

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

January 6, 1958

Present: Vice-Chairman--Peter Weiss; Dorothy Dunbar Bromley, George Edmund Haynes, Nelson Bengston, Gilbert Jonas, Elizabeth S. Landis, Frank Montero, Elliott Newcomb, William X. Scheinman, Adelaide Schulkind, George W. Shepherd, Jr., William Sorsby, Robert Trentlyon; Staff--Dale Harrison, George Houser.

Jonas Returns: The vice-chairman welcomed Gilbert Jonas back to the Ex. Bd.

Special Fund Raising Effort: Board members reported on their efforts to raise the "substantially \$4,000" needed for hiring an additional staff member to take charge of future fund-raising efforts and public relations. Approximately 75% of the money has been raised. Since the interpretation of what "substantially" means has been left up to the Executive Director, he may hire the additional staff member at his own discretion.

It was reported that Bayard Rustin had arranged for an interest-free loan of \$1,000 to be repaid by Oct. 31, 1958. The Board recommended acceptance of the loan.

Selling Stock Shares: The Board passed a resolution authorizing the Finance Committee to sell a recent gift of five shares of stock, and authorized the Finance Committee to sell subsequent gifts of stock up to the value of \$1,000. This authorization is good through December 31, 1958.

Finance Report: Robert Trentlyon, in summarizing the Finance Report, said that the ACOA was \$11,490.20 in debt as of December 31, 1957. He said that income was greater in December than in November, but that the increase was offset by larger expenditures. It was suggested that in the future the Executive Board review the Finance Report quarterly rather than monthly since the Board was duplicating a function of the Finance Committee.

Negotiation of Oram Bill: The Board voted to postpone discussion of the Oram bill until its next meeting, at which time it was hoped that the Finance Committee would be able to come up with a unanimous resolution as to interpretation of the oral agreement between the ACOA and Oram, Inc., as well as of the terms of the contract binding the relationship. In the meantime as much will be paid on the bill as possible.

Report of the Program Committee: The report of the Program Committee was considered by the Board. There were varied interpretations of the report as to its inherent meaning and as to how the ACOA would be affected in the long run by its implementation. Therefore, it was decided to hold an open meeting of the Program Committee to which all Board members are invited in order to study further the report and to make recommendations for consideration of the Executive Board at its next meeting. The open meeting will take place at the home of Peter Weiss, 45 West 9th Street, at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 15th.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Executive Board will be on Monday, February 10th at 5:30 p.m. in the Committee office.