

whites, and the Administrator must for the time being control the expenditure. As regards your tenth resolution, I cannot give you a definite answer just now. I must consult with the Administrator as to the difference in the salaries paid and the conditions under which the whites and the Natives work. I regret that I cannot agree to the trip allowances and the passage fees as allowed to white officials. Some of the officials coming to Samoa from New Zealand have these paid, but there are special circumstances in these cases. With regard to your eleventh resolution, I must consult with the Administrator. As regards your twelfth resolution, I have no doubt that the Governor of Samoa will meet your Faipules and your High Chiefs and consult with them about any land that may be required for the Government. But we must not place ourselves in the position of not being able to acquire land, as we do in New Zealand for schools, &c., under the Public Works Act. We must keep that power. The question raised in your thirteenth resolution is a very difficult one, and I cannot give you a direct answer to-day. It will be considered; but you must understand that if pensions have to be provided the money will have to be found out of the revenues of the Samoan Administration. With regard to the fourteenth resolution, the importation of intoxicating liquor is forbidden, and so far as I am concerned there will be no relaxation whatever. The Mandate imposes it upon us as a duty not to supply intoxicating liquor to the Samoans under our care. And I am of opinion that what is good for the Samoan is good for the white man also. The importation has been stopped, and further steps will be taken as soon as the Mandate is complete. As regards the fifteenth resolution, we have an expert with us to examine into the question of wireless stations and telephones, and I hope that as a result of the visit and investigations that are made we may be able to install wireless telephones in Upolu and Savaii. In the sixteenth resolution you ask that roads and bridges should be constructed. This is a matter for yourselves. I think I had better tell you what the Government is prepared to do in regard to your finance generally. The New Zealand Government is prepared to lend the Samoan Administration money for construction of revenue-producing works such as waterworks, drainage, &c. on the condition that the Administration pays the New Zealand Government 5 per cent. interest and 1 per cent. sinking fund. This interest and sinking fund is charged to your Administration because the works will directly benefit you. If you have water and drainage there will be water and drainage rates. For other works which cannot be considered as revenue-producing, such as public buildings and some of your roads, where you are not able to meet the expenditure yourselves the New Zealand Government will advance you the money, and will charge for the time being no interest. We have a Public Works Engineer with us to examine into questions of public works, roads, bridges, and the staffs required for them. With regard to the seventeenth resolution, the Mandate tells us that we are not to supply arms except under very stringent conditions, and that will have to be obeyed. The request made by you in the eighteenth resolution is one to be settled with your Governor. I do not quite understand your nineteenth resolution. If it means that a Native assessor is to sit with the Chief Judge in the Native Court in coming to a decision, that cannot be agreed to. In resolution 20 you ask that a steamer should be provided for the Government. Inquiry will be made into this, and an answer sent to you later on. As regards resolution 21, I will consult with the Administrator regarding the graves, and I can assure you that we are anxious to have them properly cared for. Regarding resolution 22, information is already being sent from New Zealand every week. Lately we have been receiving from various parts of the world general information about the various epidemics, and that also is being sent. We shall continue to send it to you. Regarding resolution 23, I do not know that in the past the Native police were dressed like white men. May I express my opinion that I would rather see your policemen in their own Native dress rather than in the dress of the policemen in New Zealand. I hope you will accept the advice of your father and keep these of your children in their Native dress. In resolution 24 you ask that Captain Cotton should be replaced. I have had the most favourable reports sent to me regarding Captain Cotton. However, inquiry will be made into your request, and I can assure you that if his work has not been satisfactory steps will be taken to secure some one who will do it properly. You understand that Captain Cotton has been reported on most favourably, and it is my duty to protect him in his work, and I shall do so. In resolution 25 you ask the Government to investigate and regulate the prices of goods. This also is a very difficult question. We have with us three Trade Commissioners, and I shall be glad, if you have any evidence in regard to trade, if you will represent it to them. If you are being exploited the Government of New Zealand will support the Administrator in seeing that you are charged fair prices and fair prices only. In regard to resolution 26, it is for you to decide whether you erect a meeting-house in European style. You can decide whether you will do so, but I have already answered this question, and we would rather meet you here than in European fashion. The last resolution asks that the Constabulary should be returned to New Zealand. I do not think it is safe to do so now. They will in due course be returned to New Zealand. There are reasons which occur to me why, when we removed the garrison, they should be replaced, for a time at any rate, by Civil police. We have a duty to keep the peace in Samoa, and these police are here so that we may carry out our wishes in this matter. I do not think that you or any Samoan will cause trouble. We are relying upon you to assist us if trouble should arise. When we sent the police down peace was not ratified. They will be removed ultimately, and we desire to rely upon you Samoans. I have answered your questions.

The PRESIDENT: These points were given to be considered by you and the members of Parliament, and we are not anxious for an immediate reply. We desire that full consideration should be given to them. We understand that some of the points are accepted, and some are to be considered again by the Administrator or the Parliament of New Zealand, and some have received a reply. This is the first meeting of the Parliament of Samoa and the Parliament of New Zealand. Whether the points are accepted or not, we wish them to be reconsidered and not to be withdrawn. As to the name "Fautua," it was one given by the Germans to the Princes of Samoa, and for that reason we desire to have it changed.