

ARG/10

CONFIDENTIAL



**Conference of Chiefs of the  
Northern Provinces  
1945**

**Record of Proceedings**

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NORTHERN PROVINCES CHIEFS' CONFERENCE, 1945.

A Conference of Chiefs of the Northern Provinces was held at Kaduna between the 14th and 19th of May, 1945.

2. The Chiefs attending the Conference were:—

Sultan of Sokoto	Emir of Daura
Shehu of Bornu	Emir of Gumel
Emir of Gwandu	Emir of Pategi
Emir of Kano	Emir of Jemaari
Emir of Bauchi	Mai Biu
Lamido of Adamawa	Atta of Igbirra
Emir of Katsina	Emir of Nasarawa
Emir of Zaria	Emir of Abuja
Emir of Bida	Representative of the Emir of Muri
Emir of Florin	Chief of Donga
Emir of Kontagora	Chief of Koton Karifi
Emir of Dikwa	Chief of Kanam
Emir of Argungu	Chief of Wamba

3. Mr. H. P. Elliott, District Officer, M. Abubakar Inam, and M. Isa, Kaduna College, acted as Secretaries to the Conference, assisted by M. Abdulmalik Mani (part time) and Abdu dan Ladi of the Gaskiya Corporation, Zaria.

4. The programme of the Conference was as follows:—

Sunday 13th May--10 a.m. Thanksgiving Service for VE Day at the Garrison Theatre, and a service for all the Moslem Chiefs arranged by the Sultan at the mosque at his residence, Zaria Road.

5 p.m. Chiefs inspect model compound in Kaduna town.

Monday 14th May--9 a.m. Chiefs assemble in Kaduna College Hall. Opening address by His Honour. Chiefs begin deliberations.

5 p.m. Display of bridging, and mine-detecting by Military.

Tuesday 15th May--9 a.m. Conference continued.

- Address by Major-General Bond, Commander, Nigeria Area.  
7.15 p.m. Military display. Night operations—battle inoculation.
- Wednesday 16th May—9 a.m. Official opening ceremony by the Officer Administering the Government, Sir Gerald Whiteley, C.M.G., at Government Lodge.  
Presentation of Insignia and Medals:
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Emir of Gwandu ... ..                                      | Honorary C.B.E.  |
| Emir of Daura ... ..                                       | " " C.B.E.   |
| I. E. James Esq., Assistant Director of Agriculture ... .. | O.B.E.   |
| Chief of Makurdi ... ..                                    | Honorary M.B.E.  |
| Etsu of Patigi ... ..                                      | King's Medal for Chiefs.                                 |
| Sgt. Major Garba Zaria ... ..                              | King's Police Medal for gallantry.                       |
| Sgt. Major Umoru Maisilami ... ..                          | Colonial Police Medal for long service and good conduct. |
- 9.30 a.m. Opening Address by Sir Gerald Whiteley.  
Following it a call to Prayer and Thanksgiving was read in Hausa by His Excellency, followed by a short silence after which the Sultan spoke a few words and the Moslem Chiefs all recited the "Fatiya."  
5 p.m. Recordings by Chiefs of messages to Troops in Burma.
- Thursday 17th May—9 a.m. Conference continued.  
Address by Messrs Thorp and Hoskins, Education Officers, on Technical Education and Trade Schools.  
5 p.m. Hausa play at Kaduna College.
- Friday 18th May—9 a.m. Conference continued.  
Address by Mr. Taylor, Senior Assistant Conservator of Forests, on Forestry policy and soil conservation.  
7.45 p.m. Chiefs dined with His Excellency at Government Lodge.  
9.30 p.m. Cinema show (Resident Minister's visit to meet chiefs in Kano) at Rex Cinema.
- Saturday 19th May—10 a.m. Plenary Session of the Conference presided over by His Honour. Decisions of the Conference discussed, and confirmed or amended.

- 12.30 p.m. Concluding address by His Excellency.  
4.30 p.m. Garden Party for the Chiefs and other European and African guests.  
7.30 p.m. Cinema show of war films at the Garrison Theatre.

### HIS HONOUR'S OPENING ADDRESS: CHIEFS' CONFERENCE 1945.

(Read in Hausa by His Honour.)

Welcome to you, Chiefs of the Northern Provinces. I thank you and your people for the steadfast and energetic manner in which you and they with the unfiring assistance of your Residents and District Officers have responded to all the demands made from you during the past year.

We meet at a time of great rejoicing, and I am particularly glad to be seeing you all at such a time as this, when the war in Europe has just come to an end. God has given us a great victory over the Germans, the wicked men whose ambition and greed brought all this suffering upon the world. But this is not the end. Our own war effort in this country, so far from being over, is now coming to its peak. I ask you to do all you can to make your people realise that for us now Japan is the enemy, and a great effort is yet needed to defeat this enemy. It is quite possible that the fighting our Nigerian soldiers will have to do will be fiercer in the coming months than at any time up till now. Let us determine to work harder than ever to make this country worthy of their sacrifices, and a better place to which our soldiers when they return can come back.

Sir Gerald Whiteley, the Officer Administering the Government, is not, owing to the victory thanksgiving service in Lagos, able to be present with us today. But he is arriving on Tuesday evening and he will address you on Wednesday. I am glad—as I know you are, and I welcome him on all our behalfs—to have him here to be present at this Conference. His Excellency and I have known one another for all the years of our service in Nigeria and it is a particular pleasure to me that he will be able to be with us.

It will give me great pleasure to witness the investiture of the Emirs of Gwandu and Daura with the insignia of Commander of the British Empire and of the Chief of Makurdi with those of a Member of that Order; and we rejoice with Mr. James, Assistant Director of Agriculture, upon the honour which was conferred

upon him in the Birthday Honours last year. I am sure that the example of these men and of the Emir of Pategi, who has been awarded the King's Medal for Chiefs, will serve as a stimulus to all.

I am sorry to record the death of Mai Umara of Bedde which has taken place since we last met here. May God rest his soul. Though his tenure of office was short, he displayed during it much wisdom and sympathy for his people.

His Excellency will have something to say to you on the subject of the proposed new constitution for Nigeria. I want you to take this opportunity of your being together to discuss thoroughly amongst yourselves those proposals and the means of putting them into effect.

A great deal of our energy must be devoted in the coming months to preparing for the home-coming of the men of the Northern Provinces who have fought so gallantly in the Far East. We want their old homes to be attractive to them so that they will settle among their people: that they will give those people the advantage of new and useful ideas and that the village people on their side will do all that is possible to encourage the returned soldiers to join usefully in the village life.

There is one occupation above all others that the Northern Provinces can offer to the people who live there: it is farming. During the war years your people have done well in increasing the size of their farms to meet the need for more corn and groundnuts and other crops.

When they were asked to make bigger farms they readily did so: now we must ask them to make those farms better farms by methods which the Agricultural Officers in various areas will demonstrate. There is no greater possession a man can have than a good farm and it is the life work of a farmer to grow the proper amount of food for himself and his family from a farm which, far from becoming "tired" in the process, actually improves in fertility. Some people in the Northern Provinces (for instance those near Kano) had learnt to do this before the British came: that was because of the density of the population there and their inability to cut fresh farms every few years from the bush. But now the people must not wait until all the forest has been cut down before they improve their farming methods so that they can farm the same area year after year: they must learn better methods of cultivation, by rules made by yourselves if necessary, so that they are able to grow their crops on the same farm year after year and the forest will be available for allocation either to farmers who will need new farms as the population increases or for other use: as you in consultation with your advisers.

decide. Until the farmers have learnt that it is not necessary to shift their farms every few years it will be impossible to persuade them to erect for themselves the improved houses that are so necessary to improve the health of everyone and especially the children. There is in my opinion no more important matter than this necessity for all farmers to learn and practise farming methods that do not involve the destruction of valuable land and valuable forest year after year. You have some useful rules on this matter now: but I am doubtful whether your District Headmen and others are sufficiently aware of such rules, for instance, as the rule in the Forestry (Northern Provinces Native Authorities) Rules 1942 which prohibits the clearing of land for farming purposes nearer than 15 feet to any road or watercourse or to any footpath which the Native Authority has declared to be a main path. It is a very useful rule, but seldom enforced.

Farmers who farm by proper methods and especially those who can combine the rearing and selling of stock with their farming can, it has been shown, make a very good living. It is to their advantage to have organisations for the collective marketing of their produce and their stock. You will find a note on this matter by Captain Stainforth in the papers of the Conference and Mr. Atkinson whom many of you know will, on his return from leave, devote himself solely to instructing the people in the practice of co-operative methods.

There is a matter of importance in connection with the development work which, we all hope, it will be possible presently to have fully in hand. To take full advantage of the money that will be available for schemes for the Northern Provinces, you, the Native Authorities, will require to increase the staff of practically all of your departments and will have to engage extra staff for entirely new duties. I fervently hope and so, I know, do you that our youths will come forward and devote their energies to being trained for duties in the public service: they can help greatly the rate of progress in the work of raising the general standard of living of the people by working amongst those who know them. Above all I hope there will be no difficulty in obtaining boys for training as tradesmen and artisans: the need for them will increase as the peasantry realise the benefits of better built and better equipped houses. You will hear from Mr. Hoskins and Mr. Thorp of the plans for the opening of a Technical School here in Kaduna: you have asked for this for some time: I look to you to ensure, by sending the right kind of boy as pupil, that it is a success and that the instruction will be given to boys who will know how to use their knowledge to raise the general level of life among their own people. I cannot impress too strongly upon you the importance of the example which your office-holders and other employees set to the people in general.

There is again a long Agenda for your Conference and I have no doubt that you will wish, too, to take advantage of your visit here to hear one another's views on matters of common interest that are not down for formal discussion. I ask the blessing of God on all your deliberations: may they be always to the furtherance of the common good.

REPLY BY THE SULTAN OF SOKOTO TO HIS HONOUR'S ADDRESS.

All of us Chiefs assembled here have heard all that the Chief Commissioner has said to us in his address. Our Conference this year has indeed come at a time of rejoicing—rejoicing because of the victory over these enemies of ours, the Germans. This rejoicing will not be complete till we have finished with the rest of our enemies, the Japanese. Do not let us say that the assistance we are giving can now be stopped—no, we must try harder than ever, till we have found the Japanese and killed them. This war with Japan is the one which is the closer to us, because it is there that the soldiers of our country are fighting; and for that reason it is fitting that we should go on increasing our help and trying harder than ever.

We shall be meeting the Officer Administering the Government, Sir Gerald Whiteley, who arrives tomorrow, and may God bring him here to us safely.

We offer the Chiefs who will be getting medals our congratulations, and our gratitude to the King of England—God bless him.

We have heard about the death of the Emir of Bedde, Mai Umara—may God have mercy on his soul.

With regard to the reference the Governor will be making to the new Constitution for Nigeria, we must consider it deeply till we understand its full meaning, for its intention is further to improve the constitution of the Government for the progress of our land.

We understand what the Chief Commissioner has said about farming. This is the big industry of our land. We must help to the utmost of our ability to remind and impress on farmers that improving the soil of the farm is better than increasing the extent of the farm. Improving the soil of the farm means the use of manure. There are many methods of obtaining and using manure which will bring the soil to life and bring in a plentiful crop.

Whilst we are concentrating on the progress of our country, we must certainly pay attention to the Chief Commissioner's advice—that is, that our craftsmen of every kind should increase

in numbers and in skill for the assistance of the people who intend to make progress. This will not happen, unless, we ourselves, the District and the Village Heads, put our minds to it, and start the ball rolling ourselves in our own homes.

As we assemble here every year for our deliberations, so may God make them valuable, and also our meeting with each other here together in this way. AMEN.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS OF CHIEFS' CONFERENCE, 1915.

THE FIRST DAY OF THE CONFERENCE

SUBJECT No. 1.

ADULT EDUCATION.

(Emir of Horin)

Proposed by the Emir of Horin:—

Publicity has been given to adult education in the Northern Provinces in the press. It is desired to devise means of encouraging it, especially amongst Native Authority employees in large centres, and Horin would be prepared to consider part payment of suitable teachers' salaries if those desirous of advancing themselves would find the balance. Information concerning the progress made in other Provinces would be of interest.

It is recommended that evening classes be considered on a mutual financial basis in the main centres as a matter of Native Administration policy if there is any reason from experience gained to believe attendance would justify it.

The Sultan and the Emirs of Gwandu and Argungu gave information concerning adult education in their Emirates and emphasised that attendance is necessarily irregular, and that the Native Authority must be prepared to expend money on a scheme of this kind. Discussion turned on whether it was possible to compel adults to attend regularly. It was decided that it was not possible, or desirable, except for Native Administration officials. The first Resolution recommended that, where desired, an Order should be made to compel Native Administration officials to attend adult classes, but that no form of compulsion should be used on other adults.

His Honour, at the first session, pointed out, however, that to compel Native Administration officials by law to attend adult classes might lead to most undesirable results, and suggested that the proper form of inducement would be to make increments and promotions dependent on records shown among other methods by attendance at these classes. The Chiefs agreed.

## RESOLUTION.

- (1) Adult classes are valuable and they should be continued and extended.
- (2) It should be made clear to Native Authority officials that their increments and promotions will be dependent on their progress in general education and their attendance at adult classes will be taken into account. Attendance by other adults should be entirely voluntary.
- (3) The Native Authorities should pay the teachers instructing these adult classes, and should provide books and equipment for non-salaried adults. But Government or Native Authority employees should pay for their own equipment.

SUBJECT No. 2.  
LEPERS: CONTROL OF.  
(Emir of Ilorin)

Proposed by the Emir of Ilorin:—

“The freedom with which lepers move about the country and mix with the clean in markets and public places is causing concern. Lepers not infrequently sell foodstuffs in the markets. It is realised that isolation and treatment is desirable and available at certain places but it is considered the opportunity offered by the Conference should be taken to arouse the public mind to the undesirability of permitting lepers to frequent public places without hindrance. The measures which might be taken by Native Administrations to establish isolation camps and the nature of the legislation required should be investigated.

“That lepers should not be allowed to frequent public places and consideration be given to the erection of isolation camps and the introduction of legislation to that end.”

A number of Chiefs pointed out the difficulties of preventing lepers frequenting public places. Leper settlements, where they existed in the Northern Provinces, could not contain more than a small proportion of the total number of lepers, and even these small settlements were unable to prevent lepers coming out and mixing with the public. The majority of Chiefs agreed that at the present time legislation to restrict the movements of lepers would not be of any use. The Emir of Ilorin admitted the difficulties and agreed to withdraw his proposal on this point, but the Atta of Igbirra wished to press for action to provide isolation camps and legislation to enforce isolation, in his area at any rate.

The Chiefs did, however, all agree that lepers should be prevented from selling food, and felt that it was desirable to make an Order to enforce this.

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His Honour, at the final meeting had in the syllabus. being made for leprosy treatment in the Northern Provinces, and agreed that un- with Bashir and started in the Northern Provinces. The Commission there the main concentration should be on the main concentration should be on amongst the peasantry to prevent leprosy.

## RESOLUTION.

- (1) Legislation to restrict the movement of lepers should be enforced and is not therefore desirable as ample funds and European staff are available to make possible large and close settlements.
- (2) Legislation to prevent lepers selling foodstuffs and should be introduced.

## SUBJECT No. 3.

ASSISTANCE TO PLACES THAT HAVE SUFFERED  
MISFORTUNE.  
(Emir of Misau)

The Emir of Misau (not present at the Conference) proposed:—

- “1. Last year the people of Gaya in Kano suffered loss through fire.
2. Those in Taura, Kano Province, also suffered loss through fire.
3. Soba in Zaria suffered loss by fire.

“In Gaskiya Ta Fi Kwabo No. 108 an announcement was made asking for assistance for the people of Soba. But the thing which prevents people from answering such an appeal is that in their own country fires are liable to cause misfortune, and a man who sees that his own home is liable to such misfortunes will keep his money for himself rather than help strangers. It is suggested that every Treasury should have an item from which assistance of this sort could be given to that Native Authority's own people. If a fire like this breaks out, it is necessary to help people because the assistance is not sufficient, therefore assistance from public fund is essential. It is not suggested that this fund should be used to assist the repairs to a few houses damaged, but only where such assistance is necessary, as, for instance, where twenty or more houses are burnt. In short, only where such assistance is really essential.

"It is suggested that this fund could be used for assistance in buying food in cases of destruction of crops by locusts.

"It should be resolved that a fund, shown under a separate item in the estimates, be opened by each Native Authority to assist areas in that Administration which have suffered damage by fire or locusts."

The Sultan and the Emir of Gwandu pointed out that to undertake this might involve the Native Authority in the expenditure of enormous sums. The Emir of Bida and the Waziri of Sokoto suggested that the Native Authority should give assistance with a new lay-out of the town or ward, and the Emir of Kano suggested assistance with a loan of corn (though a number of Chiefs pointed out that collection of repayments would be difficult). The Atta of Igbirra warned the Conference against undertaking benefits which might prompt house-holders to burn down their own houses. The Emir of Zaria summed up the feelings of the Conference by saying that it was quite impossible to make an estimate for an item of this kind, and that if any help was to be given by the Native Authority, it should be from the Development Reserve. Each Native Authority should do what it can to assist places that have suffered misfortune judging each case on its own merits.

#### RESOLUTION.

It is not possible to lay down any fixed procedure. Each Native Authority must do what it can in each case as it arises.

His Honour, at the final session, agreed with this resolution. He pointed out that in England damage by fire, apart from enemy action amounted to millions of pounds a year, and that house-holders covered themselves against the risk of loss by fire by insuring their property. In Nigeria, each Native Authority must do what it can to meet the needs of each particular place which had suffered misfortune—in one case by loan of corn, in another by gift of corn, in another by a new lay-out, in another by some other method.

#### SUBJECT No. 4.

##### MASS EDUCATION.

(Emir of Katsina.)

The Emir of Katsina proposed that:

"It was desirable that the possibilities of making use of the Koranic teachers for Mass Education should be explored. It was thought that, given encouragement, the younger generation of teachers may be willing to broaden the basis of their education by including instruction in reading and writing in the Latin script. The views of the Fano Law School Kadis on the matter would be of value.

Recommended that—

- (a) Koranic teachers should be brought within the scope of plans for Mass Education.
- (b) Immediate steps should be taken to provide for this class special classes of instruction in reading and writing to be financed by the Native Authorities."

The Conference, led by the Emirs of Gwandu, Zaria, Argungu, Bauchi and Koton Karifi and the Waziri of Sokoto, left, without any division of opinion, that the present generation of Koranic mallams would not be of any assistance in a scheme of this kind, that this experiment had been tried before and did not prove a success, and that only those who had been to the Law School Kano, or who had voluntarily attended the existing adult classes would be of any use.

His Honour, at the final session, suggested that though the Koranic mallams might not themselves be of any use as teachers of reading and writing in the Latin script, it might be possible to use their classes by allowing outside teachers to visit and teach in them. The Chiefs were doubtful whether this would be popular, but agreed that it might be worth trying in certain cases.

#### RESOLUTION.

- (1) The old Koranic mallams will not be of any assistance in any scheme of this kind, unless they come voluntarily to the adult classes.
- (2) The assistance of any ex-Law School pupils who are out of work might be tried.
- (3) The experiment might be made, in cases where it is thought likely to succeed, of using the Koranic classes by allowing instruction in reading and writing in the Latin script to be given by outside teachers who would visit and teach in them from time to time.

#### SUBJECT No. 5.

##### NORTHERN PROVINCES LAW SCHOOL.

A. Proposed by the Emir of Bida:

"There has been an increasing number of applications during the course of the past two years to enter this School. These men are for the most part Arabic Teachers employed in Elementary Schools, though more and more Middle IV boys are applying. There appears to be no future employment on a salary comparable to them and only few of them could be employed as Assistant Alkadi.

"It is for consideration whether the course at the Northern Provinces Law School should be considered as four years of broad study or restricted to those for whom there may be employment."



The Chiefs, and particularly the Emir of Kano, felt that if there were places available, it should be possible for other persons than candidates sent at the expense of the Native Authorities to take the course at the Law School, provided that they paid their own fees; further, that it should be understood that no candidates, whether private or sent by a Native Authority, could necessarily be assured of a post after taking the course. The Emir of Abuja suggested in addition that there might be great advantage in combining the Law School with Kofuna College.

RESOLUTION.

- (1) Every Native Authority should continue to send pupils to the Law School according to its needs, but it should be clearly understood that there can be no promise that they will be given paid employment.
- (2) If there are any places available, any applicants who can pay for themselves should be allowed admittance on the same clear understanding.

B.—Proposed by the Emir of Kano:—

- “(a) Letters have been received by the Sheikh in charge of the school from persons in the Southern Provinces and the Gold Coast applying for entry and asking for information regarding fees. It is thought that applications from private individuals would be limited if they had knowledge of the full rate of fees.”

RESOLUTION.

The places available for applicants who are paying their own fees should be open to anyone, from whatever country.

- “(b) Sheikh Bashir stated that at present reference books required by students were provided on payment and became the property of the students or the Native Authority which sent the latter to the school. They were taken away by the students on completion of the course. These would, from April 1st, 1945, be provided from the inclusive fees to be paid. It is desirable that graduates on leaving should be allowed to keep certain books which they would require for reference when continuing reading after passing out from the school.”

RESOLUTION.

Graduates should be allowed to keep such books as are necessary for use after they leave the Law School.

- “(c) The time has come for the standard of students graduating from the school to be raised and for this purpose the course should be extended to five years; English and

general knowledge should be included in the syllabus. Detailed proposals prepared by Sheikh Bashir are attached. (See Appendix A).”

RESOLUTION.

The course should be extended to five years. This is preferable to making the qualifications for entry stricter, and requiring a greater knowledge of English on entry (*e.g.*, by confining candidates to ex-Middle School boys).

His Honour at the final session commented on this resolution that there was no point in having an extra year at the Law School in order to spread the knowledge of English. If the Native Authorities required *alkalai* with a knowledge of English then the way to obtain them was to send to the Law School ex-middle school pupils, who had already been taught English. If, however, the Management Committee and the Chiefs felt that an extra year was necessary in order to cover a fuller syllabus in Moslem law, then he would be prepared to agree to it.

C.—Does the Conference approve the proposed Graduates Certificate? (See Appendix B).

The Chiefs agreed that a Certificate was desirable, but disagreed about whether the leaving examination should be conducted by the Law School teachers or by outside examiners. The Emir of Kano and the Atta of Igbirra felt that there should be outside examiners. The other Chiefs, led by the Emirs of Zaria and Gwandu, argued that the teachers at the Law School could be trusted to do this adequately. It was eventually resolved, the Emir of Kano and the Atta of Igbirra dissenting, that the proposed Certificate should be issued, and that it should be based on an examination conducted by the Law School staff.

His Honour, at the final session, however, advised against the issue of a Certificate based on an examination altogether. A Certificate was liable to be most misleading; it tended to give rise to the impression that the holder was necessarily entitled to a job and at so much a month, and cases had been known in which Certificates had been bought and sold. He advised the Chiefs to rely on a full report on each pupil's school work, including internal examinations, which would be sent by the Headmaster to the Native Authority concerned.

RESOLUTION.

Graduates of the Kano Law School should not be given a school-leaving Certificate, but a full report on the work and standard of each pupil, when he leaves, should be sent to the Native Authority concerned.

## SUBJECT No. 6.

FARMING BY PERSONS IN AN ADMINISTRATIVE AREA  
OTHER THAN THAT IN WHICH THEY RESIDE.*(Chief of the Hill Yergam)*

Prepared by the Chief of the Hill Yergam not present at the Conference:—

"It is of common occurrence for a Native Authority or other chief to refuse farming rights to applicants from a neighbouring administrative area unless the applicants move across the boundary and so place themselves under his authority and pay tax to the Native Treasury of his area. If there is a shortage of farm land in the applicant's own administrative area he frequently has no alternative to migrating and thus severing his connection with his own tribal authorities and customs.

"It should be resolved that provided that land is available, Native Authorities and other chiefs should grant farming rights to applicants from neighbouring administrative areas on the same terms as those on which they would grant it to applicants residing in their own areas."

The Emirs of Kano, Bauchi and Zaria felt that this was an old source of controversy, which it was quite unnecessary to raise again now, the procedure for dealing with such cases having long ago been settled. The Magajin Raif of Gwandu and the Waziri of Sokoto explained that so far as Gwandu and Sokoto Emirates were concerned the rule was that there was no objection to a stranger farming old land, but he could not cut a new farm. After discussion, the Emirs of Kano, Bida, Adamawa, Daura, Muri, Wamba and Jema'a (verbal support conveyed by Wamba) supported the Emir of Zaria in saying that they agreed with the proposal provided that permission was obtained in each case. The other Chiefs, and in particular Horin and Kanam, opposed the proposal as leading to the break-up of all boundaries and maintained that where farming rights were granted there the farmer must pay tax.

## RESOLUTION.

There is no one answer to this question. Each area must arrange with the neighbouring area the procedure for dealing with this matter as it arises.

## THE SECOND DAY OF THE CONFERENCE.

The second day of the conference, Tuesday May 15th, opened with an address by Major-General R. L. Bond, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., V.C., Commander, Nigeria Area, to the Chiefs on the subject of the war in the Far East and the co-operation asked of them to bring it to a speedy conclusion.

General Bond expressed his pleasure at the opportunity of meeting the Chiefs and his appreciation of their help in providing recruits for the army. He referred to the visit of the General Officer Commanding in Chief, West Africa, to India and Burma and to the part played by West African troops in the Burma campaigns. He had been greatly impressed by their fine physique, their soldierly bearing and their excellent fighting record.

General Bond went on to refer to the arrangements for the return of the troops with long service overseas, but emphasised that whilst giving thanks for the end of the war in Europe we should remember that the wars in the East and in the West were one War. The Germans wished to enslave the whole world, as they did Europe, and they would have enslaved Africa mercilessly. The West African troops in Burma had set free British troops to defeat the Nazis in Europe, and had thus saved Africa. After the part they had played in this one war, it was right and proper that West Africans must be represented at the final defeat of our enemies.

General Bond appealed to the Chiefs to tell the recruits here to get ready quickly for battle, and to tell the families of the men at the front to write to them and to cheer them up. He sent his deepest sympathies to the families of the killed. "With God's help," he concluded, "we must do our duty to the end."

After a few questions had been asked by the Chiefs, in particular concerning arrangements for the receipt of letters from Nigeria by the troops in Burma, the Sultan thanked General Bond for his address, and promised the loyal support of the Chiefs. The Conference then proceeded with the next subject for discussion.

## SUBJECT No. 7.

PROVISION OF NATIVE AUTHORITY FILM LIBRARIES  
AND PROJECTORS.*(Emir of Kano)*

The Emir of Kano proposed:—

"Educational films, travelogues, "Shorts" and news reels, it is understood, are available for purchase and/or hire from the Minister of Information in London and other film agencies in the United Kingdom at a relatively moderate cost.

"Some Native Authorities, *e.g.*, Kano, Zaria, Katsina, have electric power supplies. If Native Authorities purchased projectors and films, it would be possible to show these films to many people (at either a small charge or free) who would not normally attend a Cinema. (The potentialities of mobile cinemas are not

considered here but should be borne in mind). The propaganda and educational value of such films needs no elaboration here. Films could be shown in open spaces, markets, large compounds, schools, etc.

"It is suggested that the Native Authorities concerned should either —

- (a) regularly purchase films for their own libraries and interchange the films; or
- (b) one Native Authority form a library and be reimbursed for hire or purchase of films by other Native Authorities; or
- (c) Public Relations Officer undertake the formation of a central distributing Library as Southern Provinces' Native Authorities would no doubt co-operate."

The Chiefs were unanimous in desiring films and in considering them valuable for instruction. There was some doubt about the best method of obtaining them, and some disappointment was felt when it was realised that, apart from the travelling film-van, these educational films could only be shown at places where there was electric light. After some discussion it was resolved that the best arrangement would be for each Native Authority with the necessary facilities to buy its own projector and the films should then be hired from the Public Relations Officer, Lagos.

His Honour, at the final session, emphasised that though these educational films supplied by the Minister of Information and other film agencies in England could only be shown at places where there was electric light, there was such a thing as a "film-strip" which could be shown in the villages. This was a series of "still" pictures which could be shown with a projector which, with battery, would not cost more than about £10. Film-strips of this kind, showing improved farming methods, better housing, better use of cattle and similar subjects could be taken round on tour in the villages with a mallam suitably trained as a commentator and instructor. The Chiefs strongly agreed that to purchase film-strips was desirable.

#### RESOLUTION.

- (1) Educational films of every kind are needed. If possible, every Native Authority in a place where electricity is provided should buy its own projector. Films should then be hired, in quantity, from the Public Relations Officer, Lagos.
- (2) Films-strips and projectors for showing them should be bought as soon as they are obtainable by all Native Authorities for showing in the villages.

#### SUBJECT No. 8.

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

(Emir of Kano)

The Emir of Kano proposed: —

"It is desirable that the higher education of girls be encouraged *i.e.*, that after the Elementary School course is complete, they should proceed to Middle Schools.

"On account of the small numbers of girls (in most places at the moment) whose standard of education warrants this course, it is thought that to accommodate them with boys might restrict their activities and be undesirable.

"It is suggested that a central Middle School to serve the girls from the Northern Provinces be established, until such time as the numbers of girls available for higher education warrants the establishment of a girls "compound" in a boys middle school or, alternatively, a middle school for girls.

"The necessity for proper and separate accommodation for girls attending mixed middle schools is emphasised."

The Emirs of Abuja, Pategi, Koton Karifi, Zaria and Ilorin, and M. Isa on behalf of the Atta of Igbirra, explained the arrangements made for the instruction of girls in the Middle Schools in their areas. They were popular and they desired them continued and extended. The Shehu of Bornu wished it possible for girls in his Province to go similarly to the Middle School and learn English. The Emirs of Kano and Kontagora stressed the undesirability of having boys and girls of Middle School age mixed up in the same school. But the Conference decided, without hesitation, against the proposal to start one Middle School for girls for the whole of the Northern Provinces. The majority clearly preferred to keep the girls of each Province in the existing Middle Schools of each Province and to solve the problem of the mixing up with boys by giving them a separate class and entirely separate compound of their own. Where this was not possible, owing to insufficient numbers, the majority preferred the Emir of Katsina's suggestion that, as a temporary measure, the girls of two neighbouring Provinces should combine to form one class and compound in the Middle School of one of them. This was opposed, however, by the Emir of Gwandu, who maintained that either the standard in his Girls' Elementary School should be raised, or that the syllabus at the Women's Training College at Sokoto should be enlarged to include Middle School subjects. It was explained by the Emirs of Zaria, Katsina and Abuja that the intention of the Middle

School syllabus was quite different from that of the Women's Training Centre, whose counterpart was the Elementary Training Centre at Bauchi, but the Emir of Gwandu maintained his opposition.

#### RESOLUTION.

(Emir of Gwandu dissenting)

- (1) Where the girls of one Province are numerous enough to fill one class at the Middle School, they should attend the school, forming a separate class and being given a separate compound.
- (2) Where the girls in one Province are not numerous enough to fill one class, they should be combined with those of a neighbouring Province to form a class at the Middle School of one of them, and be given a separate compound.

His Honour, at the final session, agreed with the resolution and commented that this was the best arrangement that could be made until the ultimate objective of a separate Middle School for girls in each Province was possible.

#### SUBJECT No. 9.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOYS AFTER LEAVING SCHOOL.

(Emir of Zaria)

Proposed by the Emir of Zaria:—

"Emirs are endeavouring to prevent boys from becoming useless people but we seem to be doing the contrary. We are taking boys from their parents and placing them in the Elementary Schools. After four years a few are sent to the Middle School and the remainder are dismissed without sufficient knowledge and at too young an age to get employment. Most of them are unwilling to go back and help their parents as we would wish. They then become useless people. Some are fit to go to the Middle School but they are over age. I am constantly receiving complaints about this.

"What is the remedy? It is my opinion that these boys should not be sent away from school but should assist their parents in their work during the forenoon. Failure to do so should be reported to the school Mallam who should take disciplinary action. In the afternoon they should attend school for one or two hours and the Mallam might be paid a small salary in accordance with the number of boys. After two years of this they should have acquired further knowledge and sense. They would have been employed in useful work and not become useless

persons. Even if then they get no paid employment they will have been engaged in an occupation useful to their families. This is the subject for consideration."

The Emirs of Gumel and Koton Karifi maintained that increased concentration on handicrafts and on teaching the boys a trade in the Elementary Schools would help to provide a solution. The Emir of Abuja felt that boys who refused to help their parents in their work should be punished. Others (Koton Karifi and Magajin Rafi of Gwandu) wanted to see the age at which the elementary school boys entered school raised to 9 or 10. The Atta of Igbirra recommended lengthening the elementary school course by two years, to bring it to standard VI, as was already done in his area. The Waziri of Sokoto suggested expanding the system at present being adopted in Sokoto Province by which the elementary school population was doubled and the pupils divided into two blocks, each working only three hours in class, the rest of the day being spent with their parents on their farms. All these suggestions, together with the Emir of Zaria's proposal for continuation classes by which the elementary school teachers are kept in touch with their pupils after leaving school, were considered by the Conference, which did not feel, however, that any of them quite met this serious and growing problem.

#### RESOLUTION.

There should be more attention paid to the teaching of crafts in elementary schools. But apart from this, the Conference being unable to suggest any remedy for this serious problem wishes to have the advice of the Assistant Director of Education on this matter.

His Honour, at the final session, pointed out that increased concentration on the teaching of crafts would not in itself be a solution. Technical schools were being started for the teaching of trades, and such teaching as could be given at elementary schools could not be of much use. The root of the problem was the popular idea that a boy who went to an elementary school might expect to get salaried employment, and that idea must first be uprooted. It was perhaps a mistake that we had made in siting our first elementary schools in the District towns, instead of in the villages amongst a purely farming community. The objective now was to have elementary schools so numerous that to have been to school was no distinction, and for ample supplies of literature—including especially pamphlets on such subjects as improved farming methods—to be produced by the Gaskiya Corporation to keep all who could read interested in rural subjects and thinking. He would refer all their suggestions to his Assistant Director of Education and ask him for his advice on the matter.

SUBJECT No. 10.  
NATIVE ADMINISTRATION POLICE.  
(*The Commissioner of Police.*)

A.—Police Training Depot: Native Administration contribution.

The Conference accepted the schedule (Appendix C) setting out the suggested contribution from the reserve funds of each Native Treasury towards the cost of the new Police Depot. The Emir of Kano commented upon the division of cost on the ground that Kano's share was too great, and preferred that the cost should be made proportionate to the number of Native Authority Police in each Native Administration, rather than proportionate to the revenue of each. His Honour at the final session observed that this would be unfair on the smaller Native Authorities, such as Jos, which, owing to the presence of large towns in their areas, had to maintain a large police force. He accepted the resolution of the rest of the Conference.

B.—Whether police in training should be accompanied by their wives.

The Conference resolved that, so far as police recruits were concerned, Native Authority Police should be sent for training unaccompanied by their wives.

C.—Standardisation of the salute by Native Authority Police.

The Conference was divided on this subject, some Chiefs preferring the Hausa salute *jinjina*, others the military salute. But all agreed that one standard salute for all Native Authority police was desirable.

After some lively discussion, the matter was put to the vote and the supporters of the military salute outnumbered the supporters of the *jinjina* by 16 to 10. The Conference accordingly resolved that all Native Authority Police should be taught the military salute like the Nigeria Police.

SUBJECT No. 11.  
LICENSING OF DANE GUNS.  
(*Atta of Igbirra.*)

Proposed by the Atta of Igbirra:—

“The law provides for the licensing of dane guns imported and sold in this country after a certain date. The result of this is that the benefit of the doubt has always been given and no dane guns are licensed. Many hunters use dane guns in which they

use as missiles any convenient piece of old iron or even stones that cause lacerated wounds and much suffering to the animals. The time has come when hunting should be more closely controlled and the use of these weapons curtailed by licence.”

The Conference generally felt that some sort of control was desirable, but the Emirs of Ilorin and Pategi felt that licensing was impracticable and were opposed to it. Most of the other Chiefs supported the institution of a licence. It was suggested by the Emirs of Koton Karifi and Kontagora that licences should only be required of professional hunters but the other Chiefs thought that it would not be easy to distinguish between professional hunters and ordinary owners of dane guns. The majority, opposed by the Chiefs from Ilorin Province, resolved that the Native Authority should require a licence of 5/- (or thereabouts) of every holder of a dane gun.

His Honour at the final session said he was doubtful whether it would be practicable to make the licensing of dane guns compulsory unless the Southern Provinces followed suit. He advised against any legislation until the Southern Provinces had been consulted.

RESOLUTION.

(*The Chiefs of Ilorin Province dissenting*)

It is desirable that the Native Authority should require a licence of 5/- (or thereabouts) of every holder of a dane gun, but the Southern Provinces should first be consulted to know if they will agree to follow suit.

SUBJECT No. 12.

LIMITATION FOR TIME OF CLAIM OF DEBTS.

(*Atta of Igbirra.*)

Proposed by the Atta of Igbirra:—

“It is understood that in English Law after a period of six years an unacknowledged debt is not claimable. Under Native Law and Custom claims for old debts, sometimes inherited, are often made and though courts often say they will not adjudicate in any case more than ten years old, this, besides being difficult to prove, has no legal authority. Much trouble would be avoided if such a rule existed.”

The Atta of Igbirra, supported by the Etsu Pategi, said that District Officers usually refuse to hear complaints regarding debts which are more than six years old. The Alkali of Bauchi immediately pointed out that to make any Statute of Limitations would be contrary to Moslem Law. The Alkali of Zaria further defied the position, explaining that a debt did not lapse

merely because no claim was made for it; but that to place a time-limit might lead to serious hardship caused by debtors deliberately taking advantage of it. In any case old debts were not a great source of trouble to the courts.

The Conference agreed without further discussion that in Moslem areas, Moslem law must be followed, that is to say a debt could not lapse with time. Other areas must make their own arrangements.

#### RESOLUTION.

In Moslem areas, Moslem law should be followed.

#### THE THIRD DAY OF THE CONFERENCE.

On Wednesday May 16th, the Chiefs assembled at Government Lodge, where His Excellency inspected the Guard of Honour. After the presentation of the medals and the insignia, His Excellency gave his opening address.

#### HIS EXCELLENCY'S ADDRESS TO THE CHIEFS' CONFERENCE—16th MAY, 1915.

*(Read in Hausa by His Excellency, Sir Gerald Whiteley, C.M.G.)*

Chiefs of the Northern Provinces,

I am happy to come to Kaduna to speak to you here at this Conference, your sixth war-time conference. It gives me great pleasure to return to the Northern Provinces after nearly 17 years absence and to see once more the faces of some of those with whom I had the pleasure of working during my 14 years service here—notably the Chiefs of Bornu, the Emirs of Zaria, Katsina and Ilorin, the son of my old friend the Emir of Muri, whose wisdom and steadfastness continues, I am told, unimpaired by his 42 years in office, the Chief of Donga and the Chief of Makurdi.

I am glad to have had the privilege of presenting the tokens of His Majesty the King's appreciation of the devotion to duty of Mr. James, the Assistant Director of Agriculture, and of the capable and sympathetic work of the Emirs of Gwandu, Daura, and Patigi and the Chief of Makurdi.

You have recently heard the news that the war with the Germans is over. We have won a great victory and defeated them utterly, and we are full of joy and great rejoicing because of it. We thank God for the victory He has given us. But we are still at war with Japan, and of that too we are beginning to see the end in sight. To us and our allies the end of the war will bring deliverance from the fear of oppression and want—but I must warn

you—no relief from the unremitting toil necessary both to make good our losses during the war years and to make the world (and Nigeria for you in particular) a better place for all to live in in the future. Let there, therefore, be no slackening of effort, but rather gird yourselves to fight yet harder, no longer against a human foe, but against the more deadly enemies of ignorance, disease and malnutrition.

In speaking to you on this occasion a year ago the Governor reminded you of the plans that were being made for the development of your Emirates. I am glad to know that although it was thought that the execution of those plans would have to await the end of hostilities some progress is already being made with work designed to raise the standard of living of the peasantry, despite the acute shortage of European staff and the pre-occupation of everyone with work directly concerned with the war effort. You have lately heard how the people of Britain, through their Parliament, have set aside the sum of £120,000,000 as a contribution towards the cost of putting into effect development schemes in the Colonies including our own, Nigeria. This is a big contribution from funds that have been depleted by the huge expenditure that has been unavoidable during the war. It behoves us all to see that every penny of Nigeria's share of this money shall be spent to the very best advantage. Those schemes with which you are most intimately concerned are those which will aim primarily at raising the standard of living of the peasants who form by far the vast majority of the people in this country. They are the people most in need of assistance: on the success of the schemes designed to improve their conditions of living will depend Nigeria's ability, or the reverse, to maintain the services which large development schemes are planned to provide. I need, therefore, only remind you of the importance of planning your local development schemes well with your Residents and other members of the Provincial Development Committees.

You will remember, too, that during the last occasion on which you met here, the Governor talked in detail with you about political matters and in the course of his talk foreshadowed a change in the political set-up of Nigeria. It is important and worthy of note that in less than a year a fully-fledged plan has come into being. This is but one example of the speed at which events move in these days and an example of the necessity for progress and for the thoughts of leaders to move ahead of the times.

You have now had time to study the Governor's proposals for the constitutional development of Nigeria: these proposals are, you will observe, designed to end the separation which exists politically between the Northern Provinces and the rest of Nigeria. If His Majesty the King approves the proposals, you

will be called upon to play a prominent part in the administration of Nigeria. It will fall to you to voice your opinions on diverse matters as they will affect the well-being of the people for whose welfare you are responsible. It is essential that you should keep in close touch with the views of these people themselves: they may not always coincide exactly with your own, but it is from the careful consideration of diverse opinions that the harmony which is the outcome of sound constitutional government can be attained. I have every reason to believe that with the advice of your Chief Commissioner you will achieve the means of encouraging the expression of the peasants' opinions for the good of this country as a whole.

The thanks of all are due to you for selecting one of your number to represent you and carry messages of good cheer to Nigerian soldiers who are fighting the common enemy with success in the jungles of Burma and to the Emir of Katsina for carrying out so well his arduous mission.

I must also congratulate you on another year of loyal and sustained effort in support of the war effort of the allied nations and thank you for the willingness and competence with which you have borne the ever-increasing burdens placed upon you and your administrations by these difficult times.

Last month there occurred in England the death of an administrator whose name will always be associated principally with the Northern Provinces of Nigeria. I, with your Chief Commissioner, are among the few officers now in the Nigerian Service who had the privilege of serving with Lord Lugard. Many of you knew him personally: all of you have heard from your fathers of the great work he did here in the North and afterwards as Governor-General of Nigeria. We look back on Lord Lugard's life, which God mercifully made long for the benefit of his fellow men, with thankful remembrance: he would wish for no better memorial than the continued progress of the people of the Northern Provinces under your leadership to a place of prominence among the people of the world. Let the knowledge of that wish spur all your efforts in the future for the well being of the peoples in your care.

Now, you have many weighty and urgent problems to consider, so I will leave you to your deliberations and pray that God may give you wisdom to reach the right conclusions and the will and opportunity to carry them into effect.

#### REPLY BY THE SULTAN OF SOKOTO TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S ADDRESS.

All of us here are delighted that the Officer Administering the Government, Sir Gerald Whiteley, has found time to come to our Conference to give us his blessing on our deliberations.

This is his first visit to our Conference and he has come at a time when we are full of rejoicing for the victory over our enemies the Germans.

I always remember my visit to Lagos last February and the kindness which he and Lady Whiteley showed me. I thank them very much and I shall never forget this kindness of theirs to me.

We have understood all that he has said to us in his speech, including what he said about the war with Japan, which we are now facing. For the future we will try our utmost, and we will not fail, with every kind of help, till they also are defeated and our troops can return home to their families, and take up useful work, and we can dwell safely in the shadow of righteousness and friendship.

All the other things he has said we have also understood. Let us firmly resolve, to the utmost of our ability, to practise the suggestion he has helped us with for the improvement of our country that it may progress as much as anywhere in the world.

God bless the King of England, and grant him a speedy victory over the rest of the oppressors. AMEN.

#### THE FOURTH DAY OF THE CONFERENCE.

On Thursday May 17th, the Conference started with an address by Mr. W. H. Thorp, Senior Education Officer, who, with his colleague Mr. J. Hoskins, came to talk to the Chiefs on the subject of Technical Education and Trade Centres.

Mr. Thorp said that the Chiefs were known to be keenly interested in Technical Education. The Chief Commissioner had also shown his keen interest by constant enquiries when was something going to be done to get it started. He knew that that was also what the Chiefs wished to know. A little over a year ago when the subject was first brought forward, there was no money, and the war was still in full swing. Now he could give a definite statement. The full scheme had been drawn up and accepted. The Colonial Development and Welfare Vote would provide most of the funds. The total vote for ten years was nearly £1,700,000. They would see in the Estimates £401,000 in addition to the cost of buildings.

The aims of the scheme were simple. Training in Nigeria had been too much directed towards administration. There was the necessity for production - but nothing to administer. Technical training sought to give the skill and stimulate the interest which would allow Nigerians to produce more. The scheme provided for School craft centres in many districts and for Technical College work, but the backbone was the Trades Centres. The first Trade Centre would be opened in Kaduna. Staff and tools on a big scale would be required.

The Kaduna Trade Centre, like the other Trades Centres, would give a course of about five years to boys who wished to be builders, mechanics, tinsmiths or members of associated trades. The workshops would be properly equipped with full-size machines. A total of nearly £7,000 for machines and £2,500 for hand tools had been estimated. In the Ten year period the Colonial Development and Welfare Vote would provide £76,000 for Kaduna alone. Buildings would be provided in addition by the Colonial Development and Welfare Vote. Local Government would make a contribution of £33,000 and it was hoped that the Native Authorities would help. Small amounts would be required for the mallams and for kits of tools for instance.

Training would be under works conditions as far as possible. Training, however, came first, not production. It was trained men that Nigeria needed above all at this time. Towards the end of training apprentices would be taken out on full scale works.

All instruction would be by Europeans of the highest class we could obtain. The Trade Centre must aim at a new standard of work. The previous attitude of 'you can't expect anything better in Nigeria' must go. We must aim at as high a standard of work as in any other country in the world.

With regard to the date of opening, negotiations were being made for two Instructors. The Indent had been prepared for £1,600 worth of tools. During this visit he had been arranging to make use of the old buildings and for the siting of new. If supplies came through as expected it should be possible to open the Trade Centre in April, 1946.

Mr. Thorp concluded with a brief survey of other parts of scheme. There would be, first, Technical Institutes to cater for more advanced theoretical work and to help artisans already employed, who wished to raise the standard of their workmanship. There would be, secondly, twenty-six Handicraft Centres for groups of schools, to enable handicrafts to be taught more effectively and usefully, and at a higher standard, in all the Schools. There would be, thirdly, a Handicraft Instructors Training Centre.

All these were being planned, and he hoped that these, together with the Trade Centres, would give an impetus to trade and crafts throughout Nigeria such as would make Nigeria as a country renowned for the high standard of her workmanship.

Mr. Thorp's talk was followed by discussion and questions, in which the Chiefs showed keen interest in the subject, and particularly in the handicraft centres for the improvement of their own local trades. The Sultan then thanked Messrs. Thorp and Hoskins and hoped that the schemes for technical education would rapidly be put into effect.

### SUBJECT No. 13.

#### PREVENTION OF CRIME. THE EXPULSION OF CONVICTED THIEVES FROM LARGE TOWNS.

(Shehu of Bornu)

Proposed by the Shehu of Bornu:

"Many thieves from outlying villages and districts come into big towns and commit crimes. These thieves are "members of the native community living in the area of the native authority," they cannot therefore be required to leave the town (or area) under Section 29 (1) of the Native Authority Ordinance of 1943. It is thought that powers should be given to Native Authorities to interdict convicted thieves who are not normally resident in towns or districts where they have committed crimes.

"It is recommended that Native Authorities be given powers under the Native Authority Ordinance to interdict convicted thieves from specified towns or districts within the area of their authority by making an amendment to section 29 (1): or similar legislation with similar penalties."

The Emir of Ilorin pointed out that former thieves who were found wandering about without a trade in the large towns could be arrested and sentenced as rogues and vagabonds. The Shehu went on to say that the trouble was that house-holders in the towns gave them lodging and assistance. The Emir of Ilorin replied that he had made it compulsory for every house-holder to report to the Charge Office the arrival of any visitor from outside the town who came to stay with him. The Emir of Katsina suggested that in addition every visitor should himself be compelled to report to the Charge Office every two or three days. The Chiefs, however, after discussion, decided that it would not be practicable to enforce a Native Authority Order requiring house-holders and visitors to report at the Charge Office. The discussion continued on whether a further Order requiring former thieves to stay in their villages, and prohibiting their entry to the towns, was desirable, and it was finally decided that the section of the Criminal Code dealing with Rogues and Vagabonds would, if applied, give the courts sufficient powers to deal with this problem.

#### RESOLUTION.

The present legislation, if enforced, is sufficient to deal with this matter, namely, first, the section of the Native Authority Ordinance empowering a Native Authority to deport any thief from another area who enters the area of its jurisdiction. Secondly, the section of the Criminal Code which makes being a rogue and vagabond an offence. But more attention should be paid to the enforcement of the latter.



His Honour, at the final session, in agreeing with this Resolution, commented that in England it was formerly the common practice for Magistrates to compel persons known to be habitual thieves to appear before the court at regular intervals, and report. If that could not yet be done in this country, then it was important that thieves should not, on discharge from prison, simply be driven off, but should be sent, reported, to the District Head of their District, whose responsibility it was to see that they settled down amongst their relatives. If they were uncontrollable and had no fear of imprisonment in the Native Authority prison, then application should be made for them to serve their sentences of imprisonment at Kaduna or Enugu or Port Harcourt.

**SUBJECT No. 14.**  
**HIGHER EDUCATION FOR ALKALAI.**  
*(Emir of Biu)*

Proposed by the Emir of Biu:—

“It is thought that the time has now come when the more brilliant scholars at the Kano Law School should be offered the opportunity to study at the Al Azhar (Cairo) or Khartoum University. The objects of this proposal are two-fold:—

- (1) To produce Moslem lawyers who will in due course possess sufficiently high academical qualifications to enable the Kano Law School to be staffed by professors from the Northern Provinces.
- (2) To produce a nucleus of highly trained Moslem Lawyers who will in due course be qualified to sit as an Appeal Court from Grade ‘A’ Courts and give advice on difficult points of law in cases which may be stated to them. Thus they will relieve the High Court of their appellate jurisdiction in causes involving Muhammedan Law.

“It should be resolved that Government should make provision for Law Scholarships to the Universities of Khartoum and Al Azhar.”

The Chiefs at first thought that it was unnecessary to go beyond the legal knowledge obtainable at the Law School, but were persuaded by the Emir of Abuja, supported by Argungu and Gwandu, that it might be valuable to send a few selected scholars on for higher education to the East, just as Nigerian students are proceeding for higher education to England. The Chiefs felt that if they were men whom the Sheikhs at the Law School recommended, and who combined knowledge of English with Arabic, and of English Law with Moslem Law, then the experiment would be worth trying. They did not at all, however, like the idea of

using these men on return as an Appeal Court from Grade ‘A’ Courts—at any rate without further experience of what the results of such training would be—and felt that the main function of these students would be for use on their return as teachers.

**RESOLUTION.**

1. It would be valuable if Government could assist with scholarships for selected candidates from the Law School to go to Khartoum or the Al Azhar Universities, for a trial of how useful this higher education course proves to be.
2. The main purpose in sending them would be for them to be used as teachers on their return. The matter of their becoming an Appeal Court should be left for the present.

**SUBJECT No. 15.**

**MORTGAGING OF STANDING CROPS.**

Proposed by His Honour:—

“The practice of raising money on standing crops obtains in many areas in the Northern Provinces.

“Moslem law forbids transactions of this kind but this provision does not appear to be enforced at the present time in the case of Moslems and cannot be enforced in the case of persons not subject to the jurisdiction of a native court. This method of money-lending gives considerable scope for abuse, robs the farmer of his freedom of choice in disposing of his produce and encourages deceit and fraud on the part of both parties to the transaction. Moreover, the spread of this practice in the larger crop-producing areas is likely to hamper and restrict legitimate trade.

“Sanction has now been obtained under the Native Authority Ordinance, 1943, for native authorities to make rules regulating or prohibiting the mortgaging of standing crops and such rules can be made to apply not only to persons subject to the jurisdiction of a native authority but to all persons while within its area. The effective enforcement of any rules made for this purpose postulates their simultaneous promulgation in all areas where the inhabitants are mainly moslem. The sporadic application of such measures in widely separated areas can only result in their stultification.

“The main points on which your views are solicited are:—

- (a) is the general prohibition of mortgaging standing crops desirable and practicable and if not,
- (b) are any other restrictions not amounting to prohibition advisable?
- (c) in what areas should rules (if any) be made?”

The Chiefs were quite clear and emphatic that transactions of this kind were contrary to Moslem Law. But, as the Emir of Zaria pointed out, the problem was that the transactions were most frequently made between Moslems and non-Moslems. The Alkali of Zaria made it clear, however, that the courts could not possibly refuse to take cognisance of transactions of this kind, if a complaint was laid, but must investigate and must "undo" the contract. The question the Conference went on to discuss was whether Moslem Law gave all the powers necessary to deal with cases of this kind, or whether a Native Authority Order was necessary in addition. A long letter was read from the Emir of Kano giving all the details of what Moslem Law said on the subject of the selling or the pledging of standing crops at different stages of their development. The effect was to show that Moslem Law did not really cater for a transaction of the kind usually made between a buying clerk and the peasantry, of which the Sultan gave a detailed and vivid description. The Alkali of Zaria pointed out that these contracts were usually neither trade, as recognised by Moslem Law, nor the raising of money on the security of property pledged, for the clerk never even looked at the crop. The transaction was at bottom a simple debt, and the only way was to treat it as such, disregarding any implied promise later to sell the crop to a particular buyer. The Conference accepted this view and resolved that no Order need be made, but that the courts should deal with this matter when cases arose as a simple debt.

When the minutes were read on the following day, however, the Chiefs, led by the Emir of Zaria, felt that their first resolution over-simplified the problem, and needed amendment. After considerable further discussion, they arrived at the following amended resolution.

#### RESOLUTION.

A Native Authority Order should be made to the effect that, transactions of this sort being contrary to Moslem Law, the receiving of money on a promise to sell a future crop to a particular buyer is an offence; that, if cases of this kind arose, the money should be repaid as a debt, but no cognisance should be taken of the promise, implied or otherwise, to sell any crop to a particular buyer; and that this Order should apply to all parties whether Moslems or non-Moslems.

His Honour, at the final session, said that he would refer this Resolution to the Attorney General. But that if it was the poverty of the peasantry which made them so easily willing to bind themselves in return for ready cash, then the ultimate solution was to fight poverty and to teach the peasantry the value of saving and to show them how to start village banks on Co-operative lines. For this present bad and widespread practice the peasants were themselves at least in part to blame.

#### SUBJECT No. 16.

#### POOL OF NATIVE AUTHORITY FUNDS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS TO YABA.

His Honour referred to the Conference the following alternative methods of giving effect to the decisions of the 1940 and 1941 Conferences that where necessary, Native Authorities should share the cost of scholarships to Yaba:

- (a) *General*: a single pool to which all native authorities should contribute in proportion to their resources. The funds provided could be used to award scholarships to the most promising candidates available, regardless of the size or importance of the Native Administration to which they belong, thus ensuring equality of opportunity and the maintenance of the highest possible standard of entrant. There would also be no obligation placed on a man who has graduated to accept employment with any particular Native Authority and it would be possible to ensure that he was employed in an area where his special qualifications could be used to the best advantage.
- (b) *Local*: the alternative is for groups of Native Authorities—*e.g.*, by Provinces or groups of Provinces—to share the cost of putting a suitable candidate through a course and have a joint claim on his services when he returned. It was apparently an arrangement of this nature that Chiefs had in mind when the subject was debated at the 1940 Conference.
- (c) *Refund of expenses*: It is for consideration whether scholarships should be entirely free or whether the successful student should subsequently be required to refund part of the expenses from the salary he earns as a result of the scholarship.

The Emir of Katsina suggested that all the Native Authorities of the Northern Provinces should combine to form a pool for sending Northern boys to Yaba, but the majority of the other Chiefs preferred that the Native Authorities of each Province only should combine for this purpose. The Chief of Koton Karifi added that the Province responsible for sending a pupil to Yaba should have the right to his services for the first five years, but that it should not repay the fees spent on him.

#### RESOLUTION.

1. The Native Authorities of one Province should combine to pay for the fees of any of the pupils from their schools who go to Yaba Higher College.

2. On their return, Yaba pupils must be bound to work for five years in the Province which has paid their expenses of training. After five years they may leave if they wish.
3. Yaba pupils need not repay, after leaving Yaba, the fees that have been spent on them there.

#### SUBJECT No. 17.

#### HOUSING ACCOMMODATION FOR NATIVE AUTHORITY STAFF.

The Chiefs were asked to consider the following resolution from the Residents' Conference:—

"That the present policy should be reversed and the conditions of Native Authority service should contain the following clause:—

Native Authority employees may, in certain cases, be required to live in houses provided to suit the nature of their work and in such cases will be required to pay rent at a rate fixed by the Native Authority.

The condition would not, of course, apply to existing Native Authority staff who by custom have been granted free quarters—only to their successors."

#### RESOLUTION.

The resolution of the Residents should be adopted without amendment.

#### THE FIFTH DAY OF THE CONFERENCE.

On Friday 18th May, the Conference was opened by an address by the Acting Conservator of Forests, North Western Circle, Mr. J. W. Taylor, on the subject of Forestry policy and Soil Conservation.

He spoke as follows:—

"*Forest Policy.*—The present Governor as you all know takes a very keen interest in all activities in the country, and has laid down a forest policy which we are to follow. The main object of this policy is that a forest estate should be established and managed for the production of the maximum benefit to the greatest number of people from the minimum area of land which is essential to the general well being of the country.

"*Function of the Forest Department.*—In keeping with this policy the chief functions of the forest department are:—

- (a) to preserve a suitable vegetational covering over those areas where farming must be prohibited as likely so to impoverish or erode the soil that the area would become derelict, or to cause such loss of control or rain-water run-off that damage would be caused to other areas;

B1

- (b) to maintain essential supplies of timber, poles, fuel, grazing and other forest produce in perpetuity for the maximum population which may be expected in Nigeria, from the minimum area of land;
- (c) to make use of derelict lands, or land which cannot be cultivated, by growing a forest crop upon them. (e.g., Kano Town moat).

The willing co-operation of all is necessary if this work is to progress satisfactorily.

"*Soil Deterioration.*—The main causes are: (a) Intensification of farming without adequate manuring or time for recuperation under natural bush and with the ill effects of bush burning. (b) Clearing of hills and slopes of their tree cover. (c) Late bush fires. The remedy lies in establishing protection reserves in those areas which are liable to the greatest damage, as these are the concern of all land users, they are selected with the closest co-operation of other departments. In fact, as you all know, reserve proposals are now carefully examined by the Sleeping Sickness Service, Mines Department, Geological Survey and the Provincial Development Committees, so that adjustments to the proposals, can be discussed and decided upon before final survey and demarcation are undertaken. Much can be done and is being done by applying wisely N.A. rules on unreserved areas.

"*Maintenance of Supplies.*—These are: (a) Firewood, (b) Poles, (c) Timber (limited extent in the North), (d) Grass for thatching, Fibres, Ropes, (e) Fodder for cattle, (f) Browsing for goats and other animals, and (g) Game. At present all these demands are met imperceptibly from a mixture of farm and forest so confused and so unorganised that the inroads being made upon capital pass unnoticed. Now it is certain that wise management under sound silvicultural principles can maintain these supplies in perpetuity from a minimum area. It is equally certain that such produce can only be grown as a crop not as individual plants. If uncontrolled, the present system of land use would create such an intricate mosaic of farm and forest that management of the forest would become a practical impossibility. And where there is no management the forest, as a crop producing an annual yield in perpetuity, will disappear. This is beyond challenge. There is no question of the country becoming "desert," but the essential everyday wants of a primitive peasant population will no longer be met; the results would have the gravest effect on the standard of living and, unless they in themselves supplied the check to a rapidly increasing population might well give rise to problems of the first magnitude.

"Our first aim is therefore to acquire a forest estate in blocks of size suitable for practical management. These are the Forest

Reserves or Communal Forest Areas. In areas where reservation is not complete an interim control is applied through Forestry Regulations over the whole area.

"*Basis of Forest Reservations*—The whole basis of forest reservation is absolute security of tenure. It is very desirable that a most suitable distribution of forest reserves should be made whenever an opportunity arises for such an adjustment which will not inflict hardship on the communities concerned. But in such cases we have to regard Nigeria as a unit; if we were to act piecemeal in the matter we should be constantly cutting down reserves for sound local reasons, but never getting the *quid pro quo* in other areas where the reason for lack of the desirable reserves is the practical difficulty of getting them. Once a Reserve is put under a management plan—and we are only just commencing this phase—we must have absolute security at the *very least* for the life of the crop, which in high forest will not be less than 100 years, and preferably for ever. Without that we could no more work than could a farmer who tried to plant corn on land without guarantees that it would remain available to him until the crop was ripe.

"*Finance*—The financing of protective forestry is a 'public work' which must be carried on even at a loss. Where forest reserves are established to meet the needs of the people, the satisfaction of these needs at the lowest possible rates must take precedence over revenue.

"In conclusion it must be stressed that Nigeria is essentially a country of peasants who must for a very long time indeed depend upon a continuous supply of forest produce, not large timber but the hundred and one petty necessities of life. It is the Forest Department's duty to maintain that supply and the more it has the genuine co-operation of the African the more successful it will be.

"These notes are compiled from the Forestry Policy of Nigeria Circular 4142/8, 16 and notes sent me by the Chief Conservator of Forests which I have used verbatim in places. He wishes me to thank the Conference for giving the department this opportunity of explaining to them the objects of policy and how we can all work to achieve them."

Discussion followed on the subject of public announcement of the time for bush burning, on whether greater facilities can be given for the peasant to get permission to cut wood for firewood on his own farm, and on Forestry Reservations. The Chief of Bornu District, in particular, felt that the areas under reservation in his District did not allow enough farming land. Mr. Taylor said he was doubtful whether, under the circumstances were quite exceptional, the Forestry Reserves could be reduced; the solution was to learn to farm a smaller area, without shifting cultivation.

After the Sultan had thanked Mr. Taylor for his address, the Conference proceeded with the remaining subjects for discussion.

#### SUBJECT No. 18.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS BY THE NATIVE AUTHORITY FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR SCHOOL FEES.

(*Emir of Kontagora*.)

Proposed by the Emir of Kontagora:—

"Under the present system, the parents are responsible for paying the school fees for their boys in Middle Schools. In cases where a boy's parents are not rich enough to pay the whole sum, the Native Authorities take the responsibility of paying the portion which the parents are unable to pay.

"I suggest, therefore, that the Native Authority which takes the responsibility of paying a boy's school fees should first be advised if it has any vacancy to employ the boy. The boy can be allowed to take up any job he may like to if it has no vacancy."

The Chiefs all felt generally in favour of the proposal, and all desired that arrangements should be made everywhere, as they already appeared to be in some cases *e.g.*, Abuja and Bornu, to ensure that Native Authorities are advised of the number of boys about to leave the Middle School, and to ensure that the boys should be informed of what vacancies are available in the Native Administrations. Further than this, however, most of the Chiefs, led by the Emirs of Zaria and Kano, desired to make it compulsory for a boy to work for the Native Authority which has paid his fees, if it required his services, for at least five years. The Emir of Abuja, on the other hand, thought compulsion would be wrong.

The Conference finally resolved that if a boy whose services were required by his Native Authority refused to work for it for five years, he should be obliged to repay the fees spent by the Native Authority on his schooling.

His Honour, at the final session commented that it was important that it should be clearly understood that a boy who had passed the Middle IV examination was not automatically entitled to £3 a month in any job he took up. The salary must be added to the post not to the occupier. If the Native Authority had no post vacant which was worth more than £2 a month, then no more than £2 should be paid, whatever the qualification of the occupier. But for that reason a boy who had passed the Middle IV examination, and might therefore be able to get a job elsewhere at £3 a

month should not be compelled to work for his own Native Administration at the lower salary. Even if the Native Administration could offer as good conditions as he could obtain anywhere else, he was still very doubtful about the advisability of compelling him to work for the Native Administration on pain of repayment of the school fees. He would, however, let the resolution stand and if a case should come up, it would be considered.

RESOLUTION.

1. In all cases where boys are about to leave the Middle School, the Education Officer should inform the Native Authority responsible for sending them there. The Native Authority will then inform the school what vacancies it has available. The boys who wish to apply can then choose.
2. In cases where the Native Authority pays the school fees of a pupil at the Middle School, it should have the right, if it requires his services, to compel him to work for it for a period of five years provided that the salary offered is as good as he could obtain anywhere else. If the pupil does not wish to work for the Native Authority, then he must repay the money that has been spent on him at the Middle School. He may pay by instalment.

SUBJECT No. 19.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE FOR NATIVE AUTHORITY EMPLOYEES: AMENDMENTS TO.

The Conference considered the following resolution of the Residents' Conference:—

A.—Transport on leave:—

Resolved that this Conference recommends that the conditions of service set out in the memorandum at pages 10 to 13 of the Summary of Proceedings (English Version) of the 1943 Conference of Chiefs be amended as follows:—

- (a) *Delete* the penultimate sentence of paragraph 11 and *substitute*:—

“Such leave shall be granted after such periods of service not exceeding two years as, in the opinion of the Native Authority, may in the case of each employee best serve the interests of the service.”

- (b) *Delete* the last sentence of paragraph 11 and *substitute*:—

“Employees serving away from their homes may, in the discretion of the Native Authority, be granted, in addition to the prescribed vacation leave, full pay leave

in respect of the time necessarily spent in travelling between their places of employment and their homes or their places of engagement whichever of these may be nearer.”

- (c) *Delete* the footnote B at the end of paragraph 13 and *substitute*:—

“B. Proceeding to and returning from his place of engagement or to and from his home or native place whichever may be nearer to his place of employment. 1 cwt additional for baggage is allowed to an employee in each grade from (i) to (iv) if his home, native place, station, or place of engagement, as the case may be, is away from the Railway.”

(For pertinent paragraphs see Appendix D)

RESOLUTION.

The resolution of the Residents should be accepted without amendment.

B.—Promotions.

Resolved that this Conference recommends that the conditions of service set out in the memorandum at pages 10 to 13 of the Summary of Proceedings (English Version) of the 1943 Conference of Chiefs be amended by *deleting* the second sentence of paragraph 5; and further, that the instructions with regard to service cards as set out at page 7 of the summary of proceedings of the 1944 Residents' Conference and adopted at page 36 of the summary of proceedings of the 1944 Chiefs' Conference be amended by inserting in instruction 4 after the words “falls due” the words “or promotion” is to be considered.”

(For pertinent paragraphs see Appendix D)

RESOLUTION.

1. The resolution of the Residents should be accepted without amendment.
2. It is desirable that all the rules regarding conditions of service for Native Authority employees should be collected together in book form as early as possible for easy reference.

SUBJECT No. 20.

DETENTION OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS.

His Honour placed before the Chiefs, for their consideration, the following:

"The main problem is the treatment of juvenile delinquents of Northern Provinces origin who are convicted by Magistrates' Courts in Lagos and the Southern Provinces: the chief points for consideration are:—

- (a) to what institution they should be committed;
- (b) who should bear the cost of maintaining the boys at the institution;
- (c) who should be responsible for accepting them at the institution."

The Chiefs decided without hesitation that Moslem boys should be committed to the Reformatory at Kano, which should be expanded if necessary.

On the second point they felt that if committed by the Magistrate the Government should bear the cost of maintaining a juvenile delinquent at an institution. But if committed by a native court, there was some debate as to whether the Native Authority of the place where convicted, or the Native Authority of the place of origin of the boy should bear the cost. The Lamido of Adamawa and the Shehu of Bornu, who complained that it was common for their boys to refuse their parents' control and to run away to the large centres like Zaria and Kaduna, claimed that it was the responsibility of the Native Authority where they had been convicted of crime to pay for their maintenance at an institution, as with an ordinary thief. The Emir of Zaria, protesting strongly, carried the Conference to the other view.

On the third point the Conference felt that only the Kano Native Authority could be responsible for accepting the juvenile delinquents to its reformatory.

A further point, raised by the Emir of Katsina, was whether boys committed by the native courts should be sent direct to the reformatory at Kano or should be sent *via* the Native Authority which would have to pay for them, so that there should be no dispute as to what was their country of origin. The Conference felt that means should be taken to ensure that before commitment the Native Authority responsible for maintenance was satisfied that its area was in fact the country of origin of the boy concerned.

#### RESOLUTION.

- (a) Kano Reformatory should accept juvenile delinquents of the Northern Provinces' origin who are convicted by the Magistrates' Courts in Lagos and Southern Provinces, if they are Moslems.
- (b) (i) if committed by a magistrate, the Government should bear the cost of maintaining a juvenile delinquent at the Kano Reformatory.

- (ii) If committed by a Native Court, the Native Authority of the place of origin of the boy should bear the cost of maintenance.
- (c) (i) The Kano Native Authority should be responsible for accepting juvenile delinquents at the Reformatory there.
- (ii) Before commitment by a Native Court, the Native Authority which is to bear the cost of his maintenance should be given the means of making sure that its area is in fact the place of origin of the juvenile delinquent concerned.

His Honour, at the final session, commenting on these resolutions, emphasised that Alkalai must not necessarily commit boys convicted of crime to the Reformatory at Kano in every case. It was important that they should impress on parents their responsibility for their children. The home was the best Reformatory.

PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF SLEEPING  
SICKNESS.

The following report was read to the Chiefs:—

Most districts where sleeping sickness did much damage have been surveyed. The position has now improved. Where formerly 1,000 cases were seen, now there are only 100 or 120, a reduction of from one tenth to one eighth. Our efforts must not be relaxed because we know that, in these infested areas, even a single case of sleeping sickness can give rise to an epidemic.

To prevent further spread of the disease we are adopting three methods:—

1. Treatment at Dispensaries.
2. Re-examination of villages.
3. Clearance of riverine thicket. Once this has been done around every village, the disease will be controlled, but this will take years yet. We must therefore continue to stress the first two lines.

In 1944, 16,000 cases of sleeping sickness were treated. At original surveys cases are found at an early stage. The majority were cured by eight injections. Patients do not come voluntarily to dispensaries until the disease is advanced. Even if given fourteen injections, not all of them are cured. The remedy for this is to do surveys of villages, find cases early and give the village head a list of their names so that he can send them to the dispensary each treatment day. Should many cases be found distant from the dispensary an extra Dispensary Attendant will be posted there for three months.

In the Northern Provinces the Sleeping Sickness Ordinance No. 1 of 1937 enforces compulsory examination and treatment. This year—in the 12th schedule of Order-in-Council No. 1 of 1945—powers under the Sleeping Sickness Ordinance are given to native courts, so that offenders may not spread the disease.

Pardah women are examined in the compound of the village head.

The control staff now works in five provinces—Zaria, Kano, Katsina, Bauchi and Plateau. Wartime lack of staff and equipment entails that we now can begin no new clearances unless localized and very urgent. I have two warnings to give regarding clearances. The first is that annual re-slashing must not be neglected for eight or ten years, until the cleared stream banks have a grass cover only. The second is that mangoes, bananas and kola-trees or any other trees, should not be planted in clearances. The tsetse fly loves the kind of shade they give.

For any Native Administration dispensaries where only a few Sleeping Sickness cases are seen each month, I am prepared to teach the Native Administration Dispensary Attendant to do Sleeping Sickness treatment. When he is at school, a Sleeping Sickness Dispensary Attendant will be sent to relieve him for a period up to a year. When the Native Administration man returns they can work together for three months.

We are testing new methods of treatment and several new drugs, including one as a prophylactic. Our aim is to reduce the length of treatment and improve the treatment of advanced cases. No treatment will be of use unless District Heads report high death rates and epidemics, and also see that known cases of Sleeping Sickness attend the dispensary on treatment days.

#### CONCLUDING ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY AT THE PLENARY SESSION ON SATURDAY, 19TH MAY.

Chiefs of the Northern Provinces, Sir John Patterson has asked me to come and address you at the ending of your Conference and it gives me very great pleasure to do so.

In the past days you have been considering and discussing many matters of importance to your people and your administrations. I hope that your deliberations and the conclusions you have reached will bear good fruit and that the blessing of God will rest upon them.

Perhaps before another year has passed, the new Constitution which you have all read will have come into force. It brings with it new and great responsibilities: not only does it give the people of the Northern Provinces a say in the management of the affairs of the Northern Provinces but it gives them their proper share in the management of the affairs of the whole of Nigeria, a share which is appropriate to the numbers of the population and to the size and importance of the Northern Provinces. As I say, the new constitution will bring with it new and greater responsibilities, but the experience which you have gained in the Chiefs' Conferences during the past seventeen years will be of great benefit and assistance to you and your representatives in playing your part in the new Councils; a part which I know you will play in a manner worthy of the Northern Provinces and beneficial to the whole of Nigeria.

In the years that lie immediately before us there is much hard work to be done in developing our country and in improving the conditions and standard of living of the people. It is indeed a mighty task that lies before us and will require all our strength and energy and determination to carry through successfully; it is

a task in which we are all concerned and in which each one of us has his own particular responsibility. If we all work together as we have done in the past and are doing to-day if each one in his own sphere puts forth his best efforts setting before himself not his own profit and advancement but the general good of all the people, then I am sure we shall not fail to achieve our object however difficult and arduous the work may be.

Tomorrow we are all dispersing. I hope you will reach your homes safely and comfortably, and will find that your discussions and what you have learnt at this Conference will assist you in dealing with the problems of your administrations. For my part shall take back with me to Lagos the happiest memories of my meeting with you, of old friendships renewed and of new ones made, and my faith in the future of Nigeria of which you form so large and important a part surer and stronger than ever. Finally it has been a very great pleasure above all a great pleasure to come and stay with Sir John Patterson, my oldest and best friend in Nigeria and to see how he and you are working so happily and successfully together to promote the welfare of the people and the country which we all have so closely at heart.

#### APPENDIX A.

No. 29-9.

Kano, 15th December, 1944.

The Resident,  
Kano Province,  
Kano.

*Law School Committee Meeting.*

SIR,

It is now ten years since the school has been opened. I submit that the time has come for the school to consider turning out better qualified graduates, and for that reason I suggest that the course should be extended by one year making five in all, for the undermentioned reasons:—

1. *Law*.—“Tuhfatul hukkam” a book in law should be studied at school. At present boys read:—
  - (a) “Arisalain” in Class I and II.
  - (b) A part of “Mukhtasar” and a few chapters from “Tuhfatul hukkam” in Classes III and IV.



I propose the following: leave Classes I and II as they are, but give Class III "Lawan of Mukhtasar" and Class IV "Sani of Mukhtasar," and the proposed new Class V "Tuhfatul hukkam."

2. *Tradition*.—"Mustalahul hadisi" should be introduced so that boys may understand Tradition properly.

3. *English*.—The majority of the school boys have not been through Middle Schools so I suggest they may be given the opportunity of learning English during the course at the Law School. I think three periods a week for each Class would be sufficient.

4. *General Knowledge*.—Pupils should read newspapers and periodicals and specific time should be given for that purpose and for discussion with a competent instructor of matters contained therein.

Pupils should pay for such periodicals which would make them more appreciative of the value of newspapers. Two periods a week for each Class will be necessary.

5. All the school teachers agree with me that this proposed fifth year is necessary.

6. The extension of the school syllabus will necessitate the addition of one instructor to the staff—a Mallam graduated from Kaduna College. An extra Class would be formed which would mean a further thirty-nine periods per week of which the Mallam would take thirty-one. The remaining eight would be divided amongst the present staff.

7. I attach herewith existing and proposed syllabus and time-table.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,  
(Sgd.) BASHIR.

PRESENT TIME-TABLE

Subjects.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Class V.
Law ... ..	15	15	17	18	
Koran ... ..	2	2	1	1	
Commentary ... ..	—	2	2	2	
Tradition ... ..	2	2	2	2	
Grammar and Reading ... ..	6	6	6	6	
History ... ..	—	2	2	2	
Arithmetic ... ..	3	2	2	2	
Dictation ... ..	3	2	1	1	
Writing ... ..	2	2	1	—	
Geography ... ..	—	2	2	2	
Composition ... ..	—	—	1	1	
Tawhid ... ..	3	—	—	—	
Drawing ... ..	1	—	—	—	
Boko ... ..	2	2	2	2	
	39	39	39	39	

PROPOSED TIME-TABLE

Law ... ..	14	14	16	17	15
Koran ... ..	2	2	1	1	1
Commentary ... ..	—	2	2	2	2
Tradition ... ..	2	2	2	2	2
Grammar and Reading ... ..	6	5	5	5	5
History ... ..	—	2	2	2	2
Arithmetic ... ..	2	2	2	2	2
Dictation ... ..	2	2	—	—	—
Writing ... ..	2	1	1	—	—
Geography ... ..	—	2	2	2	2
Composition ... ..	—	—	1	1	1
Tawhid ... ..	3	—	—	—	—
Drawing ... ..	1	—	—	—	—
English ... ..	3	3	3	3	3
General Knowledge ... ..	2	2	2	2	2
Mustalahul Hadisi ... ..	—	—	—	—	2
	39	39	39	39	39

**APPENDIX B.**  
NORTHERN PROVINCES LAW SCHOOL  
KANO.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT.....  
of ..... in ..... Province entered the  
Northern Provinces Law School on ..... and has completed  
the Course. He has been awarded a ..... Grade  
Certificate. The subjects taken in the Course together with the  
Remarks of the Teachers concerned are:-

Subjects.	Remarks.
Law ... ..	
Koran ... ..	
Commentary ... ..	
Tradition ... ..	
Grammar ... ..	
Reading ... ..	
Composition ... ..	
Arithmetic ... ..	
Geography ... ..	
History ... ..	
General Knowledge ... ..	

.....  
*Head of Northern Provinces  
Law School Kano.*

Date.....

**APPENDIX C.**  
(See subject No. 10A)  
SCHEDULE OF SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTIONS BY  
NATIVE AUTHORITIES TOWARDS THE CAPITAL  
COST OF THE NORTHERN PROVINCES  
POLICE TRAINING DEPTT.

				₦
Adamawa	...	Adamawa	...	300
		Muri	...	200
		Numan	...	100
		Shellin	...	50
Bauchi	...	Bauchi	...	700
		Gombe	...	100
		Tangale Waja	...	100
		Katagum	...	100
		Misau	...	150
		Jama'ari	...	10
Benue	...	Ningi	...	50
	...	Lafia	...	50
		Keffi	...	100
		Nassarawa	...	100
		Idoma	...	200
Bornu	...	Tiv	...	100
		Wukari	...	100
	...	Bornu	...	1,500
		Dikwa	...	200
		Bedde	...	50
Horn	...	Bin	...	200
		Fika	...	150
	...	Horn	...	500
		Lafiaji	...	100
Kabba	...	Pategi	...	20
		Kalama	...	50
		Bussa	...	50
	...	Igala	...	200
		Igbira	...	200
		Kabba	...	50
		Yagba	...	50
		Koton Kerfi	...	50
Kano	...	Bassa Koro	...	50
		Kakoo Ka Kupa Kano	...	50
		Lodija	...	20
	...	Kano	...	1,100
		Dak Jho	...	300
	Gumel	...	150	
	Kazuru	...	150	

APPENDIX C.—*continued.*

				£
Katsina	... Katsina ...	...	...	1,500
	... Daura ...	...	...	250
Niger	... Bida ...	...	...	400
	... Kontagora ...	...	...	150
	... Zuru ...	...	...	100
	... Abuja ...	...	...	100
	... Agade ...	...	...	50
	... Lapai ...	...	...	50
	... Gwari ...	...	...	150
Plateau	... Kankuru ...	...	...	20
	... Jos ...	...	...	500
	... Parkshin ...	...	...	200
	... Shendam ...	...	...	150
	... Jema'a ...	...	...	100
	... Southern ...	...	...	100
Sokoto	... Kaura ...	...	...	40
	... Sokoto ...	...	...	1,700
	... Gwandu ...	...	...	400
	... Argungu ...	...	...	200
Zaria	... Yauri ...	...	...	100
	... Zaria ...	...	...	1,100
				<u>£20,000</u>

## APPENDIX D.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE FOR NATIVE AUTHORITY  
EMPLOYEES.

5. *Promotions* require the approval of the Native Authority. No promotion will be approved unless a certificate is signed by the Head of Department to the effect that the employee concerned is in every respect suitable for promotion.

11. *Leave* on full pay may, subject to the necessities of the service, be granted by the Native Authority as follows:—

- (a) To employees drawing a salary of £240 a year and over—  
at the rate of six weeks for each completed year of service, up to a maximum of three months;
- (b) To employees drawing a salary of £140 and over but below £240 a year—at the rate of one month for each completed year of service up to a maximum of two months;
- (c) To employees drawing a salary of £88 and over but below £140 a year—at the rate of fifteen days for each completed year of service, up to a maximum of one month;
- (d) To employees drawing a salary of less than £88 a year—  
fifteen days after every year's service.

Where it is in the interests of the service the Native Authority may grant leave after less periods of service than those laid down in (a)-(d) above, such leave to be calculated on a *pro rata* basis.

Employees who are natives of Nigeria serving at stations away from their homes may be granted by the Native Authority, in addition to the vacation leave prescribed above, leave on full pay in respect of the time necessarily spent in travelling from and to their stations by the shortest route to and from their homes.

13. *Transport.*

- B.—Proceeding to and returning from his home or native place in Nigeria when on vacation leave. 1 cwt. additional for baggage is allowed to an employee in each grade from (i) to (iv).

*Instructions regarding Service Cards.*

4. Before an increment falls due the card will be sent to the employee's head of department and the technical officer concerned for their recommendations (which will be recorded separately). These will be submitted to the Native Authority for his decision.

WOMEN'S TRAINING CENTRE, APRIL 1st, 1944 TO  
MARCH 31st, 1945.

1. *Numbers.* (a) Most of the year there have been 36 students in residence, drawn from 8 Provinces. (For a short time there were 38, from 9 Provinces, but 2 had to be withdrawn). Of the 36, 16 were new in May 1944.

(b) Of the 36, 14 were in the top class. 11 of these completed their course satisfactorily and left on March 31, 1945, to be married and take up their work. All except 1 are going to Elementary Schools, a striking reversal of the original proportion, when, out of the first set dismissed, all except 1 were for Girls' Schools. 3 of the 14 will return for further training.

(c) 22 of the total 36 were in the lower class. Of these, one was dismissed as unsuitable, and one special case left to take up Hospital training.

(d) 23 therefore remain as nucleus for the new school year beginning in May, and will join with the 27 new students expected, making a total of 50, more than double the 24 for whom the Centre was originally planned.

2. *Other remarks.* (a) *Entrance Examination.* Greatly increased demand for places, and desire to raise the standard, has led to the institution of an Entrance Examination. This is of the standard of good Elementary 4, and 22 of the 27 accepted for May 1945 have passed well enough to be admitted; the remaining 5 are on trial, and/or for Girls' School classes, as a special concession to backward Provinces.

(b) *Length of Course; Classes; Staff.*

The length of the course is to be increased from 2 to 3 years; this means that there will be 3, not 2 classes at the Centre. In effect there have been 3 classes, and will be 4, since the top class is necessarily divided, some for teaching practice in the town, and some for study at the Women's Training Centre. This, and the 5 classes supervised at the Girls' School, and 1 or 2 in Town Elementary Schools explains the need for what may seem an extravagant number of *Travelling Staff*. Of the 4 at present posted to the Women's Training Centre and Girls' School only two are Hausa-speaking, and since all work is in Hausa, we have not escaped our share of war time difficulties. There are no regular African Teaching Staff except a Koranic Mollam and a Weaving instructress. Public opinion has not hitherto permitted male teachers, and African women of sufficient standard are not readily available.

(c) *English.* As an experiment, English is being taught to selected girls as an 'extra' afternoon class. A Hausa Mollam has been permitted to take this class. Progress is anything but rapid, but the principles, both of English, and of a male teacher, are significant.

(d) *Progress.* Of further significance is the increasing freedom allowed to the students by African public opinion, and the marriages of some (both present and past) students to 'sarakuna'. These girls have not been put in purdah, but have continued their work. These examples may possibly have widespread effect. Though it is not well to be over-optimistic, the trend is certainly towards liberality and toleration. A recent decision to admit both Christian and Pagan students, as well as Moslems, gives striking evidence of this; and the permission for Women's Training Centre students to teach mixed classes of small children in Sokoto Town Elementary Schools is another 'straw', giving hope for the future.

(e) *Factors hindering progress.* The three main factors hindering progress are: (i) The generally poor standard of Elementary Schools and Girls' Schools, which gives Women's Training Centre entrants an insufficient foundation. (ii) The youthfulness of our students, most of whom are only about 16 on leaving. Moslem marriage customs are the cause. The three years' course, and selection wherever possible of older girls, will help. (iii) Staff insufficient to permit of the necessary 'following up' of trained teachers by inspection and supervision.

It is hoped that post-war development will take cognisance of consolidating past work as well as inaugurating new.

(Sgd.) I. M. JUDD.

*Acting Principal.*

Women's Training Centre, Sokoto.