

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Executive Board  
of the American Committee on Africa

September 30, 1957

Present: Chairman--Donald Harrington; Nelson Bengston, Dorothy Dunbar Bromley, George Edmund Haynes, Sidney Hertzberg, Keith Irvine, Elizabeth Landis, Frank Montero, Elliott Newcomb, Bayard Rustin, William X. Scheinman, Adelaide Schulkind, George W. Shepherd, Jr., William Sorsby, Phyllis Suskind, Peter Weiss; Staff--Dale Harrison, George Houser, Gilbert Jonas; Guest--Homer Jack.

Minutes: A motion was passed that the minutes of the last meeting be reconsidered, and that hereafter the minutes be placed in a book.

Resignation: A motion that A.J. Muste's resignation be accepted with a vote of the Board's appreciation for services rendered was passed unanimously.

Brief Reports: It was reported that a luncheon sponsored by the Urban League and the American Committee on Africa was to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria for K.A. Gbedimah, Finance Minister of Ghana, on October 9th.

Over 100 internationally-known individuals have agreed to sponsor the Declaration of Conscience.

A meeting of the U.N. Committee with members of 4 U.N. Delegations will take place shortly at the apartment of Mrs. William Landis in order to discuss questions coming up before the U.N.'s Fourth Committee, it was announced.

On October 6th George Houser will leave on a 2½-week trip to the West Coast via Dayton, Chicago, and Colorado in order to raise funds for the Committee and organize protest meetings for December 10th.

Keith Irvine announced the founding of a new organization which aims to provide medical training for Africans. A.C. Thompson is its Executive Director, and Wilfred Benson, Marguerite Cartwright, Norman Cousins, Dr. Mungai Njofge, and Dr. Christopher Okojie are among those on its Advisory Board. The organization is to be called the Foundation for African Medical Training, Inc.

Getzen: George Houser recommended that the ACOA urge the U.S. government to grant M'burumba Getzen, recent graduate of Lincoln University and petitioner at U.N. from South West Africa, a permanent visa. The Board passed a motion that the A.C.O.A. work in Getzen's behalf and that his case be referred to the ACOA's counsel, Robert Delson.

Finance Report: It was reported that the ACOA had a five thousand dollar deficit and still owed on bills going as far back as July. On the last pay day two staff members did not draw their salaries. Each Board member was asked to make contact with as many of the Committee's large contributors as possible for soliciting funds. A motion was passed that asked the Finance Committee to reconsider the question of borrowing money from the South Africa Defense Fund. A resolution (1) recommending that staff members be paid bi-weekly (and before any bills are paid), and (2) that the Finance Committee be authorized to borrow up to \$5,000, if necessary, from the bank was passed unanimously.

It was voted that Nathaniel Hoffman be named Auditor of the American Committee on Africa.

Algeria: It was moved that the ACOA urge the U.S. Mission to the U.N. to work toward the establishment of a Good Offices Committee to work toward the reconciliation of France and Algeria.

National Committee Vice-Chairman: It was announced that Dean Pike has accepted the Vice-Chairmanship of the National Committee of the American Committee on Africa.

Loan Fund: A motion was passed asking Adelaide Schulkind to send a letter to members of the Executive Board explaining the need for a Loan Fund that would aid needy African students. The Board voted unanimously to back Miss Schulkind in her undertaking.

Visiting Lecturers: George Houser announced that the ACOA was working on plans for bringing 2 visiting lecturers from Africa to the United States: Violaine Junod of the University of Natal, and Menoah Chirwa, Nyasaland M.P. in the Parliament of the Central African Federation.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Executive Board will be on Monday, Nov. 11th.

FINANCE REPORT

September, 1957

		<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
General income:			
contributions:			
mailings	420.50		
other	<u>502.50</u>		
		923.00	
Administration and overhead expense:			
rent	235.00		
salaries	820.05		
stationery and supplies	48.85		
telephone and telegraph	62.39		
postage	30.00		
travel	33.16		
bank charges	<u>4.48</u>		
			1,233.93
Fund-raising fee			596.00
Program			
Africa Today:			
subscriptions	19.00		
Ghana issue	<u>5.00</u>		
		24.00	
literature sales		20.30	
fee	596.00		
subscription	<u>7.00</u>		
			603.00
Defense Fund overhead		<u>195.01</u>	
		1,162.31	
Loan		<u>977.52</u>	
		2,139.83	2,432.93
On hand September 3		1,156.72	
On hand October 1		<u>          </u>	<u>863.62</u>
		<u>3,296.55</u>	<u>3,296.55</u>
Bills owed: 5,918.91			
On hand <u>863.62</u>			
Deficit 5,055.29			
South Africa Defense Fund: September income		1,071.90	
On hand now		5,036.40	