganda was not intended as mandatory in any way and that he would be free to advocate other views if he saw occasion to differ from those expressed in the Memorandum.

9. It was then decided to hold the next Meeting of the Committee on a date in January, after the 3rd, when it was hoped that Mr. Ormsby Gere would be able to attend, and that Sir Donald Cameron would also be able to be present for the discussion of the proposals of the Governor of Nigeria in regard to education in that Colony.

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7. The Committee then considered a despatch from the Governor of Northern Rhodesia, dated the 1st of November, 1924, submitting proposals for expenditure on education in the financial year 1925-6.

The Chairman pointed out that these proposals entailed an expenditure of £7,350, as against £500 in the previous year. The Committee were agreed in regarding the proposals outlined in the Governor's despatch as constituting a satisfactory beginning in dealing with the question of native education in the Protectorate. They also agreed with the recommendations of the Governor, in his confidential despatch dated the 25th September, that for the time being Mr. Latham, at present acting as Inspector of Schools, should be appointed to act as Director of Education, being seconded from the District Service whilst so employed.

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